

**International and Interdisciplinary Conference (Philosophy / History /
Literature) Life Writing:
Theory and Praxis of Biography**

Second Call

Date: November 24-26, 2025

Venue: Instituto de Enseñanza Superior en Lenguas Vivas Juan Ramón Fernández
Carlos Pellegrini 1515, City of Buenos Aires

Foundations:

The biographical narrative is a hybrid genre in which different forms of discourse intersect. Because of its claim to truth, it is part of historiography, but also, as an account of the central episodes of an individual's life, it cannot be separated from the literary configurations in which it is presented as writing and, in fact, it is probably the most frequently written type of text. From politicians to sportsmen, scientists, artists, gangsters, etc., biographies are multiplying exponentially on the shelves of bookstores and libraries. Added to this is the phenomenon of biographies in media such as Wikipedia.

From a historical perspective, the genre was long considered a marginal field and not worthy of the academy, and this for social history as well as for Marxism, structural history, historical anthropology and other perspectives. Biography was paradoxically discredited along with the abandonment of the “grand narratives” (Lyotard). The latter, linked to the idea of progress in its different versions, typical of the nineteenth-century philosophies of history about the course of human evolution in general. Biography, on the other hand, was associated (unilaterally, by the way) with a conception of history that emphasized the individual in isolation from his or her social and political context. It is only in recent years that it has been rescued by microhistory, albeit in a partly different format.

Although in recent years, in the field of literary studies, research on the biographical field has taken on a new boom that has materialized in a series of important publications, even though it cannot be compared to other literary genres considered canonical. There is still a need to elucidate various

aspects that are yet little explored.

From the philosophical perspective, the subject should be taken up again from the work of Dilthey - himself an author of biographies - who saw in it, and particularly in autobiography, a paradigm of historical writing. But the passage from first-person narration to third-person writing was hardly addressed in his works. On the other hand, the concept of “narrative identity” designed by Paul Ricoeur has not been studied as far as the configuration of biographical writing is concerned.

The significant title of the book edited by Hans Renders and David Veltman dedicated to biography: *Fear of Theory* (Brill, 2021) has not lost its relevance.

We cannot fail to mention the role that biography plays in the field of psychoanalysis. Both from the point of view of its reconstruction and for the self-understanding of the subject.

The proposal consists of a multidisciplinary approach to a subject that transcends the limits of the traditionally established canonical disciplines. Despite the relatively recent emergence of international societies and periodicals devoted to the subject, biography is still an avid field of reflection and theoretical research.

Inaugural Lecture: Hon. Prof. Hans Renders, Institute of Biography - University of Groningen, Faculty of Arts, Department of History.

Organizing Committee:

Philosophy Area: Daniel Brauer (coordinador): Omar Acha, Max Best, Mariana Fernández Talavera, Esteban Lythgoe, Facundo Martín, Adrián Ratto, Eduardo Weisz .

History Area: Alejandra Pasino (coordinadora), Gustavo Paz, Beatriz Bragoni, Mariana Rosetti.

Modern Literature Area: Miguel Vedda (coordinador), Patrick Eser, Silvia Nora Labado, Juan Manuel Lacalle, Gabriel Darío Pascansky, Carola Inés Pivetta.

Classic Literature Area: Liliana Pégolo (coordinadora), Alexis Robledo, Marcela Nasta, Laura Carolina Durán, Gustavo Daujotas, Hugo Nicolás Russo.

Lenguas Vivas Institute Area: Max Best (coordinador), Paula Lopez Cano, Astrid Wenzel, Jimena Portas, Ursula Rucker.

Languages: Spanish/ Portuguese/ English/ German/ French **Deadline for communication proposals:** June 15, 2025

Submit an extended abstract of up to **800 words**. **Indicate to which subject area the work is applied** (Philosophy, Literature, Classical Literature, History, works without a specific area).

Request information and submit papers to the following adress:
congresobiografia@gmail.com

Fees: Speakers ARS \$ 55.000 / Student speakers: ARS \$ 37.000 / Lenguas Vivas teachers: no fee / Public:

Attendance is free of charge / Information on possible news and means of payment will be provided in a future newsletter.

Academic Committee:

Omar Acha / Jeffrey Barash / Rosa Belvedresi / Beatriz Bragoni / Daniel Brauer / Alberto Damiani // Elena Donato / Elizaeth Jelin / Cecilia Macón / Francisco Naishtat / Alejandra Pasino / Liliana Pégolo / Luis Alberto Romero/ Mariana Rosetti / Verónica Tozzi / Miguel Vedda / Carina Zubillaga

Some of the topics and problems proposed for theoretical-critical reflection are:

- Biographical writing, memory and personal identity
- Biography as a type of historical narration and its tropology /Biography and intersubjectivity.
- From the first to the third person: the relationship between autobiography and biography/Relationship between biography and artwork
- Cinema and biography
- Biography and the world of life
- Biography and History/Biography and Microhistory
- From ancient to postmodern biography
- Models of biographical writing
- New formats of biographical inscription: from the printed text to social networks
- Freedom and destiny in the constitution of life trajectories
- Biography and psychoanalysis/ The filmic biography/ Biography and acting performance
- Biography and translation
- Biography and its pedagogical use in the classroom