

Sara Neuhauser (2012) *Phonetische und linguistische Aspekte der Akzentimitation im forensischen Kontext: Produktion und Perzeption*

Forensisch-phonetische Analysen kommen immer dann zum Einsatz, wenn lautsprachliche Äußerungen im Kontext einer Straftat stehen. Sie werden durch eine Reihe von Störeinflüssen erheblich erschwert, z.B. durch die bewusste Verstellung von Merkmalen der Stimme, Sprache oder Sprechweise eines Sprechers. Diese Arbeit untersucht die Imitation fremdsprachiger Akzente als eine mögliche Verstellungsart. Die Form und Variation bestimmter phonetischer Merkmale im Deutschen gesprochen mit einem imitierten französischen Akzent von deutschen Muttersprachlern und mit einem authentischen Akzent von französischen Muttersprachlern werden auf Basis eines umfangreichen Korpus systematisch analysiert. Über Perzeptionsexperimente wird außerdem die Fähigkeit deutscher Hörer untersucht, imitierte und authentische fremdsprachige Akzente zu identifizieren und nach ihrer Authentizität zu beurteilen. (*from publisher's website*)

Narr. ISBN 9783823366874 (321pp.) narr-shop.de

Moshe Simon-Shoshan (2012) *Stories of the Law: Narrative Discourse and the Construction of Authority in the Mishnah*

Focusing on the Mishnah, the foundational text of Jewish law, the author argues that narrative was essential in early rabbinic formulations and concepts of law, legal process, and political and religious authority. The book begins by presenting a theoretical framework for considering the role of narrative in the Mishnah. Drawing on a wide range of disciplines, including narrative theory, Semitic linguistics and comparative legal studies, Simon-Shoshan shows that law and narrative are inextricably intertwined in the Mishnah. Narrative is central to the way in which the Mishnah transmits law and ideas about jurisprudence. Furthermore, the Mishnah's stories are the locus around which the Mishnah both constructs and critiques its concept of the rabbis as the ultimate

arbiters of Jewish law and practice. The second half of the book applies these ideas to selected Mishnaic stories. (*from publisher's website, adapted*)

Oxford U P. ISBN 9780199773732 (304pp.) oup.com

Vijay K. Bhatia, Christopher N. Candlin, and Maurizio Gotti, eds. (2012)
Discourse and Practice in International Commercial Arbitration: Issues, Challenges and Prospects

It is increasingly held that international commercial arbitration is becoming colonised by litigation. This book addresses, in a range of ways and from various locations and sites, those aspects of arbitration practice that are considered crucial for its integrity as an institution and its independence as a professional practice. The chapters offer multiple perspectives on the major issues in play, highlighting challenges facing the institution of arbitration, and identifying opportunities available for its development as an institution. The evidence of arbitration practice presented is set against the background of practitioner perceptions and experience from more than 20 countries. The volume, which adopts a discourse-based approach to analysis, will serve as a useful resource for all scholars and practitioners interested in the institution of arbitration and its professional practices. (*from publisher's website, adapted*)

Ashgate. ISBN 9781409432319 (338pp.) ashgate.com

Jody Kreiman and Diana Van Lancker Sidtis (2011) *Foundations of Voice Studies: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Voice Production and Perception*

This book provides a comprehensive description and analysis of the multifaceted role that voice quality plays in human existence. It offers a unique interdisciplinary perspective on all facets of voice perception, illustrating why listeners hear what they do and how they reach conclusions based on voice quality. The book integrates voice literature from a multitude of sources and disciplines, explores the choice of various voices in advertising and broadcasting, and provides a straightforward and thorough overview of vocal physiology and control. Of particular interest to forensic phoneticians is material on forensic applications in voice perception. (*from publisher's website, adapted*)

Wiley-Blackwell. ISBN 9780631222972 (512pp.) wiley.com

Grzegorz Zmij and Bettina Heiderhoff, eds. (2011) *Interpretation in Polish, German, and European Private Law*

In the daily work of lawyers, the interpretation of declarations of intent and contracts is a very difficult task, especially with regard to cross-border partners. This book contains the proceedings of an international conference in Katowice, Poland on the legal interpretation of private law in various legal regions. Topics include the interpretation of foreign law by German courts, theories of interpretation in private law, the interpretation of contract under the German BGB and under the CFR, a comparative perspective on the interpretation of juridical acts, the ‘common’ interpretation of national law, *iuris cogentis* and *iuris dispositiva* rules/provisions in contract law and in corporate law, and the relevance of circumstances in which the contract was concluded to contract interpretation under the DCFR (II. - 8:102). Additional contributions address the questions ‘Is there one true interpretation of a law?’ and ‘Is the wording of the law a limitation for its interpretation?’ (*from amazon.com website, adapted*)

De Gruyter. ISBN 9783866539303 (120pp.) degruyter.com

Peter Schneck (2011) *Rhetoric and Evidence: Legal Conflict and Literary Representation in U.S. American Culture*

The book traces the changing relation and intense debates between law and literature in US American culture, using examples from the eighteenth to the twentieth century. One of the most essential questions that literary representations of the law are concerned with, the study argues, is the unstable relation between language and truth, or, more specifically, between rhetoric and evidence. In examining the truth claims of legal language and rhetoric and the evidentiary procedures and protocols which are meant to stabilise these claims, literary fictions about the law aim to provide an alternative public discourse that translates the law’s abstractions into exemplary stories of individual experience. Yet while literature may thus strive to institute itself as an ethical counter narrative to the law, in order to become, in Shelley’s famous phrase, ‘the legislator of the world’, it has to face the instability of its own relation to truth. The critical investigation of legal rhetoric in literary fiction – the project of this book – thus also and inevitably entails a negotiation of the intrinsic value of literary evidence. (*from publisher’s website, adapted*)

De Gruyter. ISBN 9783110253771 (291pp.) degruyter.com