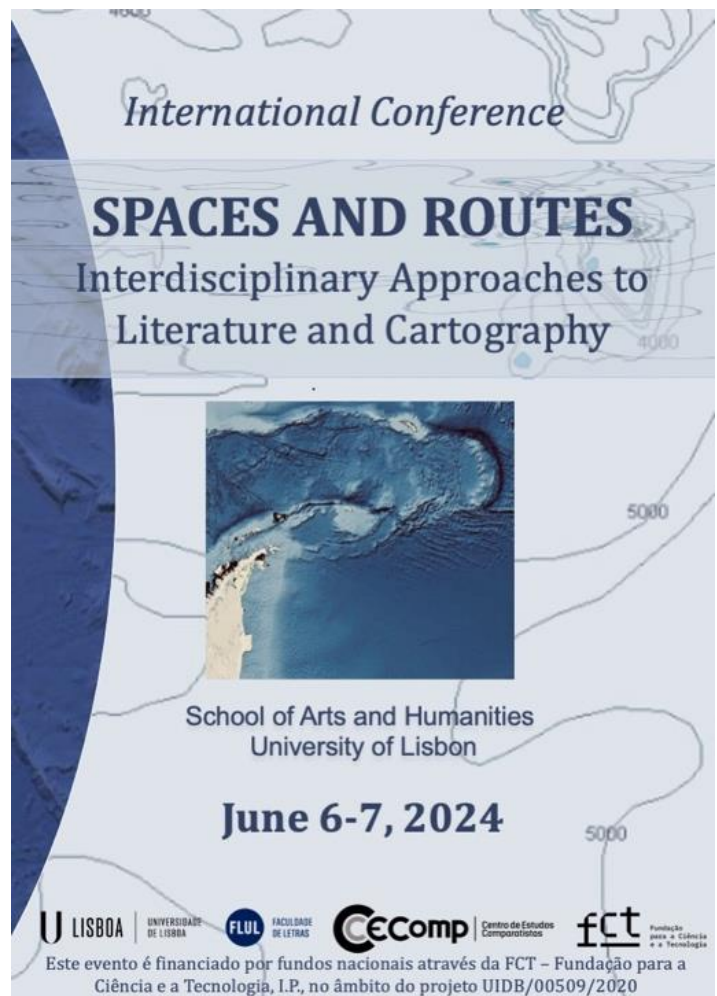


**Spaces and Routes:  
Interdisciplinary Approaches to  
Literature and Cartography**

FACULDADE DE LETRAS,  
UNIVERSIDADE DE LISBOA  
June 6-7, 2024

Maps do not cease to fascinate writers and scholars alike, as these “whisper implicit promises of comprehension, of clarity, of transparency, and of order” (Engberg-Pedersen 2017), which effectively inform the literary endeavor. In these respects, though, the help is mutual: just as forms of real or fictional mapping may fulfill a literary purpose, literature offers a privileged perspective on the lack of objectivity of maps as instruments of political dominance, cultural appropriation, and social exclusion (Farinelli 2003; Pickles 2004; Olsson 2007).

Of course, scholarly interest in maps as objects of knowledge and power is part of a wider and deeper reconsideration of the relationship between history, culture, and space, known as the Spatial Turn (Juvan 2015), which gave birth to methodological proposals such as Moretti’s (1998) and Westphal’s (1999) applications of geocriticism. Subsequently, in the last decades maps have played a fundamental role in literary and cultural analysis, either for the study of implicit or explicit cartographies in literary works (Piatti 2008; Tally 2013) or for the development of cartographic representations of the spatial distribution of cultural systems (Alves e Queiroz 2013; Juvan 2015). While the enormous potential of interdisciplinary crossings between literature and cartography is still being assessed by the scientific community, it has now become possible to productively analyze spaces and cultures crossed by dense transnational phenomena, which leave their mark on literary texts and textualities. Moreover, this theoretical trend has been consolidated by the implementation of digital cartographic technologies, most specifically Geographic



Information Systems, thus giving rise to projects of digital literary cartographies (Cooper Donaldson and Murrieta-Flores 2016; Gregory 2022).

Following the 2019 international conference *Writing Spaces, Mapping Words: Crossings Between Geography, Cartography And Literary Studies*, this forthcoming event organized by the Center for Comparative Studies at FLUL aims to stimulate further conversation on the relationship between cartography and literary studies through a wide range of approaches and perspectives, such as by investigating the representation and meaning of maps in literary texts, by considering the intersections, common traits, and parallel evolutions between cartographic and literary imagination, and, finally, by applying cartographic methodologies to the analysis of literary texts or systems.

Topics of interest may include (but are not limited to):

- Geocriticism, geopoetics, and beyond: for a definition of the field(s) of study.
- Cartography and digital humanities: theoretical stakes and practical applications.
- Writing / mapping: differences and similarities.
- Psychogeography and the rise of affect studies.
- Sociology of literary spaces: production, distribution, mediation, and reception.
- Transits, disseminations, and disjunctions: mapping diasporas and cultural movements.
- Representations of gendered spaces.
- Military topography and spatial representation in literature.
- Cartography and spaces of oppression.

### **Practical information:**

This is an in-person event. The conference will take place at the School of Arts and Humanities of the University of Lisbon on June 6-7, 2024.

Scholars interested in participating should send a proposal (name, email and institutional affiliation, title, 250-word abstract and 100-word bio) to [maplit@letras.ulisboa.pt](mailto:maplit@letras.ulisboa.pt) before **January 15, 2024**.

We welcome both individual contributions and panel proposals. The latter should include 2-3 individual abstracts, as well as a brief description of the session. The contact person for the panel should be clearly identified in the proposal.

Official conference languages are Portuguese and English, but contributions in other languages will be considered.

### **Important deadlines:**

Proposal submission: January 15, 2024

Communication of proposal admission or rejection: February 29, 2024

Early bird registration: March 31, 2024

Final registration: April 30, 2024

**Conference fees:**

Registration fee: (early bird) 80€ / (standard) 100€

Reduced fee for postdoctoral researchers, independent scholars, PhD and master's students: (early bird) 40€ / (standard) 50€

Attendance with certificate: 20€

Free registration for members of CECComp and FLUL students and attendance without certificate

**Organizing committee:**

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