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Abstract

Reception studies are gaining more and more terrain especially as *divertissements* that enable academics and teachers to make Classics more appealing and "pop". Excursions about receptions are used either at the beginning or at the end of lectures in order for them to be more enjoyable for the audience. The above might be reasons for the yet scarce academic consideration given to reception studies. That is why this research project aspires to be as scientifically promising as a traditional philological Ph.D. research would be.

The focus is on the Odyssean Penelope and it's reception in selected works from the 1990s and 2000s by female authors in English. The corpus up-to-date consists of Louise Glück's *Meadowlands* (1997), Margaret Atwood's *The Penelopiad* (2005), and Jeanne Larsen's *What Penelope Chooses* (2019). The works are thoroughly analysed comparatively with the ancient Greek text. The method used for the analysis is narratological. Thus, the narratological approach does not exclude a close reading of broad samples of the works.

As part of the doctoral class of Didactics of Ancient Languages, the aim of the research is didactical. Indeed on one hand, the comparative analysis brings a renewed perspective on the ancient text and its tradition. On the other hand, the contemporary texts benefit from the philologically accurate analysis conducted on them. A third level of research is more theoretical and investigates the implications of the receptive literary operation on a socio-cultural and political extent.

The academic study of receptive works that are impactful on the contemporary literary scene sheds light on the relevance of student's knowledge of the Classics of Western literary tradition.