

Thesis title: Modeling the Academic Oral Presentation: A Macro-Genre

Author: María Emilia Moreschi

Abstract

This study is framed within the field of Applied Linguistics and focuses on the modeling of academic oral presentations produced by undergraduate students of English as a Foreign Language (EFL). Based on the analysis of twenty oral presentations delivered during final oral examinations in the courses English I, II, III, and IV of the English programs at the School of Humanities and Languages, National University of Cuyo, this research proposes a detailed description of the Generic Structure Potential (GSP) of these oral texts, identifying their obligatory and optional constituents as well as the embedded genres that shape their organization. The theoretical framework adopted draws on Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) and Genre Theory (GT), which enables the articulation of the relationship between language, context, and social function. The findings reveal that oral presentations constitute a large and complex text type whose social function is linked to the family of response genres, particularly the thematic interpretation genre. Furthermore, the study describes the semantic and lexicogrammatical resources that signal transitions between stages of the macro-structure and between stages of the embedded elemental genres. Finally, the pedagogical implications of these findings are discussed, highlighting the need for explicit and progressive instruction that fosters students' appropriation of the macro-genre and their integration into the academic community.

Keywords: Applied linguistics; Systemic functional linguistics; Textual genres; Macro-genre; Generic structure potential.