

Data + Abstract:

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b) Panel prévu

18. Open Topics

c) Titre de la contribution

For a new approach to the classical Latin metrics

d) Longueur de la contribution:

20 minutes

e) Esquisse de l'objet de la contribution (300 mots au maximum):

It is well known that Metrics is a sub-discipline inside a bigger area, that is to say, the Classic Poetics. As a part of Poetics, though, such sub-discipline does not have found an appropriate place nor even as an area of the knowledge integrally belonging to the Classical Antiquity literary studies, nor even as part of the linguistic studies of old languages, as Latin is. It is easy to realize that by simply examining manuals of literary studies in Antiquity and grammars of those languages that give them support, once, in general, studies in the Classical Metrics do not take part in the first ones and once they appear in the last ones just as a mere appendage. Besides, everything that the studies in Metrics and metricology summaries have done is to inventory meter types and their variations, to group them, to classify them and to create them many taxonomies. Although it is not fair nor desirable to lessen the merits of the summaries and metric catalogs that the tradition of the Classical Studies has put to the modern classicists' disposition, it is mandatory to recognize that almost all the works regarding Classical Metrics do not integrate this feature of the expression plan in the reading and better understanding of old poems, so that the existence of such a dimension as the one of the Metrics ends by seeming a mere idiosyncrasy of the classic poets. This paper discuss some basic presuppositions to undertake the task of taking Metrics into account while reading old poems, in order to delineate a new sub-area for the old Poetics, so that the Classical Metrics can be more appropriately inserted in: a Poetics of Expression.