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Play and performance: metadiscursive strategies in academic theatre reviews

In the context of a study approaching the academic theatre review (ATR) as a genre, this analysis aims at identifying metadiscursive strategies associated with the realization of the communicative purposes of the ATR as a carrier genre (Tse and Hyland 2010), contributing to the delivery and promotion of knowledge. The study looks at how argument is built in ATRs, and what resources are considered appropriate by the community of discourse owning the genre.

The methodological framework includes concepts derived from discourse and genre analysis, and corpus linguistics, keeping in mind Hyland's works on metadiscourse (Hyland 2005). The corpus under analysis includes texts collected from 1991 and 2001 issues of 5 international academic journals.

The poster describes the metadiscursive patterns found, including both explicit appeals to a sense of community and specific forms of construction of identity. The patterns appear representative of the disciplinary and professional orientation of the genre.

References

Hyland, K. (2005) *Metadiscourse*. London/ New York: Continuum.

Tse, P., Hyland, K. (2010) Claiming a territory: Relative clauses in journal descriptions. *Journal of Pragmatics*, 42, 1880-1889.