

Seminars on Pragmatism and the Sciences

Tuesday, 18 June 2019, h. 14,30, Sala Paci,
Department of Philosophy, University of Milan,
Via Festa del Perdono 7 – 20122, Milano

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POST-PEIRCEAN VIEWS ON LEARNING: SEMIOTIC SCAFFOLDING

The speaker will discuss some of the main contributions that Peirce's semiotics can bring to philosophy of education, particularly in contemporary contexts of digitalization and globalization. It will be argued that biosemiotics and ecosemiotics, deemed post-Peircean developments, can offer critical insights towards formalising a semiotic-media theory because of their adoption of Peirce's schematic semiotics, as the rationale of existential graphs notations. This amounts to a concept of modelling as the decomposition of complex reality into simple sign-types that can be recombined into new configurations of learning scaffoldings. Thus, learning consists in the discovery of new relations of signification and the pragmatic recombination of such discovered structures. From this Peircean perspective, operations of modelling typical for digital environments appear more similar to the modelling of human natural environments than those of previous media ages. Like the landscape where human modelling capacities evolved, the digital affords multimodal representations and immediate social participation. This observation opens up certain semiotic perspectives on learning, adequate for contemporary challenges for education, which will be addressed.



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