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The Role of Literary Criticism in the Processes of Canon Formation in the Postmodernity

Philosophy and Literature

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Research Questions

- ✓ Role of postmodern criticism in canonization processes
- ✓ Interrelations of critical discourse and canonical structure
- ✓ Interpretation activity and endurance of canonical works

Research Hypothesis

The postmodern literary criticism is devoted to exploration of canonical textuality instead of maintenance of canons

Research Methods

- ✓ Canon theory
- ✓ Philosophical hermeneutics
- ✓ Critical theory
- ✓ Discourse analysis
- ✓ Deconstruction

Research History

1. 70's "cultural wars": ideology critique
2. Sociocultural criticism
3. Canon theory
 - ✓ Sociology of canon
 - ✓ Axiology of canon
 - ✓ Epistemology of canon

Current issues:

1. Critique of an aesthetic judgment
2. Methodological deconstruction
3. Pragmatics of interpretation

Postmodern literary criticism is a specific form of reading attention that is only possible in the cultures with strong interpretative traditions

In postmodern culture literary canon is re-shaped as a field of hermeneutical debates instead of presentation of critical consensus

Canonical literature is interpreted not as the embodiment of aesthetical values, but as source of “cultural grammar”

The interpretative logic of postmodern literary criticism is speculative

In process of canonization the postmodern critical discourse blurs the distinction between judgment of taste and pragmatics of opinion

Further investigations will help:

1. To explore the specific critical attention attributed to canonical text in postmodern culture.
2. To enhance the understanding of literary criticism as sociocultural activity.

Limitations

- ✓ Historical limitation
- ✓ Cultural relativity

*THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION*
