The Prague School and Its Legacy in Linguistics Literature Semiotics Folklore and The Arts Linguistic and Literary Studies in Eastern Europe Vol 27

The Prague School was a group of structuralist linguists, philologists, and literary analysts who attended Charles University in Prague in the early 20th century. Beginning with Vilém Mathesius and inspired mainly by the work of Ferdinand de Saussure, the Prague School developed a number of influential theories and methodologies that have had a lasting impact on the field of linguistics.

One of the most significant contributions of the Prague School was the development of the Prague phonological school, which emphasized the study of the sounds of language and their role in the structure of words and sentences. Another important contribution was the development of the Prague semantic circle, which focused on the relationship between language and thought.

The Prague School was also influential in the development of literary theory, with a particular emphasis on the study of folktales and other traditional narrative forms. Their work on folktales has been particularly influential in the field of folklife studies.

Despite the Prague School's influence, it was relatively short-lived, and by the mid-20th century, many of its members had moved on to other pursuits. However, the ideas and methodologies developed by the Prague School continue to have a significant impact on the fields of linguistics, literature, and semiotics, and are still studied and debated by scholars today.