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Abstract

In 1990, Derrida added an introduction to his earliest long work, his student *mémoire* of 1954, which explained that he found in that work a “law” that had continued to impose itself across his *oeuvre*. This dissertation investigates selected works of the early Derrida, from that first student work of 1954 up to segments of *Of Grammatology*, to demonstrate how Derrida’s “law” developed at least as far as his early system in 1967, as a basis for approach to Derrida’s overall *oeuvre*.