



The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

The current and official versions of the course specifications are available on the web at
<<http://www.usq.edu.au/coursespecification/current>>.
Please consult the web for updates that may occur during the year.

Description: Discourse Analysis

| Subject | Cat-nbr | Term | Mode | Units | Campus |
|---------|---------|---------|------|-------|-----------|
| EDR | 8005 | 1, 2010 | WEB | 1 | Toowoomba |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Academic group: | FOEDU |
| Academic org: | FOEDUC |
| Student contribution band: | National Priority Teaching |
| ASCED code: | 070115 |

STAFFING

Examiner: Ann Dashwood
Moderator: Robyn Henderson

OTHER REQUISITES

State law in Queensland (Australia) requires that all adults working/undertaking professional experience/researching with children under the age of 18, in the state of Queensland are required to possess a current suitability card (Blue Card). (See "Other Requirements" for further information.) Also see: <http://www.childcomm.qld.gov.au/employment/bluecard/informationSheets.html>

RATIONALE

A sound understanding of how to apply principles and practices of research design and analysis to spoken and written discourse is expected of professionals in a range of fields within applied linguistics and education. Further, systematic study of the nature of language communication requires access to and implementation of appropriate procedures for effective and ethical standards of research. This course is intended to provide those involved in communities of second language use with the foundations needed to generate, analyse, and evaluate data through the development of contemporary discourse analysis research.

SYNOPSIS

This course introduces students to methodological approaches to the analysis of language. Social and cultural contexts in which written and spoken texts occur provide the focus of the study. The means of analysing discourse structure and markers of coherent written texts will be examined. Naturally occurring language among first language speakers and between native and non-native speakers in classroom and community contexts will be analysed. In planning a discourse analysis project, students will select and apply research schema and techniques to a specific cultural setting or language community.

OBJECTIVES

The course objectives define the student learning outcomes for a course. The assessment item(s) that may be used to assess student achievement of an objective are shown in parenthesis. On completion of this course students will be able to:

1. demonstrate understanding of principles underlying coherent interaction in discourse (Analysis: Transcription and annotated text)
2. articulate critical elements in the conduct of spoken and written research (Analysis: Transcription and annotated text)
3. develop a conceptually based viewpoint about participant identity in the context of discourse analysis and pragmatic understanding in research (Critical essay)
4. choose and develop a research method appropriate to a particular discourse problem or question (Analysis: Transcription & annotated text and Critical essay)
5. explicate appropriate techniques for data collection (Analysis: Transcription & annotated text and Critical essay)
6. identify appropriate procedures for the analysis of data (Analysis: Transcription & annotated text and Critical essay)
7. demonstrate competence in the use of scholarly language and literacy appropriate to the doctoral level (Analysis: Transcription & annotated text and Critical essay).

TOPICS

| Description | Weighting (%) |
|--|---------------|
| 1. Theoretical challenge of contrastive views on discourse in social and cultural research | 20.00 |
| 2. Means of analysing spoken and written texts in context | 40.00 |
| 3. Elements of discourse analysis research | 20.00 |
| 4. Justification for research designs | 20.00 |

TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

Paltridge, B2006, *Discourse analysis*, Continuum, London.

REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience

Blommaert, J2006, *Discourse*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Fairclough, N2003, *Analysing discourse: textual analysis for social research*, Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, London.

Georgakopoulou, A & Goutsos, D2005, *Discourse analysis: an introduction*, 2nd edn, Edinburgh University Press, Edinburgh.

Johnstone, B2008, *Discourse analysis*, 2nd edn, Blackwell Publishing, Malden, MA.

Rapley, T2007, *Doing conversation, discourse and document analysis*, Sage, Los Angeles.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

| ACTIVITY | HOURS |
|-------------------|-------|
| Directed Study | 82.00 |
| Independent Study | 83.00 |

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

| Description | Marks out of | Wtg (%) | Due date |
|--------------------------------|--------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| TRANSCRIPTION & ANNOTATED TEXT | 60 | 60 | 30 Apr 2010 (see note 1) |
| CRITICAL ESSAY (2000) WORDS | 40 | 40 | 11 Jun 2010 |

NOTES

1. 3000 Words

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:
There are no attendance requirements for this course. However, it is the students' responsibility to participate appropriately in all activities including discussion fora scheduled for them, and to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily: To complete an individual assessment item satisfactorily, a student must achieve a grade of at least C-.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
If students submit assignments after the due date without (prior) approval then a penalty of 2 Equivalence Points gained by the student for the assignment may apply for each working day late.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
To be assured of receiving a passing grade a student must achieve at least 50% of the total weighted marks available for the course.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
The final grade for students will be assigned on the basis of the aggregate of the weighted marks obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.
- 6 Examination information:
There is no examination in this course.
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:

As there are no examinations in this course, there will be no deferred or supplementary examinations.

8 University Regulations:

Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL <http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm>.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 1 APA style is the referencing system required in this course. Students should use APA style in their assignments to format details of the information sources they have cited in their work. The APA style to be used is defined by the USQ Library's referencing guide. <http://www.usq.edu.au/library/help/referencing/default.htm>

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Students will require access to e-mail and have Internet access to UConnect for this course.
 - 2 The research proposal will necessitate a literature review that will require students to be able to access libraries or online articles/books.
 - 3 Students are required to use a recognised referencing system, preferably the American Psychological Association (5th edition) referencing system.
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