

B.A. (Honours) in Contemporary English Studies

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| Course Title | : | Discourse Analysis |
| Course Code | : | ENG203 |
| Recommended Study Year | : | 2 nd & 3 rd Year |
| No. of Credits/Term | : | 3 |
| Mode of Tuition | : | Lecture and Tutorial |
| Class Contact Hours | : | 2 hours Lecture/week 1 hour Tutorial/week |
| Category in Major Programme | : | Required Course |
| Prerequisite(s) | : | N/A |
| Co-requisite(s) | : | N/A |
| Exclusion(s) | : | N/A |
| Exemption Requirement(s) | : | N/A |

Brief Course Description

The course investigates the ways language is used and meanings generated and organised in written and spoken texts, taking into account the social contexts of production and processing.

Aims

This course aims to give an introduction to spoken and written discourse, showing how language operates in social and ideological contexts. Taking examples from conversation and other genres such as narratives, news and advertising, the course shows how discourse is structured, how it constructs relationships between speakers/writers and hearers/readers, and how it is used to represent and reproduce social realities. It investigates the lexical, grammatical and pragmatic means by which this is achieved, and encourages a critical perspective on modern media texts.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course students should be

1. Aware of the differences between speech and writing, and of the distinctive features and structures of conversation and other media genres;
2. Aware of the ideology encoded in texts and hidden within texts;
3. Able to analyse the cohesive, interpersonal and ideational aspects of text;
4. Able to show the importance of pragmatic interpretations in comprehension and in producing ideological effects;
5. Able to adopt a critical perspective in the reading of texts.

Indicative Content

1. Text, Discourse and Context
2. Speech and Writing
3. Conversation and Register
4. Conversational Analysis and Pragmatics
5. Genre and Text Structure
6. Text Structure and Cohesion
7. Conceptual Meaning
8. Interpersonal Meaning
9. Politeness
10. Pragmatic Interpretation of Discourse
11. Metaphor
12. Resisting subject positions

Teaching Method

The course will consist of a lecture in which the key concepts and skills are introduced and a one-hour tutorial in which the students will apply the concepts and skills to analyse texts, including their own texts. Students will give presentations demonstrating the analytical abilities they have acquired.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes

1. 2 tests will measure the extent to which students have understood and can apply theoretical concepts;
2. A portfolio will measure the extent to which students can successfully complete activities demonstrating their understanding and analytical abilities;
3. A project will measure students' abilities in applying selective concepts for the purpose of analysis and critique of texts and justification of textual features;
4. The exam will measure the extent to which they have understood concepts, and can critically engage with texts by showing awareness of their ideological underpinnings and representations.

Assessment

Continuous Assessment: 60%

Final Examination: 40%

Required Readings(selected pages)

Bhatia, V., *Analysing genre: language use in professional settings*, London: Longman, 1995.

Coulthard, M., *Introduction to Discourse Analysis*, London: Longman, 1997.

Crystal, D. and Davy, D., *Investigating English Style*, London: Longman, 1969.

- Fairclough, N., *Analysing Discourse: Textual Analysis for Social Research*, London: Routledge, 2003.
- Goatly, A., *Critical Reading and Writing*, London: Routledge, 2000,
- Goatly, A., *Washing the brain: metaphor and hidden ideology*, Amsterdam: Benjamins, 2007.
- Halliday, M.A. K. & Hasan, *Language, Context and Text*, Geelong: Deakin University Press, 1985.
- Halliday, M.A.K., *Spoken and Written Language*, Oxford: OUP, 1989.
- Hoey, M., *Textual interaction: an introduction to written discourse analysis*, London: Routledge, 2001.
- Ong, W., *Orality and Literacy*, London: Routledge, 1993.
- Thomas, J., *Meaning in Interaction*, London: Longman, 1995.

Recommended Readings

- Blommaert, J., *Discourse*. Cambridge: CUP, 2005.
- Brown, G. and Yule, G., *Discourse Analysis*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1983.
- Cook, G., *Discourse*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1989.
- Cook, G., *The Discourse of Advertising*, London: Routledge, 1992.
- Coulthard, M., *An Introduction to Discourse Analysis*, Harlow: Longman, 1985.
- Fairclough, N., *Critical Discourse Analysis: A Critical Study of Language*, London: Longman, 1995.
- Halliday, M.A.K. and Hasan, R., *Cohesion in English*, London: Longman, 1976.
- McCarthy, M., *Discourse Analysis for Language Teachers*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1991.
- Nunan, D., *Introducing Discourse Analysis*, London: Penguin Books, 1993.
- O'Halloran, K., *Critical Discourse Analysis and Language Cognition*, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2003.