

SCHOOL OF LINGUISTICS AND APPLIED LANGUAGE STUDIES

LING 321 DISCOURSE AND MEANING

TRIMESTER 2 2011

11 July to 12 November 2011

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 11 July to 14 October 2011

Mid-trimester break: 22 August to 4 September 2011

Study week: 17-21 October 2011

Examination/Assessment period: 21 October to 12 November 2011

Withdrawal dates

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

Names and contact details

Course co-ordinator: **Dr Elaine Vine**
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Lecturer: **Dr Jean Parkinson**
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Guest lecturers: Dr Sasha Calhoun
Kieran File
Brian King
Assoc Prof Paul Warren
Nick Wilson

Class times and locations

Lectures: Monday, Thursday, Friday, 11.00-11.50am, MY 632

Course delivery

The course is delivered through three lectures per week. There are no tutorials. The course also has a Blackboard site, where lecture slides, activities and handouts will be posted week by week. The Blackboard site has a discussion facility which students may use if they wish. Blackboard discussion is optional and will not be led or monitored by staff.

Communication of additional information

Additional information about this course and information about any changes will be announced in lectures, and posted on the course website in Blackboard.

Course prescription

This course considers a range of approaches to the creation and interpretation of meaning through discourse in social interaction. The influence of gender and setting on discourse is considered in a range of social contexts, including the workplace.

Course content

This course considers a range of approaches to the creation and interpretation of meaning through discourse in social interaction.

The content of this course is detailed in the following schedule of lectures. Note that there may be minor changes to the sequence of topics during the course.

Wk	Date	Class	Topic	Lecturer
1	Mon 11 July	1	Introduction	EV
	Thu 14 July	2	Speech acts	EV
	Fri 15 July	3	Speech acts	EV
2	Mon 18 July	4	Ethnography of communication	EV
	Thu 21 July	5	Ethnography of communication	EV
	Fri 22 July	6	Speech act function in rugby team discourse	NW
3	Mon 25 July	7	Forensic linguistics	PW
	Thu 28 July	8	Forensic linguistics	PW
	Fri 29 July		<i>Independent study</i>	
4	Mon 01 Aug		<i>Assignment 1 due by 11am</i>	
	Mon 01 Aug	9	Information structure	SC
	Thu 04 Aug	10	Information structure	SC
	Fri 05 Aug	11	Information structure	SC
5	Mon 08 Aug	12	Conversation analysis	EV
	Thu 11 Aug	13	Conversation analysis	EV
	Fri 12 Aug	14	Conversation analysis	EV

Wk	Date	Class	Topic	Lecturer
6	Mon 15 Aug	15	Conversation analysis	EV
	Thu 18 Aug	16	Critical discourse analysis	EV
	Fri 19 Aug	17	Re-etching stone: Discourse and intersex identity	BK
			<i>MID-TRIMESTER BREAK</i>	
7	Mon 05 Sept	18	Register/Genre	JP
	Thu 08 Sept	19	Register/Genre	JP
	Fri 09 Sept	20	Register/Genre	JP
8	Mon 12 Sept	21	Post-match interviews as a discourse genre	KF
	Thu 15 Sept		<i>Independent study</i>	
	Fri 16 Sept		<i>Independent study</i>	
9	Mon 19 Sept		<i>Assignment 2 due by 11am</i>	
	Mon 19 Sept	22	Cohesion	JP
	Thu 22 Sept	23	Cohesion	JP
	Fri 23 Sept	24	Cooperative principle	EV
10	Mon 26 Sept	25	Macho, macho men and online camp talk	BK
	Thu 29 Sept		<i>Independent study</i>	
	Fri 30 Sept		<i>Independent study</i>	
11	Mon 03 Oct		<i>Assignment 3 due by 11am</i>	
	Mon 03 Oct	26	Politeness and face	EV
	Thu 06 Oct	27	Politeness and face	EV
	Fri 07 Oct	28	Face-saving strategies in rugby team disagreements	NW
12	Mon 10 Oct	29	Corpus linguistics	EV
	Thu 13 Oct	30	Course review	EV
	Fri 14 Oct		<i>Exam preparation clinic</i>	

Learning objectives

By the end of this course students should be able to:

1. identify some of the taken-for-granted assumptions and patterns of communication in English;
2. analyse why people make particular language choices and what they mean by them;
3. discuss how social context is important in language use;
4. explain some of the social and cultural factors involved in the way people express and interpret their ideas in language.

Expected workload

Students are expected to devote a total of about 200 hours, spread throughout the trimester, to this course in order to maintain satisfactory progress. The following gives an indication of how that time may be distributed:

Class attendance:

- Lectures: 30 hours (over 12 weeks)
- Reading to prepare for and review lectures:
60 hours (on average, 2 hours per lecture)
- Reading/revision/research for exam:
24 hours during the teaching trimester

For the assignments (including reading, researching, analysing, writing up):

- Assignment 1: 14 hours
- Assignment 2: 35 hours
- Assignment 3: 22 hours

For the final examination:

- 12 hours preparation during the assessment period
- 3 hours sitting the examination

Group work

There are no formal requirements for group work in this course, but students are encouraged to work together wherever possible, either face-to-face or online as appropriate.

Readings

All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer from 4 to 22 July 2011, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of vicbooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two of the trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from vicbooks on Level 4 of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from nominated collection points at each campus. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

Essential text:

Paltridge, Brian 2006. *Discourse analysis: An introduction*. London: Continuum. (Available from vicbooks, est. \$57.00)

Recommended Reading:

A list of recommended reading is available in a separate handout, and additional readings relating to specific topics will be recommended in lectures from time to time.

Materials and equipment

None.

Assessment requirements

This course will be examined by a combination of in-term assessment and a final examination. The final grade will be awarded on the basis of your marks for three assignments (10%, 25% and 15% respectively) and a three-hour final examination (50%). The final examination is not an 'open book' examination.

	Length	Due date	Contribution to final grade
Assignment 1	600-700 words	11.00am, Mon 08 August 2011	10%
Assignment 2	1400-1600 words	11.00am, Mon 19 September 2011	25%
Assignment 3	900-1000 words	11.00am, Mon 03 October 2011	15%
Final exam	3 hours	To be scheduled in exam period, Fri 21 October to Sat 12 November 2011. If you enrol in this course, you must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.	50%

Assignment 1 focuses on objectives 1 and 2 for this course (see above). Assignment 2 focuses on objectives 1, 2 and 3. Assignment 3 focuses on objectives 2 and 3. The final exam covers all four objectives.

- Details of the assessment tasks, including marking criteria, will be provided in separate handouts.
- Make sure you keep a copy of all work that you hand in.
- Assignments should be submitted to the lecturer at the beginning of class or in the assignment mailbox beside the door of the School office (VZ210) by 11.00am on the due date. You should also submit your assignment on Blackboard as a Word file (see section below on Turnitin).

Guidelines for presenting assignments

- Refer to the *Linguistics Programme Style Sheet* for guidance on referencing and other matters
- Set margins to at least 2.5cm
- Set line spacing to 1.5
- Set font size to 12pt
- Include page numbers
- Provide a word count at the end of the assignment (not including references and appendices)

- Print on one side of A4 paper
- Include an assignment cover sheet (downloadable from Blackboard)
- Staple pages together
- Do not present your assignment in a sleeve or in a bulky folder.

Penalties

Assignments handed in after the due time/date will receive a reduced grade unless accompanied by a medical certificate or other evidence of exceptional circumstances. In any case where you are not able to submit an assignment by the due date, you must get explicit permission from the course coordinator before the due date to hand it in late and negotiate the length of the extension. *Only assignments carrying an assignment cover sheet signed by the course coordinator have a valid extension.*

Any assignment which is handed in late, and which does not carry a valid extension, will be penalised by one grade (e.g. B reduced to B-, or B- reduced to C+) if it is handed in up to 24 hours after the deadline, by two grades if it is handed in up to 48 hours after the deadline, and by three grades if it is handed in by 5pm on the Friday after the deadline. Assignments handed in later than 5pm on the Friday will not receive a grade, but may be considered for mandatory course requirements. Assignments which carry a valid extension will be penalised in a similar fashion if they are handed in after the rescheduled due date. Note that mandatory course requirements specify that all work must be handed in by 4.00pm on Friday 14 October 2011.

You are strongly advised to begin work early on assignments to be sure of getting access to relevant books and articles, to collect appropriate examples, to avoid last-minute rush, and to ensure that your work is not needlessly penalised.

Mandatory course requirements

To gain a pass in this course you must have handed in the three assignments by 4.00pm on Friday 14 October 2011. You must have made a satisfactory attempt at all three assignments. "Satisfactory" means that if an assignment does not reach a C standard, it must nevertheless reflect the fact that the assignment has been taken seriously and that a reasonable amount of effort has been devoted to the topic. You must also get a grade of D or better in the final examination.

Class representative

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

Statement on legibility

If you submit handwritten work, you are expected to write clearly. Where work is deemed 'illegible', you will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) within a specified time frame after which penalties will apply.

Academic integrity and plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

Use of Turnitin

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

WHERE TO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study. Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress. Most statutes and policies are available at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic.