TE WHARE WĀNANGA O TE ŪPOKO O TE IKA A MĀUI

VICTORIA
UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF LINGUISTICS AND APPLIED LANGUAGE STUDIES

LINGUISTICS PROGRAMME
LING 321 DISCOURSE AND MEANING
20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 2 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 13 July to 15 November 2015
Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October 2015
Mid-trimester break: 24 August to 6 September 2015
Study period: 19–23 October 2015
Examination/Assessment Period: 23 October to 14 November 2015
Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

CRN7014
Monday, Wednesday and Thursday at 4.10pm – 5pm in Murphy LT 102

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator:
Meredith Marra
Office: Von Zedlitz 404
Phone: (04) 463 5636
Email: Meredith.Marra@vuw.ac.nz
Office hours: appointments by arrangement

Course Administrator
Matthew Vink
Office: Von Zedlitz 210
Phone: (04) 463 5255
Email: Matthew.Vink@vuw.ac.nz
Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9am – 4.15pm

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.

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.

Date	Lecture topic
13 July	What is discourse analysis?
15 July	Discourse and the role of context
16 July	Locution, illocution, perlocution
20 July	Grice's maxims
22 July	Doing things with words
23 July	Eliciting speech acts
27 July	Collecting naturally occurring data
29 July	Transcribing
30 July	Coding
3 August	Conversation Analysis: Restricted context
5 August	Adjacency pairs and turn taking
6 August	Transcribing for CA
10 August	Interactional Sociolinguistics: Culture as context
12 August	Contextualisation cues
13 August	Miscommunication
17 August	Critical Discourse Analysis: Macro context
19 August	Power at work
20 August	Resisting power abuse
MID TRIMESTER BREAK	
7 September	Social constructionism: Negotiating in context
9 September	Doing social identities
10 September	Indexing gender
14 September	Communities of Practices: Bridging macro and micro contexts
16 September	Interacting in teams
17 September	Gendered workplaces

21 September	Planning DA research
23 September	Matching Research questions and approaches
24 September	Warranting and triangulation
28 September	Approaches to politeness
30 September	Emic vs etic
1 October	Being appropriate in context
5 October	Evaluating Discourse Research
7 October	No class – prep for assignment 3
8 October	No class – prep for assignment 3
12 October	No class – prep for assignment 3
14 October	Bringing it all together
15 October	Preparation for the exam

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course 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.

Teaching format

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 hand outs will be posted.

Mandatory course requirements

Students must obtain at least 40% in each piece of assessment (including the examination) to ensure they are meeting the Course Learning Objectives.

Any student who is concerned that they are unable to meet the MCRs because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

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: 33 hours (over 12 weeks)

Reading to prepare for and review lectures: 57 hours (approx 1.75 hours per lecture)

Reading/revision/research for exam: 20 hours during the teaching trimester

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

Assignment 1: 15 hours

Assignment 2: 35 hours

Assignment 3: 25 hours

For the final examination:

12 hours preparation during the assessment period

3 hours sitting the examination

Assessment

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%).

	Assessment items and workload per item	Word length	%	CLOs	Due date
1	Assignment 1: Transcription and analysis	Transcript plus 500-600 words	10%	1, 2	17 August, 12 noon
2	Assignment 2: Applying a discourse analytic approach	1400-1600 words	25%	1, 2, 3	17 September, 12 noon
3	Assignment 3: Research proposal	1000-1200 words	15%	2, 3	12 October, 12 noon
4	Final exam	3 hours	50%	1, 2, 3, 4	During the examination period

● 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 in the assignment mailbox beside the door of the School office (VZ210) by 12 noon 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.

Submission and return of work

Every effort will be made to return your work approximately 2 weeks from the date of submission.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

An extension (with no penalty) will be considered on the grounds of exceptional personal circumstances. If you require an extension, ask the Course Coordinator ahead of the due date for the assignment.

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 one day after the deadline, by two grades if it is handed in up to two days after the deadline etc. 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 5pm on Friday 16 October 2015.

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.

Set texts

There is a set of course readings available for purchase at vicbooks (www.vicbooks.co.nz)

Recommended reading

This is an introductory text book which will provide basic information:

Paltridge, Brian 2012. *Discourse Analysis: An Introduction.* London/New York: Bloomsbury Academic.

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

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

This is the first time that the course will be taught by this Course Coordinator. She welcomes feedback on all aspects of the course at any time. Based on feedback from former students in LING 321, the "lectorial" format has been retained for this course i.e. there will be many opportunities for students to participate and workshop data within lectures.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progess (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz