

LIN 4930 – 078H Political Discourse Analysis

Spring 2017

Tuesdays, period 7 & Thursdays periods 7, 8 (Anderson 0021)

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Office hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00 am- 11:30 am or by appt.

Materials:

1. Fairclough & Fairclough, *Political Discourse Analysis*; Routledge (2012)
2. Blommaert, *Discourse*; Cambridge (2005)
3. *Laptops and headphones are recommended for in-class transcription exercises.*

Course description: This is an advance undergraduate seminar in discourse and pragmatics, concentrating on political interaction. It assumes you already have a background in sociolinguistics. By the end of this course you will have crafted a publishable paper and have a firm, foundational understand of discourse analysis.

Course requirements: The course will be conducted as a seminar, with students participating actively in discussion during class meeting. Students are expected to critically read each assignment or data set for the week and come to class ready to interact with each other, bringing their own interpretations to bear on the readings. Students will also need to submit 5 data transcriptions during the semester. The course sections are designed to introduce the various approaches and methodologies to discourse analysis during the first half of the semester, so that students may begin to find a topic for research and a desired methodological approach suitable to the topic. By midterm (date to be announced) a research, with bibliography and annotations for literature review plus a methodology section is to be submitted for feedback. The second half of the semester will be taken up with a continuation of discussion of the various approaches to conversational interaction through applications of current, real-world data and discussion of research progress. In the last weeks of class, each participant is expected to share at least one reading from her/his bibliography in a seminar presentation, showing how the readings are relevant to the topic. A 10-page (minimum) paper is due by the end of the semester. There will be no exams.

Grades are broken down as follows

Class participation	10%
Attendance	10%
Transcriptions	20%
Presentation	10%
Final Project	50%
• <i>Research Proposal</i>	20%
• <i>Final Paper</i>	30%

Attendance Policy: You cannot do well in this course without coming to class and participating in the co-construction of knowledge. This course will not be run as a series of lectures but as discussion almost exclusively. Therefore, you are expected to come to class prepared to

participate with a thorough reading of the assigned material. If you must be absent you will, if possible, bring a written note from a physician, clinic, infirmary, or other authority explaining the reason for your absence. I realize that sometimes you are unable to come to class due to illness that is not treated by a doctor. Also, tardiness disrupts the flow of discussion. If you must come late, please enter as unobtrusively as possible. Three tardies exceeding five minutes each will count as an unexcused absence.

Participation: As this course will be discussion based, active participation is mandatory. If a student is absent (without an excuse), they are therefore unable to participate and will lose participation points for the day. Texting and improper use of electronics will be treated in the same manner. For more on the course policy regarding electronics, please see below.

Transcription: Students will be given data to be transcribed according to whatever methodology they deem best. The data will be given to the students in-class and they will have the opportunity to begin the assignment in-class with the help of the instructor and classmates.

Final Paper: In lieu of a midterm or final exam, students will create a final paper that features a unique idea. More information will be posted on the course website.

Cell phones, texting, and laptops: Cell phone use is not allowed during class. If you need to use your phone, please excuse yourself from the room. If you wish to take notes using your laptop, that is permitted. Please refrain from doing otherwise with laptops or smart phones during class. If a student is texting or using any electronic device inappropriately during class, they will receive an unexcused absence.

Accommodations for students with disabilities: Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

Academic dishonesty

Academic dishonesty, including cheating on assignments (i.e. 'copying') and plagiarism, will not be tolerated. Any student engaging in such activities will be dealt with in accordance with University policy and receive a failing grade for the course (www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/procedures/academicguide.php). It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes plagiarism. If you have any questions about it, please consult the professor.

Grading Scale: See UF grading policies for assigning grade points at: <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>

A= 93-100	A-=90-92.9	
B+=87-89.9	B=83-86.9	B-=80-82.9
C+=77-79.9	C=73-76.9	C-=70-72.9
D+=67-69.9	D=63-66.9	D-=60-62.9
E=under 60		

Schedule – *I reserve the right to change the schedule as needed. Any changes will be announced and any outside materials will be posted on the course website.*

	Tuesday	Thursday
Week 1 (Jan. 1 – 11)	Syllabus	Respectful Political discussion
Week 2 (Jan. 16 - 19)	Discourse Ch. 1	PDA Ch. 1
Week 3 (Jan. 22 – 26)	PDA Ch. 2	Discourse Ch. 3
Week 4 (Jan. 29 – Feb. 2)	Discourse Ch. 7 Ochs (on canvas)	Transcription Methods
Week 5 (Feb. 5 – 9)	Discourse. Ch 2 PDA Ch. 3	
Week 6 (Feb. 12 – 16)	PDA Ch. 4	
Week 7 (Feb. 19 - 23)	PDA Ch. 5	
Week 8 (Feb. 26 – March 2)	PDA Ch. 6	
Week 9 (March 5 – 9)	SPRING BREAK NO CLASS	SPRING BREAK NO CLASS
Week 10 (March 12 – 16)	Political Debates	
Week 11 (March 19 - 23)	Social Media & Politics	
Week 12 (March 26 - 30)	Social Media & Politics	
Week 13 (April 2 - 6)	Politics & The News	
Week 14 (April 9 - 13)	Politics & The News	
Week 15 (April 16 - 20)	Presentations	Presentations
Week 16 (Aril 23 - 25)	Presentations	Reading Day (No Class)
Week 17	Final papers Due by 5:00 PM Wednesday, May 2	