

## **Introduction to Discourse Analysis**

Course Syllabus

Lecturer: Dr. Debopam Das

Time: Thursdays, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

Winter Semester 2017/18

Location: II.06.101

Module: VM7

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### **Course Description:**

This course introduces the study of discourse analysis, involving the analysis of language above the level of sentence as well as the investigation of language in context. The course will explore a wide range of phenomena included in the study of discourse from linguistic, psycholinguistic and computational points of view. Students will read original and recent work in these areas, and will engage themselves in collecting, analyzing and describing different forms of discourse.

### **Course Objectives:**

At the end of the course, students will be familiar with the basic aspects of the study of discourse. Assignments and the final exam will focus on the analysis of spoken and written discourse from different perspectives. Students will learn about different strategies for identifying patterns and labelling of discourse structures. Another goal of the course is to enable students to write descriptive accounts of their analyses of texts/dialogues, and to explain how discourse analysis contributes to a better understanding of language phenomena.

### **Topics to be covered:**

1. Overview of the topics
2. Discourse data and discourse transcription
3. Systemic Functional Linguistics
4. Genres and registers; spoken and written discourse
5. Cohesion, coherence and discourse relations
6. Discourse processing
7. Thematic development
8. Politeness
9. Multimodality
10. Appraisal
11. Discourse across cultures
12. Discourse and ageing
13. Discourse and gender
14. Discourse systems (e.g., sentiment analysis)

**Meeting Dates:**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics/Events</b>
1	Oct 19	Course overview Introduction to the topics
2	Oct 26	Systemic Functional Linguistics 1
3	Nov 2	Systemic Functional Linguistics 2
4	Nov 9	Genres and registers
5	Nov 16	Spoken and written discourse
6	Nov 23	Cohesion, coherence and discourse relations
7	Nov 30	Rhetorical Structure Theory 1
8	Dec 7	Rhetorical Structure Theory 2
9	Dec 14	Thematic development
10	Jan 4	Politeness
11	Jan 11	Multimodality
12	Jan 18	Appraisal
13	Jan 25	Discourse across cultures
14	Feb 1	Discourse and gender
15	Feb 8	Computational discourse
<b>Final Exam</b>		<b>Date, time and location will be announced later</b>

**Required texts:**

Textbook: Flowerdew, John (2013) *Discourse in English Language Education*. New York: Routledge.  
Other required readings (articles, book chapters, etc.) will be available online.