

## COMM 5425

Fall 2011

### Readings in Discourse & Social Practices

#### Instructor & Class Information

Instructor: Dr. Karen Tracy	Office hours: T 1:30-3:15, TH 11-12
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**Readings in D&SP:** This seminar examines the way communicators' discourse expression (language, talk, interactional devices, semiotic practices, written texts) reflect and construct personal, workplace, and political identities; societal activities; and institutional scenes, as well as how discourse expression varies across different speech communities. In the first part of the seminar, students explore the variety of ways talk and interactive practices create and reflect identities, relationships, and social scenes, as well as how communicative practices accomplish a variety of interactional and institutional purposes. In addition, the class introduces students to key theorists on which many discourse and society traditions build. The class also aims to give students a good sense of how these traditions are being played out in current research. As part of coming to understand the D&SP tradition, students will be expected to position themselves with regard to several controversies that are lively in the area, display a beginning sense of how to approach and analyze talk or text, and display their command of one extended issue/literature of a student's choosing.

#### Readings and Class materials

There is one required book for the class and a set of articles and book chapters. Readings will be posted in CULearn. In addition, tapes/transcripts that will be used for classroom application of ideas and reading discussion will also be posted on CULearn. Since there are several authors with multiple readings, make sure to check the full citation.

Required Text: Benwell, B., & Stokoe, E. (2006). *Discourse and identity*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press. [B&S]

#### Assignments and Class Evaluation

*Participation (15%).* Many classes will ask students to prepare orally in some way—looking through a tape/transcript seeking to apply an idea from the readings, preparing a discussion question, etc. The quality of the class depends on each student's timely completion of readings, involvement with assignments, debates, and issues, and regular and thoughtful participation.

*Mini-analysis Paper (15%)* Students will analyze discourse transcripts and apply selected course concepts following practice and discussion in class. (7-9 pages)

*Short Position Paper (10%).* Students will write a short (3-4 page) paper weighing in on a set of related controversies lively in D&SP. The controversies concern the best way to approach research.

*Critical Review of Literature (25%)* An 18-20 page paper critically reviewing literature in an issue or area of Discourse and Society. Foci for literature reviews will be negotiated by students with instructor approval. More information will be provided later.

*Teach a discourse-&-social-practice idea (10%).* Each student will develop a 20-minute lesson/lecture presenting an idea(s) or a key author/book. The issue selected for presentation is expected to come from the focus and reading each person will do for the literature review project. We will have 1-2 presentations from week 7-13. The purpose of the presentations is to solidify important ideas and to help everyone develop presentational skills for his or her teaching.

*Final Essay Exam (25%)* At the end of the class, students will be given 5-7 essay questions related to the weekly readings, class lectures, debates, and discussion. At the in-class final students will receive 1-2 of these questions.

### Tentative Schedule and Assignments

<b>Topics, Issues, &amp; Assignments</b>	
<b>I: Discourse Practices and Identities</b>	
Wk1 8/23	<p>Introductions and Course Overview</p> <p>Read (a) B&amp;S chapter 1            (b) Tracy, K. (2008). Language and social interaction. In W. Donsbach (Ed.), <i>International Encyclopedia of Communication</i> (pp. 2645-2655). Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.</p>
Wk2 8/30	<p>Conversational Identities</p> <p>Read (a) B&amp;S chapter 2            (b) Kitzinger, C. (2005). "Speaking as a heterosexual": (How) does sexuality matter for talk-in-interaction? <i>Research on Language and Social Interaction</i>, 38, 221-265.            (c) Sacks, H. (1992). <i>Lectures on conversation</i> (Vol. 1). Cambridge, MA: Blackwell. [lecture 6, Fall 1964-65: lectures 13 &amp; 14, Spring 1967]            (d) Widdicombe, S. (1998). "But you don't class yourself": The interactional management of category membership and nonmembership. In C. Antaki &amp; S. Widdicombe (Eds.), <i>Identities in talk</i> (pp. 52-70). London: Sage.</p>

Wk3 9/6	<p>Narrative Identities</p> <p>Read: (a) B&amp;S chapter 4</p> <p>(b) Coupland, N., Garrett, P., &amp; Williams, A. (2005). Narrative demands, cultural performance and evaluation: Teenage boys' stories for their age peers. In J. Thornborrow &amp; J. Coates (Eds.), <i>The sociolinguistics of narrative</i> (pp. 67-88). Amsterdam: John Benjamins.</p> <p>(c) Linde, C. (2009). <i>Working the past: Narrative and institutional memory</i>. New York: Oxford University Press. [ch1 and 3]</p> <p>(d) Labov, W., &amp; Waletzky, J. (1997/1967). Narrative analysis: Oral experiences of personal experience. <i>Journal of Narrative and Life History</i>, 7(3-38).</p>
Wk4 9/13	<p>Institutional Identities</p> <p>Read (a) B&amp;S chapter 3</p> <p>(b) Buttny, R. (2010). Citizen Participation, Metadiscourse, and Accountability: A Public Hearing on a Zoning Change for Wal-Mart. <i>Journal of Communication</i>, 60(4), 636-659.</p> <p>(c) Erickson, F. (1999). Appropriation of voice and presentation of self as a fellow physician: Aspects of a discourse of apprenticeship in medicine. In C. Sarangi &amp; C. Roberts, (Eds.), <i>Talk, work and institutional order: Discourse in medical, mediation and management settings</i> ( pp. 109-143). Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.</p> <p>(d) Tracy, K., &amp; Robles, J. (2009). Question, questioning, and institutional practices. <i>Discourse Studies</i>, 11, 131-152.</p>
Wk5 9/20	<p>Virtual Identities</p> <p>Read (a) B&amp;S chapter 7</p> <p>b) Black, L. W. (2008). Deliberation, storytelling and dialogic moments. <i>Communication Theory</i>, 18, 93-116.</p> <p>DelTeso-Craviotto, M. (2008). Gender and sexual identity authentication in language use: The case of chat rooms. <i>Discourse Studies</i>, 10, 251-270.</p> <p>Arundale, R. B. (2006). Face as relational and interactional: A communication framework for research on face, facework, and politeness. <i>Journal of Politeness Research</i>, 2, 193-216.</p>
Wk6 9/27	<p>Commodified and Spatial Identities</p> <p>Read (a) B&amp; S chapters 5 &amp; 6</p> <p>(b) Fairclough, N. (2010/1993). <i>Critical discourse analysis</i> (2nd ed.). Edinburgh: Pearson Education Limited. [ch 6, marketization of universities]</p> <p>(c) Gaudio, R. P. (2003). Coffeetalk: Starbucks<sup>TM</sup> and the commercialization of casual conversation. <i>Language in Society</i>, 32, 659-691.</p>

Wk7 10/4	<p><b>Analysis Paper due</b>          Concept/Author presentations begin (weeks 7-13)</p>
<p><b>II: Other Functions of Discourse</b></p>	
Wk8 10/11	<p>Culture Reflecting &amp; Transforming</p> <p>Blum-Kulka, S., &amp; Olshtain, E. (1984). Requests and apologies: A cross-cultural study of speech act realization patterns. <i>Applied Linguistics</i>, 6(3), 196-213.          Fitch, K. (2003). Cultural persuadables. <i>Communication Theory</i>, 13, 100-123.          Katriel, T. (2004). <i>Dialogic moments: From soul talks to talk radio in Israel culture</i>. Detroit: Wayne State University Press. [ch2: "The rise and fall of dugri speech"]</p>
Wk9 10/18	<p>Feeling expression, Communication Training, Metacommunication</p> <p>Agne, R. (2010). Self-assessment as a dilemmatic communicative practice: Talk among psychics in training. <i>Southern Communication Journal</i>, 75(306-327).          Craig, R. T. (2008a). The rhetoric of dialogue: Possibility/impossibility arguments and critical events. In E. Weigand (Ed.), <i>Dialogue and rhetoric</i> (pp. 55-67). Amsterdam: John Benjamins.          Craig, R. T. (2008b). Meta-discourse. In W. Donsbach (Ed.), <i>International encyclopedia of communication</i> (Vol. VII, pp. 3107-3109). Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.  <a href="http://www.blackwellreference.com/subscriber/uid=346/tocnode?id=g9781405131995_chunk_g978140513199518_ss79-1">http://www.blackwellreference.com/subscriber/uid=346/tocnode?id=g9781405131995_chunk_g978140513199518_ss79-1</a>          Ochs, E., &amp; Schieffelin, B. (1989). Language has a heart. <i>Text</i>, 9, 7-25.          Tracy, K. (2007). Feeling-limned talk: Conduct ideals in the Steinberg succession meeting. In F. Cooren (Ed.), <i>Interacting and organizing: Analysis of a board meeting</i> (pp. 77-94). Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum.          White, C., &amp; Agne, R. (2009). Communication practices of coaches during mediator training: Addressing issues of knowledge and enactment. <i>Conflict Resolution Quarterly</i>, 27, 83-105.</p>
Wk10 10/25	<p>Deliberation and Decision-making</p> <p>Dietz, T., &amp; Sterns, P. C. (Eds.). (2008). <i>Public participation in environmental assessment and decision making</i>. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. [chapters2-3]          Gastil, J., &amp; Keith, W. M. (2005). A nation that (sometimes) likes to talk: A brief history of public deliberation in the United States. In J. Gastil &amp; P. Levine (Eds.), <i>The deliberative democracy handbook: Strategies for effective civic engagement in the 21st century</i> (pp. 3-19). San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.          Guttman, N. (2007). Bringing the mountain to the public: Dilemmas and contradictions in the procedures of public deliberation initiatives that aim to get "ordinary citizens" to deliberate policy issues. <i>Communication Theory</i>, 17, 411-438.</p>

	<b>III: Theoretical Positioning: Approaches &amp; Issues</b>
Wk11 11/1	<p>Community-focused—(a) Speech community, (b) Community of Practice (c) Discourse community</p> <p>Boromisza-Habashi, D. (2010). How are political concepts "essentially" contested? <i>Language &amp; Communication</i>, 30(4), 276-284.</p> <p>Ostermann, A. C. (2003). Communities of practice at work: Gender, facework, and the power of habitus at an all-female police station and a feminist crisis intervention center in Brazil. <i>Discourse &amp; Society</i>, 14, 473-505.</p> <p>Ostermann, A. C. (2008). Communities of practice. In W. Donsbach (Ed.), <i>The international encyclopedia of communication</i> (Vol. III, pp. 857-861). Malden, MA: Blackwell.</p> <p><a href="http://www.blackwellreference.com/subscriber/uid=346/tocnode?id=g9781405131995_chunk_g97814051319958_ss107-1">http://www.blackwellreference.com/subscriber/uid=346/tocnode?id=g9781405131995_chunk_g97814051319958_ss107-1</a></p> <p>Swales, J. M. (1990). <i>Genre analysis: English in academic and research settings</i>. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press. [ch2- discourse community, 21-32]</p> <p>Milburn, T. (2004). Speech community: Reflections upon communication. In P. Kalbfleisch (Ed.), <i>Communication Yearbook 28</i> (pp. 411-440). Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum.</p>
Wk12 11/8	<p>Discourse-focused—AIDA/GPT, Discursive Psychology</p> <p>Potter, J. (2007). Discursive social psychology: From attitudes toward evaluative practices. In T. van Dijk (Ed.), <i>Discourse Studies</i> (Vol. IV, pp. 311-341). London: Sage.</p> <p>Stokoe, E., &amp; Edwards, D. (2007). "Black this, black that": Racial insults and reported speech in neighborhood complaints and police interrogations. <i>Discourse &amp; Society</i>, 18, 337-372.</p> <p>Tracy, K., &amp; Craig, R. T. (2010). Studying interaction in order to cultivate practice: Action-implicative discourse analysis. In J. Streeck (Ed.), <i>New adventures in language and interaction</i> (pp. 145-166). Amsterdam: John Benjamins.</p> <p>Mirivel, J., &amp; Tracy, K. (2005). Premeeting Talk: An organizationally crucial form of talk. <i>Research on Language and Social Interaction</i>, 38, 1-34.</p>

Wk13 11/15	<p>Researcher Positioning: Description, Critique, Intervention???</p> <p><b>Position paper (3-4 pages) Your viewpoint</b></p> <p>Read: Billig, M. (1999). Conversation Analysis and the claims of naivety. <i>Discourse &amp; Society</i>, 10(4), 572-576.</p> <p>Billig, M. (1999). Critical discourse analysis and conversation analysis: An exchange between Michael Billig and Emanuel A. Schegloff. <i>Discourse &amp; Society</i>, 10(4), 543-558.</p> <p>Billig, M. (1999). Conversation Analysis and the claims of naivety. <i>Discourse &amp; Society</i>, 10(4), 572-576.</p> <p>Carbaugh, D. (1991). Communication and cultural interpretation. <i>Quarterly Journal of Speech</i>, 77, 336-342.</p> <p>Fiske, J. (1991). Writing ethnographies: Contribution to a dialogue. <i>Quarterly Journal of Speech</i>, 77, 330-335.</p> <p>Frey, L. R., Pearce, W. B., Pollock, M. A., Artz, L., &amp; Murphy, B. A. O. (1996). Looking for justice in all the wrong places: On a communication approach to social justice <i>Communication Studies</i>, 47, 110-125.</p> <p>Philipsen, G. (1991). Two issues in the evaluation of ethnographic studies of communicative practices. <i>Quarterly Journal of Speech</i>, 77, 327-329.</p> <p>Schegloff, E. A. (1999). Naiveté vs. sophistication or discipline vs self-indulgence: A rejoinder to Billig. <i>Discourse &amp; Society</i>, 10(4), 577-582.</p> <p>Schegloff, E. A. (1999). 'Schegloff's texts' as 'Billig's data': A critical reply. <i>Discourse &amp; Society</i>, 10(4), 558-572.</p>
Wk 14, 11/22	Thanksgiving — Enjoy!
Wk15 11/29	<p>A Few ‘Must Classics’</p> <p>Goffman, E. (1981). <i>Forms of talk</i>. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. [essay on footing]</p> <p>Grice, H. P. (1975). Logic in conversation. In P. Cole &amp; J. Morgan (Eds.), <i>Syntax and semantics, Vol. 3: Speech Acts</i> (pp. 41-58). New York: Academic Press.</p> <p>Bakhtin, M. M. (2006/1986). The problem of speech genres. In A. Jaworski &amp; N. Coupland (Eds.), <i>The discourse reader</i> (2nd ed., pp. 98-107). London: Routledge.</p> <p>Watzlawick, P., Beavin, J. H., &amp; Jackson, D. D. (1967). <i>Pragmatics of human communication</i>. New York: Norton &amp; Co. [chapter</p> <p>Whorf, B. L. (2010/1956). The relation of habitual thought and behavior to language. In Z. Hua (Ed.), <i>The language and intercultural communication reader</i> (pp. 19-34). New York: Routledge.</p>
Wk16, 12/6	<p>Final Paper due — Round robin reports</p> <p>Informal gathering at Karen Tracy’s house for drinks, snacks, and reports</p>
<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>Tuesday December 13, 3:30-6 PM</b>