Discourse Analysis
Dr. Lea Sgier (sgierl@ceu.hu)
May 18-20, 2016
9:00am – 4:30pm

Outline

This workshop aims to introduce the participants to the basics of social science discourse analysis, i.e. to a family of approaches that emphasise the constructed nature of the social and the importance of struggles over interpretive and definitory hegemony for the definition of social and political "realities". It starts with an introduction to the theoretical and epistemological bases of discourses analysis, then moves on to practical exercises whose aim is to illustrate how discourse analytical research is concretely done. These exercises will also raise issues such as validity criteria and the limits of interpretation. Finally, we will briefly consider various "schools" of discourse analysis and discuss the usefulness of discourse analytical work for various disciplines.

The workshop will consist of (interactive) lectures and various practical exercises.

By the end of the workshop, the participants should have gained a basic understanding of:

- the theoretical bases of discourse analysis and the type of research questions that it can help addressing;
- some key tools of discourse analysis and how they can help "opening up" data (analysis of systems of meanings, framings, categorisations, genealogical analysis, etc.)
- the practical steps of a discourse analytical approach;
- the typical limitations and problems of discourse analysis, applicable quality criteria;
- what to pay attention to when writing up discourse analytical research

The workshop welcomes participants with a variety of backgrounds. However, it will be more particularly useful to:

- participants with little or no prior knowledge of discourse analysis who wish to get some insights into this methodology
- participants who have some acquaintance with discourse analysis but who feel the need to discuss and reflect their own practices.

Participants who have specific concerns with regard to their own research can make an appointment for an individual discussion (preferably by sending an email to the instructor a few days ahead of the workshop).

Audience

The instructor will often refer to practical illustrations in the fields of political science, sociology and gender studies. However, participants from other social science disciplines as well as from interdisciplinary fields (environmental studies, health studies, etc.) or the humanities (linguistics, history) are very welcome to attend too.

WSSR WORKSHOPS ON SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Reading List (find these readings on course reserve*: http://reserves.concordia.ca/)

***Strongly recommended readings* (will be quite referred to in the lectures).**

Bacchi, Carol (2010). "Foucault, Policy and Rule: Challenging the Problem-Solving Approach". *Freia Working Papers* 74, Aalborg: Aalborg University

Chilton, Paul and Schäffner, Christina (1997). "Discourse and Politics", in Van Dijk, Teun A. (eds). *Discourse as Social* Interaction. London: Sage, pp. 206-230.

Edley, Nigel (2001). "Analysing Masculinity: Interpretative Repertoires, Ideological Dilemmas and Subject Positions", in Wetherell, M., Taylor, S. and Yates. S.J. (eds). *Discourse as Data. A Guide for Analysis*. London: Sage/Open University, pp. 189-228

Gill, Rosalind (2000). "Discourse Analysis", in Bauer, M. and Gaskell, G., *Qualitative Researching with Text, Image and Sound*. London: Sage, pp. 172-190.

Lucas, Barbara (2004). "Reducing Discursive Complexity : the Case of Alcohol Policies in Europe (1850-2000)", in Muller, Richard and Klingemann, Harald (eds). *From Science to Action? 100 Years Later – Alcohol Policies Revisited.* Dordrecht: Kluwer.

Milliken, Jennifer (1999). "The Study of Discourse in International Relations: A Critique of Research and Methods". *European Journal of International Relations* 5:225-254. DOI 10.1177/1354066199005002003

Mills, Sara (2004). *Discourse*. New York : Routledge, pp. 26-42 and 43-68.

Squire**,** Corinne (2009). "Experience-Centred and Culturally-Oriented Approaches to Narrative", in Andrews, Molly, Squire, Corinne and Tamboukou, Maria (eds). *Doing Narrative Research*. London: Sage, pp. 41-63.

Verloo, Mieke (2005). "Mainstreaming Gender Equality in Europe. A Critical Frame Analysis". *The Greek Review of Social Research* 117 B': 11-34

*If you are registered for non-credit and are unable to locate the readings, please contact us at wssr@concordia.ca

***Recommended readings* (for participants who wish to go deeper)**

Antaki, Charles, Billig, Michael, Edwards, Derek and Potter, Jonathan (2003). "Discourse Analysis Means Doing Analysis: A Critique of Six Analytic Shortcomings". *Discourse Analysis Online* 1(1). [http://www.shu.ac.uk/daol/previous/v1/n1/index.htm]

Bacchi, Carol (2009). "The Issue of Intentionality in Frame Theory", in Lombardo, Emanuela, Meier, Petra and Verloo, Mieke (eds). *The Discursive Politics of Gender Equality*. London/New York: Routledge: pp. 19-35.

Hammersley, Martyn (2008). "Troubles with Triangulation", in Bergman, Manfred Max ed. Advances in Mixed Methods Research. London: Sage, pp. 22–36. (also on-line).

Hook, Derek (2008). "Genealogy, Discourse, 'Effective' History: Foucault and the Work of Critique". *Qualitative Reseach in Psychology* 2(1): 3-31.

Lombardo, Emanuela, Meier, Petra and Verloo, Mieke (2009). "Stretching and Bending Gender Equality. A Discursive Approach", in in Lombardo, Emanuela, Meier, Petra and Verloo, Mieke (eds). *The Discursive Politics of Gender Equality*. London/New York: Routledge: pp. 1-18.

Luborsky**,** Mark R. and Rubinstein, Robert L. (1995). "Sampling in Qualitative Research: Rationale, Issues, and Methods". *Research on Aging* 17:89-113.

Potter, Jonathan (1996). *Representing Reality. Discourse, Rhetoric and Social Construction*. London: Sage, pp. 150-74 and 175-199 (ch. 6, 7).

Schofield, Janet Ward (2002). "Increasing the Generalizability of Qualitative Research", in Huberman, A. Michael and Miles, Matthew B. (eds). *The Qualitative Researcher's Companion.* Thousand Oaks: Sage, pp. 171-204.

Schmidt, Vivien A. and Radaelli, Claudio M. (2004). "Policy Change and Discourse in Europe: Conceptual and Methodological Issues". *West European Politics* 27(2): 183-210.

Tamboukou, Maria (2009). "A Foucauldian Approach to Narratives", in Andrews, Molly, Squire, Corinne and Tamboukou, Maria (eds). *Doing Narrative Research*. London: Sage, pp. 102-120.

Taylor, Stephanie (2001). "Locating and Conducting Discourse Analytic Research", in Wetherell, Margaret., Taylor, Stephanie and Yates, Simeon J. (Eds). *Discourse as Data. A Guide for Analysis*. London: Sage, pp. 5-48.

Other

It would be very helpful if the workshop participants could reserve 1-2h for some preparatory work in the evenings of day 1 and 2 of the workshop (pre-reading some data etc.)