



**Course Purpose:** This course provides you with a foundation in discourse analysis. Effective interpretations require an understanding of the discourse's underlying meaning prior to producing the same meaning in a second language. This underlying meaning requires more than a simple understanding of the words/signs that are strung together. It requires an understanding of the context, the implicit intentions, the connotations of the words/signs, the goal of the speaker/signer, and the goal of the audience. You will discuss the impact of understanding discourse in everyday communication by analyzing the context and intentions of the people within various communication events.

**Course Objectives:**

1. Discuss the concept of discourse as dynamic interaction, especially in terms of conversational exchanges in English and ASL, including open and close signals, backchannel signals, turnover signals, bracket signals, preempt signals, and other discourse signals that mark various communicative events.
2. Understand the sociolinguistic aspects of communication (i.e., variation based on features such as social setting and functions, register, age, gender and region) and how these aspects of communication specifically apply in various contexts.
3. Discuss Grice's maxims and how these maxims impact communication events.
4. Discuss the discourse structure of interaction as it is interpreted.
5. Define the structure of communicative exchanges in ASL and English discourse.
6. Discuss the implications of the above analyses for interpreting interaction in various contexts (e.g., classrooms, business transactions, job interviews, and doctor's appointments), and identify strategies for managing the implications.
7. Apply a 10-step discourse analysis process to examine the meaning and structure of ASL and English texts in various contexts.
8. Apply the analysis of ASL and English texts in various contexts to retell the texts in both the source and target language.
9. Demonstrate accuracy and equivalency of meaning in retelling texts in ASL and English.

**Course Dates:** This course runs the 16-week spring semester.



**INTR 113: Discourse Analysis, Course Blueprint**  
**On Campus Spring 2017**

Course Objectives	Module Name & Objectives	Weeks & Materials	Activities	Assessments
1 & 2	<b>Module 1: Introduction to Discourse Analysis</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe how communication style is influenced by ethnicity, age, class, gender and personality.</li> <li>Describe ways different communication styles contribute to misunderstandings between communicators.</li> </ul>	<b>Weeks: 1 &amp; 2</b> Tannen (2011)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction to Discourse Analysis (PPT)</li> <li>Read &amp; discuss Tannen (whole book)</li> <li>Record English Conversation</li> </ul>	Assignment 1: English Conversation (due 1/18)
1-5	<b>Module 2: Aspects of Discourse: System Constraints</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>List and give examples of system constraints in English and ASL.</li> </ul>	<b>Week: 3</b> Hatch (1992) ASL & English Texts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read &amp; discuss Hatch (Chap. 1)</li> </ul>	Assignment 2: Discourse Analysis Papers, Paper #1 (due 1/29)
1-5	<b>Module 3: Aspects of Discourse: Ritual Constraints</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define ritual constraint and give examples in ASL and English.</li> <li>Compare and contrast how ritual constraints influence how system constraints are realized in English and ASL.</li> </ul>	<b>Week: 4</b> Hatch (1992) ASL & English Texts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read &amp; discuss Hatch (Chap. 2)</li> <li>Prep #1 on p. 65 of Hatch</li> </ul>	Assignment 2: Discourse Analysis Papers, Paper #2 (due 2/5)
1, 2, 4, & 5	<b>Module 4: Focusing on ASL Discourse Analysis</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and discuss discourse features of ASL including such as turn-taking, repair, constructed action, and cohesion.</li> </ul>	<b>Weeks: 5 &amp; 6</b> Valli et al. (2012) *Includes DVD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read &amp; discuss Valli (Unit 24, 25, &amp; 26)</li> <li>Prep Assignment 19 in Unit 24</li> <li>Read &amp; discuss Valli (Discourse Analysis by Metzger &amp; Bahan, p. 516)</li> <li>View <i>My Favorite Summer House &amp; Dandelion</i> (Valli DVD)</li> </ul>	
1, 2, 4, & 5	<b>Module 5: Speech Acts and Speech Events</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify speech act functions in ASL and English.</li> <li>Compare and contrast how speech acts are expressed in ASL and English.</li> <li>Explain the relationship between syntax and speech act function.</li> </ul>	<b>Week: 7</b> Hatch (1992) ASL & English Texts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read &amp; discuss Hatch (Chap. 4)</li> </ul>	Assignment 2: Discourse Analysis Papers, Paper #3 (due 2/26)



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1, 2, 4, & 5	<p><b>Module 6: Rhetorical Analysis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify structural components characteristic of rhetorical genres in ASL and English.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Week: 8</b>  Hatch (1992)  Digiterp (2002)  ASL &amp; English Texts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read &amp; discuss Hatch (Chap. 5)</li> <li>Explore &amp; discuss Navigating Discourse Genres web pages</li> </ul>	Assignment 2: Discourse Analysis Papers, Paper #4 (due 3/5)
1, 2, 4, & 5	<p><b>Module 7: Coherence, Cohesion, Deixis, and Discourse</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify cohesive ties including reference, substitution, ellipsis, conjunction and lexical ties in ASL and English.</li> <li>Identify deixis in ASL and English.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Week: 9</b>  Hatch (1992)  Valli (2012)  ASL &amp; English Texts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read &amp; discuss Hatch (Chap. 6)</li> <li>View <i>Snowmobile</i> (Valli DVD)</li> </ul>	Assignment 2: Discourse Analysis Papers, Paper #5 (due 3/10)
1, 2, 4, & 5	<p><b>Module 8: Pragmatics, Prosody, and Contextual Analysis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify prosody features in ASL and English.</li> <li>Apply prosody to own use of ASL.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Week: 10</b>  Hatch (1992)  ASL &amp; English Texts  Winston (2000)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read &amp; discuss Hatch (Chap. 8)</li> <li>Read &amp; discuss Winston</li> </ul>	Assignment 2: Discourse Analysis Papers, Paper #6 (due 3/26)
1, 2, 4, 5, & 6	<p><b>Module 9: Layers of Discourse Analysis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply analysis strategies (including system and ritual constraints, speech acts, genre, cohesion and pragmatics) to analyze a spoken English conversation.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Week: 11</b>  Hatch (1992)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read &amp; discuss Hatch (Chap. 9)</li> </ul>	
6 & 7	<p><b>Module 10: Content Mapping</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use content mapping to analyze an ASL story.</li> <li>Discuss how content mapping enhances comprehension of the story.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Week: 12</b>  Witter-Merithew (2003)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read &amp; discuss Witter-Merithew (2003)</li> <li>View <i>Snowmobile</i> (Valli DVD)</li> </ul>	
6, 7, 8, & 9	<p><b>Module 11: 10-Step Discourse Analysis Process</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the 10-step process.</li> <li>Apply the 10-step process to texts and assess the effectiveness of the work.</li> <li>Define discourse analysis and describe its importance for interpreters.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weeks: 13-15 &amp; Finals</b>  Witter-Merithew (2002)  Straitiy (1999)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read &amp; discuss Witter-Merithew (2002)</li> <li>10-Step Process (PPT)</li> <li>View Application of the 10-Step Process by B. Bonni (DVD)</li> <li>10-Step Process to English and ASL texts</li> </ul>	Assignment 3: 10-Step Process of an English Text (due 4/20) Assignment 4: 10-Step Process of an ASL Text (due 5/3) Assignment 5: Share Shop (due 4/18 & 5/1)