Course Information:

Class Time/Location: Wednesdays, 10:30-1:00
Haury 310

My Contact Information: Email: jenrothg@email.arizona.edu
Office: Haury 301
Hours: Tuesdays 12:30-2, Thursdays 12:30-2
Phone: 626-0696

Class Website: http://d2l.arizona.edu

Course Description:

This class investigates the relationship between language and social order through the analysis of discourse. While there are many different ways to study discourse (through different academic disciplines such as education or linguistics, through different approaches such as conversation analysis or speech act theory, etc.) and many definitions of discourse, this class is focused on understanding discourse within ethnographic and sociopolitical contexts. The goals of this class are two-fold: 1) to give students hands-on experience in linguistic analysis at the level of discourse and 2) to interrogate the micro/macro relationship between discourse patterns, ethnography, and larger sociopolitical contexts. Thus as we draw on linguistic studies of spoken and written discourse, we will be asking how particular discourse patterns help speakers negotiate larger questions of citizenship, modernity, globalization, power, identity, and inequality. In this class, we will take up an explicitly ethnographic approach to discourse, in order to show how speakers, and speech, are simultaneously located in interactional, local, national, and global contexts. Not all of the readings here attend to these levels; it will be our job to continually ask (and then show) how discourse analysis can contribute to these broader anthropological concerns.

Because of our strong focus on ethnographic and sociopolitical contexts, all students are expected to have conducted or be conducting fieldwork from which they can tape or video record interactions, transcribe, and then analyze discourse. A short write-up of potential field sites and projects will be due by the third week of class. I am open to different kinds of discourse, including written or online discourse, provided there is a way to more fully explore the context. Students should feel free to come talk with me or send emails to flesh out potential research sites. Human subjects clearance is not required for the purposes of recording data for class assignments. However, should students wish to publish on this research (at any future point), or should this constitute ongoing research that will go beyond the confines of this class, students must receive IRB certification and clearance. Please get started on this as soon as possible, as this is a lengthy and time-consuming process.
Course Requirements:

1 Attendance and Participation:

In a graduate seminar, it goes without saying that your active and informed participation is expected. As a courtesy, please let me know ahead of time if you will be late or unable to attend a session of class. This class is designed as a hands-on data workshop, as well as an advanced discussion of readings and theory. This means we need all hands on deck! Please speak with me individually if you are planning to audit.

- All students are advised to meet with me at least once during the semester to discuss your research and/or progress in the class.

2 Group Presentations:

In order to delve into actual discourse analysis, students will be working both independently and in groups. Each group will work together to design a presentation of at least 30 minutes that will start off the class session. There are several ways to approach these presentations, but all presentations must include: 1) PowerPoint and 2) detailed handouts for each student. While you may choose to comment on the readings or present an overview of work conducted in this area, the bulk of your presentation should be the presentation and analysis of the discourse theme of the day. You have many options in choosing data to present. You may work with data that one student has collected and transcribed from their ongoing fieldwork; you may do a comparison of several students’ data; and you may also compare previously published data (properly cited), or written/online discourse. Your job is to present an in-depth example of the discourse pattern at hand, synthesizing both micro and macro perspectives. Pay careful attention to the ethnographic and sociopolitical context, even if this takes the form of open-ended questions, critique, or future directions for research.

3 Mid-term Paper:

For your mid-term assignment, students will choose a topic discussed in the 2nd content area of the course (“The Discursive Construction of Social Order”). These topics include: frames and footing, participant roles, stance, register, and genre. Students will be expected to present a short transcript from their research and analyze it through the discourse theme they have chosen. You are expected to submit your transcript (no longer than 3 pages) along with a 7-10 page paper. This paper is due Friday October 21st, by noon.

4 Final Paper(s):

For your final paper, you have the option of focusing on one of the topics from the 3rd and 4th sections of the course in a 15-20 page paper OR completing two additional short papers, on different topics from any section of the course (7-10 pages each). Should you choose one final paper, an abstract of your proposed topic is due no later than November 16th by email, and the
paper is due on **December 7th by noon**. Shorter papers will be due on **November 16th in class** and **December 7th by noon** (no abstract necessary). You are always welcome to email me your ideas for feedback or schedule a time to come visit me in office hours.

**Grading:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Presentations</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-term Paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>40%</td>
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**Course Readings:**

All readings will be made available at the d2l class website. If you have trouble accessing the site for any reason, please email me.

**Class Schedule:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section 1: Locating Discourse in Context(s)</th>
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**Week One: Introductions**

**August 24**

In-class reading:


**Week Two: Conducting Ethnographic Discourse Analysis**

**August 31**


**Week Three: Discourse in Context**

**September 7**


All students should bring a short write-up of their research plan (including discourse and contexts to be studied).

**Section 2: The Discursive Construction of Social Order**

**Week Four: Frames and Footing**

September 14


**Week Five: Participant Roles**

September 21


*Week Six: Stance*

**September 28**


*Week Seven: Register*

**October 5**


*Week Eight: Genre*

**October 12**


*Week Nine: Synthesis*

*October 19*

→ Mid-term paper due Friday, October 21st by noon.

### Section 3: Dialogism

*Week Ten: Intertextuality: Circulation*

*October 26*


*Week Eleven: Intertextuality: Transformation*

*November 2*


*Week Twelve: Multivocality*

**November 9**


*Week Thirteen: Voice*

**November 16**


Abstracts for final paper due by email.
Optional paper #2 due in class.

Section 4: Metapragmatics: Language about Language and Social Order

Week Fourteen: Talk about Talk
November 23


Week Fifteen: Conclusion
November 30

Week Sixteen:
December 7

No class.

Final Paper due in my office by noon.

Have a nice winter break!