Zarqa University
Faculty of Arts
Department of English Language
and Translation
Course title: Discourse Analysis



**Instructor:** 

Lecture's time: Semester

**Office Hours:** 

# Course description:

This course is designed to train students on how to carry out contrastive discourse analysis of English and Arabic texts from different genres. It tackles the concepts of cohesion, coherence, speech acts and thematic structure of the clause complexes that realize the overall body of the text.

#### Aims of the course:

- 1. Understand and use the basic conceptual terminology of discourse analysis.
- 2. Carry out contrastive analysis of different genres from Arabic and English.
- 3. Establish the distinction between sentential and supra sentential levels of analysis.
- 4. Identify aspects of discourse in a given text.
- 5. Illustrate the role of context in any communication.

# **Intended Learning Outcomes: (ILOs)**

#### A. Knowledge and Understanding

# **A1.** Concepts and Theories:

Discourse, pragmatics, context, cohesion, coherence, conversational analysis, presupposition, critical discourse analysis.

#### A2. Contemporary Trends, Problems and Research:

Engage students in integrating tools from linguistics and also social theory as a key method in discourse analysis.

# A3. Professional Responsibility:

Encourage awareness of the ways in which discourse practices vary across social, cultural and linguistic boundaries, and how this impacts within local and global contexts.

#### **B.** Subject-specific skills

#### **B1. Problem solving skills:**

- 1. Define the scope of discourse analysis.
- 2. Identify features of the relationship between discourse and society...
- 3. Explore the connection between discourse and pragmatics.
- 4. Identify features of discourse and genre.
- 5. Develop an understanding of critical discourse analysis.

#### **B2.** Modeling and Design:

Model for students how to engage productively and respectfully with their peers.

#### **B3.** Application of Methods and Tools:

Help students to use new knowledge to better prepare and deliver coherently and logically argued written assignments.



#### C. Critical-Thinking Skills

Outline distinctive features of various discourse types.

## C1. Analytic skills: Assess

Develop student ability to critically evaluate written materials in the field of discourse and discourse analysis.

#### **C2.** Strategic Thinking:

Apply acquired knowledge in everyday situations.

## **C3.** Creative thinking and innovation:

Use IT skills to present information effectively; develop and exchange relevant information through the use of shared access to documents and web-based learning

Understand the technical (and ethical) problems of sociolinguistic data collection.

# D. General and Transferable Skills (other skills relevant to employability and personal development)

#### **D1.**Communication:

Provide students with transferable skills that can be applied in other university courses and in professional and personal contexts beyond the university.

#### **Course structures:**

| Week | Credit<br>Hours | ILOs          | Topics                      | Teaching<br>Procedure | Assessment methods |
|------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1-   | 3               | A1,B1         | Introduction                | Lectures,             | Exams and          |
|      |                 |               |                             | videos                | assignments        |
| 2-   | 3               | B1            | What is discourse analysis  |                       |                    |
| 3-   | 3               | B1            | Basic concepts in           |                       |                    |
|      |                 |               | pragmatics and discourse    |                       |                    |
| 4-   | 3               | B1            | Basic concepts in           |                       |                    |
|      |                 |               | pragmatics and discourse    |                       |                    |
|      | 3               | B1            | Analyzing the discourse     |                       |                    |
|      |                 |               | in context                  |                       |                    |
| 6-   | 3               | B1,3          | The Pragmatics of           |                       |                    |
|      |                 |               | conversation                |                       |                    |
| 7-   | 3               | B1,3          | Cooperation and relevance   |                       |                    |
| 8-   | 3               | B1            | The principle of politeness |                       |                    |
| 9-   | 3               | B3            | Exploring the context of    |                       |                    |
|      |                 |               | writing                     |                       |                    |
| 10-  | 3               | B3            | Exploring speech acts       |                       |                    |
| 11-  | 3               | B3            | Context and sterotypes      |                       |                    |
| 12   | 3               | B1            | The cooperative principle   |                       |                    |
| 13   | 3               | B3            | Communication and           |                       |                    |
|      |                 |               | relevance                   |                       |                    |
| 14-  | 3               | D1            | Critical discourse          |                       |                    |
|      |                 |               | analysis                    |                       |                    |
| 15   | 3               | A2,C2,C3,D1,2 | Presentations of            |                       |                    |



|  | research tasks |  |
|--|----------------|--|
|  | research tasks |  |

## **References:**

A. Main Textbook:

Cutting, Joan.Pragamtics and Discourse .2002.London:Routldge .

**B.** Supplementary Textbook(s):

G. Brown and G. Yule. 1983. Discourse analysis. Cambridge: Cambridge University. Press,.

## **Assessment Methods:**

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| Methods           | Grade | Date |
|-------------------|-------|------|
| First Exam        | 20    |      |
| Second Exam       | 20    |      |
| Participation and | 10    |      |
| assignments       |       |      |
| Final Exam        | 50    |      |

