



Universidade de Vigo

## **Pragmatics and Discourse Analysis in English**

Lecturers:

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**GUÍA DOCENTE E MATERIAL DIDÁCTICO**

**2024/2025**

***MÁSTER INTERUNIVERSITARIO EN ESTUDOS INGLESES AVANZADOS E AS  
SÚAS APLICACIÓNS***

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autores.

**NOMBRE DE LA ASIGNATURA / COURSE NAME**

Pragmatics and Discourse Analysis in English

**CRÉDITOS ECTS / CREDITS**

3 ECTS credits

**CARÁCTER / COURSE TYPE**

Optional

**CUATRIMESTRE / SEMESTER**

Second semester

**REQUISITOS PREVIOS RECOMENDADOS / PREREQUISITES**

None.

**OBJETIVOS / OBJECTIVES**

General objectives:

This course will provide an overview of the history of **Discourse Analysis (DA)**, as well as of the main trends and applications in the field. The main analytical tools and methodologies applied in DA will be explained, followed by how language is analysed from a discourse perspective. This involves the analysis of the strategies whereby information is presented in particular contexts in the light of the cognitive processes (encoding and decoding) and discourse representations (e.g. presuppositions, assertions, implicatures) that such strategies trigger in the participants' minds, which will lead to the discussion of such related aspects and theories as e.g. **Pragmatics, Functional Sentence Perspective, Cohesion and Coherence**, or the use of **Discourse Markers**. The next step will be to introduce **Conversation Analysis (CA)** and **Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA)**.

Readings and theoretical questions will be substantiated with practical tasks. The focus will be on the analysis of different types of discourse in present-day English.

### Specific objectives:

1. Description of the basic concepts of DA.
2. Familiarization with the main approaches and applications of DA in English.
3. Analysis of different types of discourse in natural settings.
4. Critical reading of specialized literature related to the field.
5. Use of new resources and technologies to carry out research in the field.
6. The carrying out of a small-scale research project in DA.
7. Individual and group work.
8. Participation in class discussions on DA-related topics.

## **COMPETENCIAS / COMPETENCES**

G01, G02, G03, G04, G05, G06, G07, G08, G09, G10, E01, E02, E07, E08 (see Degree Statement p. 39).

### GENERAL

**G01** - Ability to delve into those concepts, principles, theories or models related to the various areas of English Studies, as well as to become familiar with the methodology required to solve those problems typical of this field of study.

**G02** - Ability to apply the knowledge obtained within the multidisciplinary and multifaceted area of English Studies.

**G03** - Ability to use the new information and communication technologies (ICTs) efficiently within the realm of English Studies.

**G04** - Ability to present experiences, ideas or reports in public, as well as to express informed opinions based on criteria, external rules or personal reflections, for which a sufficient command of the academic and scientific language, both written and oral, will be necessary.

**G05** - Abilities to investigate and manage new knowledge and information within the context of English Studies.

**G06** - Ability to acquire critical thinking that will lead students to consider the relevance of the existing research in the fields of study that make up/shape/define English Studies, as well as the relevance of their own investigations.

**G07** - Abilities to consolidate and develop the C2 linguistic competence in the spoken and written use of the English language.

**G08** - Progressive autonomy in the learning process, individual search for resources and information, by getting access/accessing (to) bibliographical and documentary references on the various areas that define English Studies.

**G09** - Ability to carry out research work of an academic nature in the different realms of English Studies.

**G10** - Ability to present and defend a research project by making use of the appropriate terminology and resources/tools within the area object of study.

### SPECIFIC

**E01** - Knowledge of the main methods of linguistic research.

**E02** - Knowledge of the main resources, tools and methods for linguistic research.

**E07** - Capacity to analyse different types of texts and spoken and/or written discourse in English.

**E08** - Knowledge of the role of English in the different mass media.

Note also:

1. An understanding of the basic concepts of DA.
2. Knowledge of the main approaches and applications of DA in English.
3. Critical reading of recommended literature.
4. Application of the basic concepts dealt with in the course.
5. The ability to consult and select from the recommended bibliography and available resources all the relevant and appropriate information.
6. The ability to gather, select and analyse natural data in field research.
7. The writing and presentation of a small-scale research project in DA.

## **CONTENIDOS / CONTENTS**

1. Introducing Discourse Analysis
  - 1.1. Basic concepts
  - 1.2. Overview of the field
2. Main approaches and applications
  - 2.1. Pragmatics, Information Processing and the Organization of Discourse
  - 2.2. Conversation Analysis
  - 2.3. Critical Discourse Analysis

## **METODOLOGÍA / TEACHING METHODOLOGY**

As presented in Table 1, the syllabus will be covered and the projects will be presented in 14 hours of class sessions. In addition, a maximum of 10 hours will correspond to online self-assessment tasks and to other activities normally implemented through virtual learning environments (VLE), while the remaining 51 hours will be required to read the recommended literature and to prepare the project in the light of the class sessions and tutorials, during which attendance in class is not required.

*Table 1. Number of hours required for different academic activities*

<b>Classroom sessions</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Study in virtual learning environment (VLE)</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Students' own work</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Lectures	5	Participation in online discussion groups	4	Independent study, individually or in groups	11
Interactive classes (seminars, debates, presentations, etc.)	7	Activities related to reading tasks	4	Writing up of exercises, conclusions or other work related to the course	20
Tutorial sessions	2	Self-assessment tasks	2	Library work, recommended reading, bibliographical research	20
<b>Total number of classroom hours</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Total number of hours via VLE</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Total number of hours required for students' own work</b>	<b>51</b>

**ACTIVIDADES FORMATIVAS / ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES**

The following variables have been taken into account when assigning values to the activities above:

Total number of hours = 75

Maximum number of hours of classroom work = 14

Maximum number of hours in VLE = 10

Students' individual study time = 51

## EVALUACIÓN / ASSESSMENT

Students' progress will be assessed during the course, including attendance and active participation in the classroom sessions, and also individual work outside the classroom. Active participation will be assessed taking into account the carrying out of all kinds of oral and written tasks related to the course, both in the classroom and outside (e.g. exercises, problems, commentaries, written tasks, oral presentations, exams).

The percentages of the final mark corresponding to each of the parameters assessed are the following:

- Active participation and involvement in classroom sessions (i.e., attention, comments, ideas and questions related to lectures and to the performance of activities): 10%
- In-class and out-of-class activities related to the study of the contents of the course (i.e., problem-solving, exercises or activities requested to be done in class or as homework for submission and marking): 20%. Note, however, that failure to do it within the timespan assigned and/or in the format requested will count as a zero.
- Written project (35%) and oral presentation (35%) of the project = 70%.
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Note: Class attendance is compulsory. The assessment system will be the same for the Resit & First sit exams, as well for those students who have failed the subject in previous years. The final marks of those students who are officially dispensed with class attendance will be exclusively based on the written project and its oral presentation. Any instance of plagiarism will derive in failing the course.

## SYLLABUS & SCHEDULE

### 2024-2025 Syllabus & Schedule (USC)\*

<b>Session 1</b>	1. Discourse studies: Introduction and Overview 1.1. Overview 1.2. Assigning project proposals
<b>Session 2-3</b>	2. Communicative categories and information flow 2.1. Theme, Topic, Focus, Given-New and related notions 2.2. Cohesion and coherence
<b>Session 4</b>	Pragmatics
<b>Session 5</b>	Conversation Analysis
<b>Session 6</b>	Critical Discourse Analysis
<b>Session 7</b>	Oral presentations of project proposals
<b>22.05.2025</b>	Submission of written project

\*Specific contents will be determined each year and at each campus/university.

## BIBLIOGRAFÍA RECOMENDADA / RECOMMENDED BIBLIOGRAPHY

### 1. Books and textbooks on DA/Pragmatics/Text Linguistics/Conversation Analysis

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## **2. Politeness and Intercultural Communication**

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## **4. Multimodality & Visual Communication/Culture**

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## 6. Specialised Journals

Applied Linguistics:

<http://appliedjournals.org/>

Corpus Linguistics & Linguistic Theory:

<http://www.degruyter.de/journals/cllt/detailEn.cfm>

Critical Discourse Studies:

<http://cds-web.net/>

Discourse & Communication:

<http://dcm.sagepub.com/>

Discourse & Society:

<http://www.sagepub.co.uk/journal.aspx?pid=105519>

Discourse Processes:

<http://www.societyfortextanddiscourse.org/dp/>

Discourse Studies:

<http://www.sagepub.co.uk/journal.aspx?pid=105520>

Intercultural Pragmatics:

<http://www.degruyter.de/journals/intcultpragm/detailEn.cfm>

Journal of Language and Politics

<http://www.cadaad.org/node/85>

Journal of Historical Pragmatics:

[http://www.benjamins.com/cgi-bin/t\\_seriesview.cgi?series=JHPPragmatics](http://www.benjamins.com/cgi-bin/t_seriesview.cgi?series=JHPPragmatics)

Journal of Pragmatics:

<http://www.elsevier.com/locate/pragma/>

Vols. 28, 29, 30 (1997 and 1998).

Language in Society:

<http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayJournal?jid=LSY>

Multimodal Communication

<https://www.degruyter.com/journal/key/mc/html>

Pragmatics:

[http://ipra.ua.ac.be/main.aspx?c=\\*HOME&n=1267](http://ipra.ua.ac.be/main.aspx?c=*HOME&n=1267)

Pragmatics and Cognition:

[http://www.benjamins.com/cgi-bin/t\\_seriesview.cgi?series=P%26C](http://www.benjamins.com/cgi-bin/t_seriesview.cgi?series=P%26C)

Pragmatics online:

[http://ipra.ua.ac.be/main.aspx?c=\\*HOME&n=1360](http://ipra.ua.ac.be/main.aspx?c=*HOME&n=1360)

Research on Language and Social Interaction:

<http://rolsi.lboro.ac.uk/>

Studies in Language:

[http://www.benjamins.com/cgi-bin/t\\_seriesview.cgi?series=SL](http://www.benjamins.com/cgi-bin/t_seriesview.cgi?series=SL)

Text & Talk:

<http://www.degruyter.de/journals/text/>

Text Technology:

<http://texttechnology.mcmaster.ca/>

## 7. Internet Resources

Bibliography on “Discourse Analysis”:

<http://www.uni-saarland.de/fak4/norrick/bibvlda.htm>

Canan Perkan. Instructional Discourse in Language Classrooms:

<http://sfl.emu.edu.tr/tu/oldconferences/confarchive/ASCPcananperkan.htm>

Conversation Analysis. Net.

[www.conversation-analysis.net/](http://www.conversation-analysis.net/)

De Beaugrande & Dressler (1986), available in Internet:

[http://www.beaugrande.bizland.com/introduction\\_to\\_text\\_linguistics.htm](http://www.beaugrande.bizland.com/introduction_to_text_linguistics.htm) De

Beaugrande, R. Text, Discourse and Process. Available online:

<http://www.beaugrande.bizland.com/TDPOpening.htm>

Deborah Tannen: Discourse Analysis

<http://www.lsadc.org/>

Discourse analysis links

[http://www.odu.edu/al/writing\\_tutorial\\_serv/disclink.htm](http://www.odu.edu/al/writing_tutorial_serv/disclink.htm)

Discourse analysis online

<http://extra.shu.ac.uk/daol/resources/>

Discourse & Society

<http://www.discourse-in-society.org/>

Douglas Demo. Discourse Analysis for Language Teachers.

<http://www.cal.org/resources/digest/0107demo.html>

Ethno/CA News: Resources

[www.2.fmg.uva.n/emca/resource.htm](http://www.2.fmg.uva.n/emca/resource.htm)

International Institute for Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis

[www.iiemca.mrl.nott.ac.uk/publications.html](http://www.iiemca.mrl.nott.ac.uk/publications.html)

Implementing Discourse Analysis for Intermediate and Advanced Language Learners

[http://www2.aasa.ac.jp/~dcdycus/LAC2001/massi\\_lac2001.pdf](http://www2.aasa.ac.jp/~dcdycus/LAC2001/massi_lac2001.pdf)

Lemke, Jay. Analyzing verbal data: principles, methods, and problems



<http://academic.brooklyn.cuny.edu/education/jlemke/papers/handbook.htm>

Lemke, Jay. Bibliography of Sources for Discourse Analysis Methods:

<http://academic.brooklyn.cuny.edu/education/jlemke/meth-bib.htm>

SCIMITAR, Santiago-Centred International Milieu for Interactional, Typological and  
Acquisitional Research, coordinated by Prof. Dr. Gómez González

<http://ww.usc.es/scimitar>

Van Dijk. The Discourse- Knowledge Interface:

<http://www.discourses.org/>

Visual & Multimodal Research Forum (UCL)

<https://multimodalforum.org/about/>

Visual Language Lab

<https://www.visuallanguagelab.com/resources>

<b>OTRA INFORMACIÓN Y/O RECOMENDACIONES / FURTHER INFORMATION</b>
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This subject focuses on linguistic and communicative aspects of English and is recommended for those especially interested in such topics.

Further information will be made available by individual lecturers. They can be contacted by e-mail and via the virtual learning platform set up for this master's degree.

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