



LING780

Advanced Topics in Language in Interaction

S1 Day 2019

Dept of Linguistics

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

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Credit points

4

Prerequisites

Admission to MRes

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit will focus on how people use spoken language within social interaction in everyday situations. It will examine how lexis, syntax, and prosody integrate with other semiotic resources such as gaze, gesture, the body and the surrounding environment. It will also explore particular scenes of social activity, such as conversations between friends and family, emergency calls, medical consultations, and interactions involving people with cognitive disorders. The unit will provide students with a thorough methodological grounding in the micro-analytic techniques of conversation analysis (CA) and interactional linguistics. Wherever possible, the course will take a cross-linguistic and cross-cultural perspective on social interaction. Students will develop the technical skills necessary for data collection, transcription and analysis of both audio and video recordings, as well as the management of interactional corpora.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

evaluate and apply theories relevant for describing and explaining spoken language in use

critically analyse the relationship between linguistic practices, social organisation, and

the material world

conduct and interpret procedures relevant for analysing language use

demonstrate through independent research how language is used to achieve human social activities in particular contexts

effectively and plainly communicate the findings of independent research in an academic research report

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Assessment 1	15%	No	Week 6
Assessment 2	25%	No	Week 9
Assessment 3	50%	No	Week 13
Assessment 4	10%	No	Week 13

Assessment 1

Due: **Week 6**

Weighting: **15%**

In this assessment, students will critique and improve a transcript of an interaction using conversation-analytic concepts and methods. Students will submit the improved transcript for grading and feedback. As relevant, students will be provided with an opportunity to submit a reflection on the feedback their received.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- conduct and interpret procedures relevant for analysing language use

Assessment 2

Due: **Week 9**

Weighting: **25%**

In this assessment, students will be supplied with recordings and transcripts of interaction, and asked to identify features of turn-taking organisation, repair organisation, and/or sequence organisation. Students will annotate data, and write short reports summarising the patterns they have identified.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- evaluate and apply theories relevant for describing and explaining spoken language in use

- critically analyse the relationship between linguistic practices, social organisation, and the material world
- conduct and interpret procedures relevant for analysing language use
- demonstrate through independent research how language is used to achieve human social activities in particular contexts
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Assessment 3

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **50%**

Students will write a report analysing extracts exemplifying interactional practices that they have identified from within transcribed recordings.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- evaluate and apply theories relevant for describing and explaining spoken language in use
- critically analyse the relationship between linguistic practices, social organisation, and the material world
- conduct and interpret procedures relevant for analysing language use
- demonstrate through independent research how language is used to achieve human social activities in particular contexts
- effectively and plainly communicate the findings of independent research in an academic research report

Assessment 4

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **10%**

Students will lead a group data session on interactional practices that they have identified from within transcribed recordings.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- evaluate and apply theories relevant for describing and explaining spoken language in use
- critically analyse the relationship between linguistic practices, social organisation, and the material world
- conduct and interpret procedures relevant for analysing language use

- demonstrate through independent research how language is used to achieve human social activities in particular contexts
- effectively and plainly communicate the findings of independent research in an academic research report

Delivery and Resources

This unit will be taught via fortnightly seminars focused on discussion of scholarly literature and authentic interactional data.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central\)](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#) (**Note:** *The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.*)

Undergraduate students seeking more policy resources can visit the [Student Policy Gateway \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway\)](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit [Policy Central \(https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central\)](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- evaluate and apply theories relevant for describing and explaining spoken language in use
- critically analyse the relationship between linguistic practices, social organisation, and the material world

- conduct and interpret procedures relevant for analysing language use
- demonstrate through independent research how language is used to achieve human social activities in particular contexts
- effectively and plainly communicate the findings of independent research in an academic research report

Assessment tasks

- Assessment 1
- Assessment 2
- Assessment 3
- Assessment 4

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- evaluate and apply theories relevant for describing and explaining spoken language in use
- critically analyse the relationship between linguistic practices, social organisation, and the material world
- conduct and interpret procedures relevant for analysing language use
- demonstrate through independent research how language is used to achieve human social activities in particular contexts
- effectively and plainly communicate the findings of independent research in an academic research report

Assessment tasks

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- Assessment 2
- Assessment 3
- Assessment 4

PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- evaluate and apply theories relevant for describing and explaining spoken language in use
- critically analyse the relationship between linguistic practices, social organisation, and the material world
- conduct and interpret procedures relevant for analysing language use
- demonstrate through independent research how language is used to achieve human social activities in particular contexts
- effectively and plainly communicate the findings of independent research in an academic research report

Assessment tasks

- Assessment 1
- Assessment 2
- Assessment 3
- Assessment 4

PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- evaluate and apply theories relevant for describing and explaining spoken language in use
- critically analyse the relationship between linguistic practices, social organisation, and the material world
- conduct and interpret procedures relevant for analysing language use
- demonstrate through independent research how language is used to achieve human

social activities in particular contexts

- effectively and plainly communicate the findings of independent research in an academic research report

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