

**Institute of English Studies
Faculty of Arts and Humanities
University of the Punjab, Lahore.
Course Outline**



Programme	BS English Literature	Course Code	ELL-203	Credit Hours	3
Course Title	Discourse Studies				
Course Introduction					
Discourse Studies is an essential course that investigates language in use and power relations embedded in communication. The course introduces foundational concepts in Discourse Analysis (DA) and Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), equipping students with analytical tools to examine both spoken and written discourse. Students will explore how meaning is constructed in context, how ideologies are embedded in texts, and how language shapes social realities. The course blends theoretical frameworks with practical applications, fostering critical engagement with everyday discourse as well as academic and institutional texts.					
Learning Outcomes					
On the completion of the course, the students will be able to: 1. Understand the fundamental concepts of discourse, discourse analysis, and its key terminology. 2. Analyze spoken and written discourse using grammatical, pragmatic, and conversational frameworks. 3. Identify and critically evaluate ideological constructs in various discourses. 4. Apply theoretical frameworks from CDA to real-world texts using tools such as Fairclough’s model and Van Dijk’s socio-cognitive approach. 5. Design and conduct basic discourse analytical research with appropriate methodological tools.					
Course Content			Assignments/Readings		
Week 1	Unit-I: Introduction to Discourse 1.1 What is Discourse? 1.2 Features of Discourse				
Week 2	1.3 Text vs. Discourse 1.4 Types of Discourse (Written, Spoken, Media, Political)		Types of Discourse		
Week 3	1.5 What is Discourse Analysis? Overview of scope and significance		Reading from Paltridge, B. (2021). <i>Discourse analysis: An Introduction</i> . Bloomsbury.		
Week 4	Unit-II: Grammatical Analysis of Discourse 2.1 Cohesion and Coherence 2.2 Cohesive Devices		Activity: Analyzing a short paragraph		
Week 5	2.3 Theme and Rheme		Worksheet on theme–rheme structure		
Week 6	Unit-III: Pragmatic Analysis of Discourse 3.1 Language in Context 3.2 Speech Act Theory				

Week 7	3.3 Politeness Theory and Pragmatic Markers Unit-IV: Analysis of Conversation as Discourse 4.1 Structure of Conversation 4.2 Turn-taking, adjacency pairs	Conversation analysis task
Week 8	MID TERM EXAMINATION	
Week 9	Unit-V: Introduction to CDA 5.1 What is Ideology? 5.2 Ideology in Discourse	Readings from Fairclough, N. (2010). <i>Critical Discourse Analysis: The Critical Study of Language</i> , 2nd ed. Routledge.
Week 10	5.3 What is Critical Discourse Analysis? 5.4 History and development of CDA	
Week 11	5.5 Digital Discourse: A Brief Overview 5.6 Digital Discourse (continued)	
Week 12	Unit-VI: Major Theorists of CDA 6.1 Norman Fairclough Norman Fairclough’s CDA Model	Prepare Presentation: Analyzing media clips
Week 13	6.2 Teun A. Van Dijk 6.3 Van Dijk’s Socio-Cognitive Model	
Week 14	Unit-VII: Ruth Wodak 7.1 Ruth Wodak’s Discourse Historical Approach Unit-VIII: Discourse Analysis in Practice 8.1 Choosing a Discourse, Perspective & Method	
Week 15	8.2 Discourse, CDA, CA – Tools for Analysis Final Presentations / Project Submission	Assignment writing workshop
Week 16	END TERM EXAMINATION	
Textbooks and Reading Material		
1. Textbooks 1. Goddard, A., & Carey, N. (2017). <i>Discourse: The Basics</i> . Routledge. 2. Paltridge, B. (2021). <i>Discourse analysis: An Introduction</i> . Bloomsbury.		
2. Suggested Readings 1. Fairclough, N. (2010). <i>Critical Discourse Analysis: The Critical Study of Language</i> , 2nd ed. Routledge. 2. Gee, J. P. (2025). <i>An introduction to discourse analysis: Theory and Method</i> . Routledge. 3. Gee, J. P. (2025b). <i>How to do discourse Analysis: A Toolkit</i> . Routledge. 4. Vásquez, C. (2022). <i>Research Methods for Digital Discourse Analysis</i> . Bloomsbury.		

Teaching Learning Strategies			
<div>1. Interactive lectures with guided textual analysis</div> <div>2. Group discussions and debates on discourse-related themes</div> <div>3. Critical reading and interpretation of media and institutional texts</div> <div>4. Individual and group presentations</div> <div>5. Applied discourse analysis workshops</div>			
Assignments: Types and Number with Calendar			
Week	Assignment Type	Description	
6	Assignment 1	Grammatical or pragmatic discourse analysis of a text	
14	Assignment 2	CDA-based analysis of a selected media or political discourse	
15	Presentation	Final project based on original discourse analysis	
Assessment			
Sr. No.	Elements	Weightage	Details
1.	Midterm Assessment	25%	Written Assessment at the mid-point of the semester.
2.	Formative Assessment	15%	Continuous assessment includes: Classroom participation, assignments, presentations, viva voce, attitude and behavior, hands-on-activities, short tests, projects, practical, reflections, readings, quizzes etc.
3.	Final Assessment	60%	Written Examination at the end of the semester. It is mostly in the form of a test, but owing to the nature of the course the teacher may assess their students based on term paper, research proposal development, field work and report writing etc.