

Image and Language in Pedagogic Discourse: An Application of Systemic Functional Linguistics

Paul J. Thibault

General Introduction

This course will be an introduction to multimedia literacy and multimodal discourse analysis in contexts of teaching and learning. Participants will use a computer with an Internet connection, audio capabilities and a CD-RW drive during the course.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this course, participants will have:

- the capacity to critically analyse and evaluate multimodal pedagogical texts in terms of their formal structure, generic conventions and stylistic characteristics;
- familiarity with and skills in the use of the tools of systemic-functional linguistics as applied to texts that combine images and words;
- familiarity with basic techniques of multimodal transcription and text analysis and multimodal concordancing.

Outline of the Main Themes in the Course

This course will highlight the increasingly multimodal nature of contemporary forms of communication and how this is impacting on teaching and learning in pedagogical contexts. It will also look at the new forms of social and cultural relations, practices and identities that these new forms of communication entail. In particular, this course will examine the relations between visual and linguistic meanings in pedagogical discourse, e.g. text books, web pages, videos, and instances of teaching and learning. The course will develop (i) textual descriptions and analyses of multimodal texts that combine visual and linguistic resources; and (ii) materials useful for researchers who are concerned with the literacy requirements of the new ways of making meaning that are have been made possible by the multimedia PC and the internet.

The conceptual framework of the course will draw on the systemic-functional theory of discourse in its social and cultural contexts. The course will make use of multimedia computer facilities with Internet access. Students will be introduced to some basic techniques of multimedia management which are essential for the new forms of multimodal text analysis and transcription that they will be required to develop.

Recommended Readings:

Baldry, Anthony and Thibault, Paul J. 2006. 'Multimodal corpus linguistics', in *System and Corpus*, Susan Hunston and Geoffrey Thompson (eds.). London and New York: Equinox.

Baldry, Anthony and Thibault, Paul J. 2006. *Multimodal Text Analysis and Multimodal Transcription*. Foreword by Jay Lemke. London and New York: Equinox.

Kress, Gunther and Van Leeuwen, Theo 1996. *Reading Images: The grammar of visual design*. London and New York: Routledge.

O'Halloran, Kay (ed.) 2004. *Multimodal Discourse Analysis: Systemic Functional Perspectives*. London and New York: Continuum.

O'Halloran, Kay 2005. *Mathematical Discourse: Language, Symbolism and Visual Images*. London and New York: Continuum.