

I. General Information

Title: Discourse Theory. Applications in Political Science

The Doctoral School The European Paradigm

Schedule: Wednesday, 2 p.m. -6 p.m.

Venue: Sergiu Miscoiu's office, E. de Martonne 1, Cluj (2nd fl.)

II. Lecturer

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Habil. Sergiu Miscoiu

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Office Hours : Tuesday 10-11.45 a.m.

II. General Bibliography:

P. Chilton, *Analysing Political Discourse. Theory and Practice*, Routledge, 2004

D. Howarth, J. Torfing (eds.), *Discourse Theory in European Politics*, Palgrave, 2005

E. Laclau, "Discourse" in R.E. Goodin, Ph. Pettit (eds.), *The Blackwell Companion to Contemporary Political Philosophy*, Blackwell, pp. 431-437

D. Howard, *Defining the Political*, Macmillan, 1987

T. Van Dijk, W. Kintisch, *Strategies of Discourse Comprehension*, N.Y., Academic Press, 1983

R. Wodak, *Disorders of Discourse*, Longman, 1996

III. Planning:

Lecture

1. Introduction in discourse theory
2. The three generations of discourse theory. From structuralism to post-structuralism (I)
3. The three generations of discourse theory. From structuralism to post-structuralism (II)
4. Focus on the third generation of Discourse Theory
5. The five key-points of Discourse Theory (I)
6. The five key-points of Discourse Theory (II)
7. Critiques and controversies (I)

8. Critiques and controversies (II)
9. The added value of discourse theory (I)
10. The added value of discourse theory (II)
11. Contemporary challenges of discourse theory (I)
12. Discourse Theory and Ethics: More questions than answers? (I)
13. Discourse Theory and Ethics: More questions than answers? (II)
14. Conclusions

Seminar: reader available in electronic format

Each student will present in 20 minutes a text of his/her choice. Comments and debates will follow.

1. Discourse theory – an applicative discipline
Michael Frost, *Discourse Stu Likes Discourse Theory. An analysis of meaning in The Simpsons as it relates to democracy*
2. The European Discourse on the State and the Nation
O. Waever, “European Integration and Security: Analysing French and German Discourses on State, Nation, and Europe” in D. Howarth, J. Torfing (eds.), *Discourse Theory in European Politics*, Palgrave, 2005, pp. 33-67
3. Discourse and collective identity
Y. Stavrakakis, “Passions of Identifications: Discourse, Enjoyment, and European Identity” in D. Howarth, J. Torfing (eds.), *Discourse Theory in European Politics*, Palgrave, 2005, pp. 68-90
4. The political discourse of the *Third Way*
S. Bastow, J. Martin, “Third Way Politics Today” in D. Howarth, J. Torfing (eds.), *Discourse Theory in European Politics*, Palgrave, 2005, pp. 211-230
5. Discourse Theory and Populism
S. Miscoiu, “In the People we trust!” A discursive approach of the beginnings of populism in the United States of America, in *Transylvanian Review* 1/2013
6. Discourse theory and neo-populism
S. Miscoiu, “De la populism la neo-populism? Cateva repere empirice pentru o delimitare conceptuala” in S. Gherghina, S. Miscoiu, S. Soare, *Populismul contemporan. Un concept controversat si formele sale diverse*, Iasi, Institutul European, 2012, pp. 25-44.
Also English version of the text available
7. Political discourse and radicalism
P. de Vos, “Right-Wing Populism and the Radical Centre” in D. Howarth, J. Torfing (eds.), *Discourse Theory in European Politics*, Palgrave, 2005, pp. 190-205

8. Political discourse and extremism

O. Craciun, "The New Populism. An analysis of the Political Discourse of Front National and Lijst Pim Fortuyn" in S. Miscoiu, N. Colopelnic, O. Craciun, *Radicalism, Populism, Interventionism. Three Approaches Based on Discourse Theory*, Cluj, Efes, 2008, pp. 31-69

9. Constructing the People Through Discourse

E. Laclau, *Why Constructing a 'People' Is the Main Task of Radical Politics in The Rhetorical Foundations of Society*, Verso, 2014

10. Political Discourse and the terrorist threat

N. Colopelnic, "The Discursive Road from 9/11 to Operation Iraqi Freedom" in S. Miscoiu, N. Colopelnic, O. Craciun, *Radicalism, Populism, Interventionism. Three Approaches Based on Discourse Theory*, Cluj, Efes, 2008, pp. 70-120

11. Structure, History and the Political

E. Laclau, "Structure, History and the Political" in Butler, Laclau, Mouffe (eds.), *Contingency, Hegemony, Universality*, Verso, 2000, pp. 182-212

IV. Grading

Based on class discussion (70%) and essay or book review (30%)

V. Optional Bibliography

Smith, T. J. (Ed.). (1989). *Propaganda: a pluralistic perspective*. New York: Praeger.

Herman, E. S., & Chomsky, N. (1988). *Manufacturing consent. The political economy of the mass media*. New York: Pantheon Books.

Lakoff, G. (1996). *Moral Politics: What Conservatives Know That Liberals Don't*. Chicago, IL: University Chicago Press.

Paletz, D. L. (Ed.). (1996). *Political communication in action*. Cresskill, NJ: Hampton Press.

Thompson, K. W. (1987). *Moral and political discourse: theory and practice in international relations*. University Press of Am. White Burkett Miller Center.