



London Interdisciplinary Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership

Advanced Research Methods in Social Sciences

Course Code & Title	LISS007 Introduction to Conversation Analysis				
Convenor(s)	Dr Deborah Chinn				
Institution	King's College London	Department	Florence Nightingale Faculty of Nursing, Midwifery and Palliative Care		
Academic Year	2023-24	Term	Autumn		
Number of sessions	1	Research Platform	Qualitative Research (QuL)	Length of Session(s)	Full day
Day, Date		Start : End		Room Location	
Wednesday 1st November 2023		10:00 – 17:00		(IN PERSON TBC)	
Enrolment Links:	Available to book on SkillsForge from Thursday 21st September 2023 . Click to log in and register: https://training.kcl.ac.uk/kcl/#he/dev/eventDetails;;em,providerCode=LISS,providerOrgAlias=kcl,number=007; Questions? Visit our Training FAQ here: Frequently Asked Questions - LISS DTP (liss-dtp.ac.uk)				

Course Description:

Conversation analysis (CA) is a qualitative research methodology that looks in detail at video and audio recordings of naturally occurring conversations and use of often ignored linguistic and non-verbal elements including pauses, corrections, overlaps, glances, and laughter (Hutchby & Wooffitt, 2008). This analysis reveals how people communicate using ‘rules’ governing use of these elements and in doing so achieve social actions such as asking for information, making offers and requests, telling troubles, giving advice etc.

CA is increasingly seen as helpful in understanding communicative dynamics in institutional settings – hospitals, clinics, schools, workplaces, broadcast media etc. In these settings participants often encounter basic communication challenges in tasks such as eliciting relevant information, establishing a shared understanding, engaging in shared decision making, or involving different parties in multi-person interactions. CA can illustrate how these difficulties arise and the strategies that participants use to overcome them. For this reason, CA is contributing to a growing field of evidence-based communication interventions.

Learning Outcomes

After completing this course students will

Understand the theoretical and disciplinary underpinnings of Conversation Analysis

Be familiar with CA transcription conventions and know how to use them

Employ CA methods to identify:

Turns at talk

How different social actions are accomplished through sequence design



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How speakers use repair sequences to promote mutual understanding

Understand how CA has been used to design interventions to promote more effective communication in institutional (health, education, social care, business) settings.

Teaching will be conducted through short Powerpoint presentations and examination of audio clips and transcriptions from real life conversations, including the facilitator's own research data.

Students will have the opportunity to share ideas about their own projects and discuss how they are planning to use CA to answer their research questions.

Reading/Resource List:

Elizabeth Stokoe's 2015 TEDX talk, a short and engaging introduction to CA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MtOG5PK8xDA>

Maynard, Douglas W., and John Heritage. "Conversation analysis, doctor-patient interaction and medical communication." *Medical education* 39, no. 4 (2005): 428-435

Charles Antaki Introductory Online CA Tutorials:

<http://ca-tutorials.lboro.ac.uk/intro1.htm>

Eligibility: PhD and MSc students

Pre-course preparation:

Please listen to Elizabeth Stokoe's 2015 TEDX talk, a short and engaging introduction to CA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MtOG5PK8xDA>

Number of students:

Minimum number required to run: 10

Maximum number of places available: 18