



London Interdisciplinary Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership

Advanced Research Methods in Social Sciences

Course Code & Title	LISS336 Security, ethnography and discourse				
Convenor(s)	Dr Constadina Charalambous , European University Cyprus Dr Louise Eley , School of Education, Communication & Society, KCL Dr Emma Mc Cluskey , University of Westminster Prof Ben Rampton , School of Education, Communication & Society, KCL Prof Daniel Silva , Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Brazil				
Institution	King's College London	Department	LISS DTP		
Academic Year	2023-24	Term	Autumn		
Number of Sessions	5	Length of sessions	2 hours	Research Platform	Social Theory & Epistemology
Day, Date		Start : End	Room Location		
Tuesday 7 November 2023 10:00-12:00 14 November 2023 10:00-12:00 21 November 2023 10:00-12:00 28 November 2023 10:00-12:00 5 December 2023 10:00-12:00		10.00-12.00	On-line via Zoom		
Enrolment Link:	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=336; Questions? Visit our Training FAQ here: Frequently Asked Questions - LISS DTP (liss-dtp.ac.uk)				

Course Description:

In a post 9-11 world, issues of unease and (in)security permeate people's everyday lives ever more deeply. Schools, nurseries, hospitals and community centres are becoming sites of (in)security, while security apparatuses are becoming ever more diffuse and banal. For research, these processes necessarily draw the study of conflict and security closer to fields like sociolinguistics, anthropology and education, which focus on everyday practice in institutions and communities. At King's, we are exploring these links at the Language (In)security & Everyday Practice Lab, a collaboration between researchers in Critical Security Studies and Sociolinguistics (www.kcl.ac.uk/liep), and these discussions are reflected in the recent publication of Mc Cluskey, E. & C. Charalambous (eds) 2022 [Security, Ethnography & Discourse: Transdisciplinary Encounters](#). London: Routledge Studies in Liberty and Security. There is also a collection of our papers [here](#).

This short course builds on this discussion. It connects the robust perspectives on language and situated practice with the study of International Relations and Security Studies by introducing key methods and approaches from Linguistic Ethnography. It is taught in five interactive sessions (2hrs each) which mix empirical data with articles from IR and Sociolinguistics.

The course is designed both for IR and other students interested in the everyday dimensions and communicative dynamics of phenomena like surveillance, migration, borders and states of exception, and for language researchers committed to understanding how contemporary communicative practice is increasingly affected by security concerns.

Course elements:

- Session 1: Interviewing geo-political elites
- Session 2: Activism and communicative practice in the crossfire
- Session 3: The institutional enactment of security policy in language education
- Session 4: Surveillance in the everyday
- Session 5: Questions and issues from student projects



Course Outline

Session 1 – Tuesday 7 November 2023, 10:00-12:00

Interviewing geo-political elites

(Dr Emma Mc Cluskey & Prof Ben Rampton)

Before the session: Please watch the two short videos in the Session 1 Dropbox:

- SED1.1 Introduction to the course (15 minutes)
As well as explaining our rationale, introducing the course, this covers our transdisciplinary dialogue aimed at illuminating practices of (in)security that have made ever deeper inroads into day-to-day life. (Please note, though, that this was recorded a year or two ago, and some of the course content has changed since then.)
- SED1.2 Introduction to analyzing (elite) interviews (8 minutes)
This video suggests that as well as using them as sources of information, research interviews need to be analysed as interactional encounters taking place in particular socio-historical contexts.

During the synchronous webinar: During the webinar itself, we will turn to the specific problem of how to analyse 'elite knowledge' and elite interviews using techniques associated with the 'everyday'. You can find the transcript that we will use in the Session 1 Dropbox.

- SED1.3 Elite interview transcript for webinar data session

For IR scholars, this will offer new and innovative ways to analyse data beyond simply looking at content, bringing to light the way in which the interview plays out as an interactional encounter, drawing attention to micro power relations and the moment-to-moment construction of subjectivities. For sociolinguists, it is an opportunity to start exploring how sociolinguistic analysis can constructively complicate our understanding of elite actors in international institutions, regrounding them in rather particular social and historical niches.

After the webinar: If you would like to know more about the kinds of concept that we can use to analyse interviews as historically situated social interactions, you can watch:

- SED1.4 Elite interview follow-up: Sociolinguistic concepts (23 minutes)

Reading to accompany this session:

- Bigo, D and Mc Cluskey, E. (2018) "What is a PARIS Approach to (In)securitisation? Political Anthropological Research in International Sociology" in OUP *Handbook of International Security*, Alexandra Gheciu and William C. Wohlforth (eds), Oxford University Press
- Blommaert, Jan (2005) Bourdieu the ethnographer: The ethnographic grounding of habitus and voice. *The Translator*, 11 (2). pp. 219-236 (currently available on-line [here](#))
- Charalambous, C., Charalambous, P., Khan, K., Rampton, B. (2015). Sociolinguistics and Security. [Working Papers in Urban Languages and Literacy 177](#)
- Rampton, B., C. Charalambous et al 2019. Dialogue: Sociolinguistics & everyday (in)securitization. [Working Papers in Urban Language & Literacies 264](#)
- Vaughan-Williams, Nick, and Daniel Stevens (2016) Vernacular theories of everyday (in) security: The disruptive potential of non-elite knowledge. *Security Dialogue* vol. 47(1):40-58



Session 2 – Tuesday 14 November 2023, 10:00-12:00

Activism and communicative practice in the crossfire

(Prof Daniel Silva & Prof Ben Rampton)

This session examines video-recordings of a training session in a Brazilian favela that was interrupted by gunfire. It considers the ways in which the teacher and students respond to this extraordinary event. The session also builds on readings about the (extra-)ordinariness of risk, the dispute and cooperation between armed normative regimes in Brazilian peripheries, and communicative practices that respond to the crossfire between police and crime and to (in)securitization more broadly.

Before the session: Read Hirata & Grillo 2019 for a broad sense of the context, and you should also print out the data (SED2.1) in preparation for closer analysis during the session.

Reading to follow-up: Goffman 1971 provides a set of concepts for discussing people's interactional conduct in situations of threat and danger, and Rampton, Silva & Charalambous 2022 provides a broader discussion of (in)securitisation in sociolinguistics.

Reading to accompany this session:

Hirata, DV and Grillo, CC. 2019. Movement and Death: Illicit Drug Markets in the Cities of São Paulo and Rio De Janeiro. *Journal of Illicit Economies and Development*, 1(2), pp. 122–133. DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.31389/jied.26>

Goffman, E. 1971. Normal appearances. Chapter 6 in *Relations in Public: Microstudies of the Public Order*. New York: Basic Books

Rampton, B., D. Silva & C. Charalambous 2022. Sociolinguistics and (in)securitisation as another mode of governance. *Working Papers in Urban Language & Literacies* 293. At www.wpull.org

Session 3 – Tuesday 21 November 2023, 10:00-12:00

The institutional enactment of security policy in language education (Dr Constadina Charalambous & Prof Ben Rampton)

The session will focus on examining enactments of de-securitization and 'everyday peace' in institutional settings focusing particularly on language education. Taking the case of people learning the language of the (former) enemy in Cyprus, the session will analyse institutional practice, mapping the dynamics (affordances and limitations) of educational settings and the links with larger scale political processes. By doing so, and working with empirical data, we will investigate the conditions that may enable or inhibit (in)securitization/securitization processes. Finally we will look at the "transformation"/"translation" of larger policies in institutional practices and the implications for the actors involved.

Before the session: Please look at the data extract from a secondary school classroom in Cyprus in which Greek-Cypriot students are studying Turkish:

- SED3.1 Data on learning Turkish

Pre-reading:

- Charalambous, C., Charalambous, P., Khan, K. & Rampton, B. (2018) 'Security and language policy'. To appear in J. Tollefson & M. Pérez-Milans. *The Oxford Handbook of Language Policy and Planning*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Also available as [Working Papers in Urban Language & Literacies 194](#)



IR readings for sociolinguists:

- Emmers, R. (2013). Securitization. In A. Collins (Ed.), *Contemporary security studies* (3rd ed.) Oxford University Press. 131-143
- Bigo, D. (2014). The (in) securitization practices of the three universes of EU border control: Military/Navy–border guards/police–database analysts. *Security Dialogue*, 45(3), 209-225.

Sociolinguistics readings for IR researchers:

- Charalambous, C., P. Charalambous, K. Khan & B. Rampton 2016. Security & language policy. [Working Papers in Urban Language & Literacies 194](#).
- Rampton, B. & C. Charalambous 2013. Breaking classroom silences in London and Nicosia. [Working Papers in Urban Language & Literacies 116](#)
- Rampton, B., J. Maybin & C. Roberts 2014. Methodological foundations in linguistic ethnography. [Working Papers in Urban Language & Literacies 125](#)

Session 4 – Tuesday 28 November 2023, 10:00-12:00

Surveillance in the everyday

(Dr Louise Eley and Dr Emma Mc Cluskey)

This session aims to open up possibilities for investigating how people experience being surveilled in everyday life. We will start with a collective discussion of what ‘counts’ as surveillance (e.g. in our own disciplines/fields and personal experiences) and how these aspects of surveillance could be investigated. This will be followed by a data session, which will centre on a video clip. We will present a framework for analysing the data, and we will discuss connections between the data, the pre-readings, and other relevant literature and concepts.

Before the session: Please read the points and reflect on the questions raised in the following document:

- SED4.1 Preparation for the webinar

Pre-reading:

- Green, N. and N. Zurawski 2015. Surveillance and Ethnography: Researching Surveillance as Everyday Life. *Surveillance & Society* 13/1: 27-43.
- Jones, R. 2017. Surveillant landscapes. *Linguistic Landscape* 3/2: 149-186.

After the webinar: Follow-up reading:

- Eley, L. and B. Rampton 2020. Everyday surveillance, Goffman, and unfocused interaction. *Surveillance & Society* 18/2: 199-215.



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Session 5 - Tuesday 5 December 2023, 10:00-12:00

Questions and issues from student projects

(Course team)

In this session, we will discuss issues that the course has raised for students' own research projects.

In preparation, please write:

- a) a half-page summary of your project
- b) a half-page of questions and thoughts, either about the course's actual or potential relevance to what you're doing, or just about the course itself, and
- c) email this to emma.mc_cluskey@kcl.ac.uk, co.charalambous@euc.ac.cy, louise.eley@kcl.ac.uk, & ben.rampton@kcl.ac.uk and dnsfortal@gmail.com no later than **5pm, Thursday 30 November**.

Course team: Dr Constadina Charalambous, Dr Louise Eley, Dr Emma Mc Cluskey, Prof Ben Rampton, Prof Daniel Silva

Number of students: 25