



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 , School of Education, Communication & Society Dr Louise Eley, School of Education, Communication & Society Dr Emma Mc Cluskey , War Studies Prof Ben Rampton , School of Education, Communication & Society			
Institution	King's College	Department	LISS DTP	
Academic Year	2019-20	Term	Autumn	
Number of Sessions	4	Length of	2 hours	Research Platform Social Theory & Epistemology
Day, Date		Start : End	Room Location	
Tuesday 5 November		1400: 1600	4.63 Franklin-Wilkins Building, Waterloo SE1 9NH	
Tuesday 12 November			5.132 Franklin-Wilkins Building, Waterloo SE1 9NH	
Tuesday 19 November			2.40 Franklin-Wilkins Building, Waterloo SE1 9NH	
Tuesday 26 November			2.80 Franklin-Wilkins Building, Waterloo SE1 9NH	
Enrolment Link:	http://bit.ly/liss336 (You may be prompted to log into SkillsForge)			

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 [LIEP](#), the Language (In)security & Everyday Practice Lab, a collaboration between researchers in Critical Security Studies and Sociolinguistics.

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 four interactive sessions (2hrs each) which mix empirical data with articles from IR and Sociolinguistics.

The course is designed both for IR 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: The institutional enactment of security policy in language education
- Session 3: Surveillance in the everyday
- Session 4: Questions and issues from student projects



Course Outline:

Session 1 – Tuesday 5 November 2019, 1400 – 1600

Interviewing geo-political elites

(Dr Emma Mc Cluskey & Prof Ben Rampton)

The first part of this session will introduce students to the LIEP project and our transdisciplinary dialogue aimed at illuminating practices of (in)security which have made ever deeper inroads into day-to-day life.

The second part will then turn to the specific problem of how to analyse ‘elite knowledge’ and elite interviews using techniques associated with the ‘everyday’. 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.

Pre-reading for the course:

- Charalambous, C., Charalambous, P., Khan, K., Rampton, B. (2015). Sociolinguistics and Security. [Working Papers in Urban Languages and Literacy 177](#)
- 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](#))
- 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 12 November 2019, 1400 – 1600

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.

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:

- [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 3 – Tuesday 19 November 2019, 1400 - 1600

Surveillance in the everyday

(Dr Louise Eley and Dr Emma Mc Cluskey)

This session aims to open up possibilities for investigating surveillance as a normalised dimension of everyday life. It will start with an introductory compare and contrast between the two essential pre-readings. The first pre-reading outlines the state of the art in surveillance studies and calls for an approach to surveillance “as lived mundane and everyday contextualized relations and practices” (Green and Zurawski 2015: 40). The second pre-reading puts forth a sociolinguistic framework for analysing the ‘surveillant landscapes’ that we inhabit in our day-to-day lives. We will then address the compatibility between the two pre-readings and further questions raised in a data session, which will centre on a video clip.

Essential pre-readings:

- 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: 150-187.

Session 4 - Tuesday 26 November 2019, 1400 – 1600

Questions and issues from student projects

(Dr Emma Mc Cluskey, Dr Louise Eley, Prof Ben Rampton)

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

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

Number of students: 25