



Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - 2024-2025

Exchange

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam offers many English-taught courses in a variety of subjects, ranging from arts & culture and social sciences, neurosciences and computer science, to economics and business administration.

The International Office is responsible for course approval and course registration for exchange students. For details about course registration, requirements, credits, semesters and so on, please [visit the exchange programmes webpages](#).

Discourse and Social Interaction

Course Code	L_NCBACIW215
Credits	6
Period	P5
Course Level	300
Language Of Tuition	English
Faculty	Faculty of Humanities
Course Coordinator	dr. E.M. Hoey
Examiner	dr. E.M. Hoey
Teaching Staff	dr. E.M. Hoey, E.M. Wagelaar MA
Teaching method(s)	Lecture, Seminar

Course Objective

After completion of this course:

- you can describe and apply the principles of inductive, data-driven research in the field of interaction analysis and conversation analysis;
- you are familiar with the basic concepts used to analyze language as social interaction;
- you are able to apply these basic concepts to analyze spoken language in face to face and mediated/online settings;
- you are able to use these basic concepts in a range of different conversations.

Course Content

This course starts from the idea that spoken and written discourse can be studied as social action: when interacting with each other via different modes of communication, people manage to accomplish a variety of actions, such as inviting or blaming, accounting or denying matters.

This course aims to develop your analytical skills to understand what it is exactly that people do when they talk in person or over the phone. You will also encounter other examples such as broadcast interviews. The focus across settings and modes of communication will be to examine how speakers accomplish whatever it is they are doing and how this influences the unfolding conversation. The analytical skills are based on the concepts and principles used in conversation analysis and reflect current research.

You will analyze instances of informal talk as well as talk in institutional or organizational settings. Data for analysis might thus be derived from various settings and contain both instances of spoken interaction as well as mediated discourse.

When you pass this course, you are able to break down any conversation in turns, ascribe social actions to these turns by asking and developing claims on what would be an appropriate response to what the conversational partner has done in the previous turn. This procedure helps you to see how turns at talk drive conversations. You will be able to use these analytical skills to evaluate and offer advice on the options speakers have at different moment in the interaction and how this has an influence on the course of the conversation, whatever mode of communication they employ. Based on these observations, you are able to formulate ideas on which turns at talk are more appropriate or desirable in the given context.

Additional Information Teaching Methods

Lecture, seminars and workshops, 6 hours per week in total.

Method of Assessment

Written exam, graded (group) assignments and ungraded (group) assignments.

Entry Requirements

Students must have passed Discourse Analysis (L_AABACIW107) or Formuleren (L_AABACIW117).

Additional Information Target Audience

Second-year students in the Bachelor's program in Communication and Information Studies (specialisations Language & Media; Media & Journalistiek) and premaster's students.

Custom Course Registration

This course has seminars, but you cannot self-register for a group. If you want to know the times of all the workgroups, go to rooster.vu.nl, click on the options at the right hand side of the course title and select 'Choose groups'. In the first week, your specific work group will be assigned by the course coordinator.