

Discourse and Social Change

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Norman Fairclough

By Norman Fairclough

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Now available in paperback, this book is a critical introduction to discourse analysis as it is practised in a variety of different disciplines today, from linguistics and sociolinguistics to sociology and cultural studies. The author shows how concern with the analysis of discourse can be combined, in a systematic and fruitful way, with an interest in broader problems of social analysis and social change.

Fairclough provides a concise and critical review of the methods and results of discourse analysis, discussing the descriptive work of linguists and conversation analysts as well as the more historically and theoretically oriented work of Michel Foucault. He develops an original framework for discourse analysis which firmly situates discourse in a broader context of social relations bringing together text analysis, the analysis of processes of text production and interpretation, and the social analysis of discourse events.

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Editorial Review

Review

'Norman Fairclough's new book presents an original argument for a critical, text-oriented form of discourse analysis. He writes in an admirably lucid way about some very complex issues. It is a book to which those interested in the critical analysis of discourse and ideology should pay close attention. Moreover, students will benefit from the clearly presented examples, which Fairclough uses to show the methods of critical discourse analysis.' *Michael Billig, Temple University*

'This book is an excellent example of applied linguistics: acute observations and analyses of changing language use in the real social world - one of the few attempts to show the systematic relation between texts and institutions.' *Michael Stubbs, University of Trier*

'Fairclough has a sophisticated linguistic analysis and an explicit political agenda. Fairclough has written a strong book. He is clear and honest about his motivations, and straightforward in his findings. For these reasons alone, the book deserves wide reading, but all the more so because the author has combined his scholarly and pedagogical purposes well in this very readable and useful work.' *Language in Society*

'Fairclough makes an important contribution... [his] book demonstrates the value of an analytical and theoretical project which is able to generate explicit models of the social and discursive processes which characterise this phase of restructuring.' *Social Semiotics*

From the Back Cover

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About the Author

Norman Fairclough is the author of *Language and Power* (Longman, 1989). His main areas of interest are critical approaches to language and discourse analysis.

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Gary Lewis:

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