



Department of Linguistics and English Language

## Critique Meets Corpora: implications for research on contentious issues

24<sup>th</sup> October 2011

FASS MR 2-3

Time	Speaker	Topic
2.00-2.10	Geoffrey Leech and Ruth Wodak	Opening
2.10-2.30	Susan Hunston	Subjectivity and objectivity in corpus linguistics
2.30-2.50	Tony McEnery	Corpora and Ethics
2.50-3.10	Veronika Koller	The discursive construction of Romanians in the Austrian daily press
3.10-3.30	Paul Chilton	Values, cognitive frames and corpora: researching values for charitable organisations and NGOs
3.30-3.50	Questions: chair Paul Baker	
3.50-4.10	Coffee	
4.10-4.30	Ruth Wodak	Analysing racist, sexist, and anti-Semitic texts and talk: some ethical, theoretical, and methodological problems
4.30-4.50	Kieran O'Halloran	Deluze and Corpus-based Critical Discourse Analysis
4.50-5.10	Paul Baker	'Acceptable' bias? Using Corpus Linguistics methods with CDA
5.10-5.50	Questions and Discussion; chair Johnny Unger	

### Outline

The recent interest in the 'useful methodological synergy' (Baker et al. 2008) of corpus-based methods and qualitative analysis within a critical discourse studies framework has given rise to numerous projects and publications. While there is ongoing debate about the development of these methods and their practical application in various research contexts, as yet there has not been much discussion of the moral and ethical issues involved in this kind of research. Specifically, there is work to do in integrating the traditionally data-driven approach of corpus linguistics and the (social) problem-oriented approach of critical discourse studies. This dichotomy comes into sharp focus when the combined approaches are applied to contentious issues (e.g. antisemitism, immigration, climate change, etc.).

The ultimate outcome of the symposium should be a better understanding of how the different research traditions that have given rise to corpus-assisted discourse studies and related approaches can be integrated, and a strengthening of the ethical underpinnings in this field.