



**An Introduction to the Methods of Conversation Analysis
28-30 April 2008**

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Conversation Analysis (CA) is increasingly widely used as a research methodology in Sociology, Linguistics, Sociolinguistics, Social Psychology and other related disciplines. We are offering a short course designed to give an introduction to the basic principles and methods of CA. It is intended for those who have had no, or only limited, previous experience with conversation analysis but who are interested in what it might offer them in their own research, and are considering whether to use this method in their doctoral or post-doctoral research. Ideally participants will already have, or be in the process of recording, their own data, which will be naturally-occurring (e.g. doctor/patient or other medical interaction, family conversations, helplines, meetings of various kinds, interactions in educational settings and so on). But this is not essential – participants may also be at an earlier stage in planning their research, and may be at the stage of considering what kind of data to collect for their research. The course would suit graduate/post-doc researchers in any relevant discipline.

The course will be limited to no more than 15 participants who will work intensively with the two tutors to develop basic skills in transcription and in understanding the conversation analytic approach to talk as action. We will introduce participants to key analytic tools and methodological techniques in analysing data, including making collections of phenomena and analysing interactional patterns and practices, on the basis of those collections (there will be some scope for tailoring the training to the needs and interests of the group). The course will be organised through talks and practical exercises, with an emphasis on hands-on work with data; an indicative reading list and course reader will also be provided.

So that this short training course will equip graduate researchers to:

- Transcribe their data appropriately
- Understand and apply the basic concepts of CA
- Identify and explore the management of social actions in talk-in-interaction
- Identify specific interactional patterns and phenomena in original data
- Make collections of those phenomena, as an essential step towards analysis
- Explore the connections between the details of talk, and different interactional/ethnographic settings
- Consider whether CA might be an appropriate methodology for their project, and what it might have to offer for their research

The course tutors are Paul Drew and Celia Kitzinger, two of the UK's most experienced teachers and researchers in CA, and internationally known for their work in this area. Paul Drew's research has focused on some of the basic practices of ordinary conversation, and on the application of CA to understanding professional and institutional (especially medical and legal) interactions. He works with both sociologists and linguists. Celia Kitzinger is a chartered psychologist and uses CA to research social psychological issues especially as they relate to genders and sexualities, including lesbian conversation, police interviews with battered women, and calls to a home birth helpline.

The course fee is £310 for three days. This includes course materials, a course reader, references and a Certificate of Attendance; and lunches, tea and coffee for the three days. An informal dinner will be organised for Tuesday, 29 April at 7.00 pm at a city centre restaurant. The cost will be approximately £16 and will be payable on the evening.

The University of York offers bed and breakfast accommodation on campus at reasonable rates. This can be booked either on-line or by telephone.

Please check the web site <http://www.york.ac.uk/admin/accom/returner/usefullocal.htm>

The course will commence at 12 noon on Monday 28 April and finish at approximately 5.00 pm on Wednesday 30 April. Details of the programme will be confirmed at a later date.

For further details about registering for the course, please contact Luana Pritchard, Department of Sociology, University of York, Heslington, York YO10 5DD. Email: lp11@york.ac.uk or telephone +44 (0) 1904 433064.