Short list of books on Critical Discourse Studies

NB. The purpose of this list is to recommend “first readings” to students and scholars interested in critical discourse studies (CDS, usually called ‘Critical Discourse Analysis,’ CDA). Included are only general and introductory books and some of the main areas of CDS (e.g., social semiotics, political discourse, sexism, racism), the first classical book on critical linguistics by Fowler et al. (1979), as well as some other classics of the 1980s on power and discourse (by Fairclough, Kramarae et al., and Wodak). Of course, there are by now many more CDS studies on specific (sub)genres, e.g., on political, legal, medical or media discourse, or on specific issues, such as racism, gender/sexism, globalization, etc. Not included are (more) general introductions to discourse and conversation analysis: these will need a separate Short List.

For journal articles on CDA, see the journals Discourse & Society (Sage), and Critical Discourse Studies (Routledge).

Suggestions for corrections and additions are welcome: vandijk@discourses.org.

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Version 7.0, April 16, 2012


