

Conversational Analysis of Chatroom Talk

A groundbreaking PhD thesis exploring online discourse analysis methodology (ODAM) and the dynamics of digital communication

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Dr. Terrell Neuage | University of South Australia | 2005



About Dr. Terrell Neuage

Scholar, Researcher, and Pioneer in Online Discourse Analysis



Education

PhD, University of South Australia
MA, Deakin University



Specialization

Online Discourse Analysis
Computer-Mediated Communication



Contribution

ODAM Methodology
445-page PhD Thesis

Academic Background

BA, Deakin University (Journalism)

Bachelor of Arts with Honours, Deakin University (Children's Literature)

MA, Deakin University (English Literature - "The Influence of the World Wide Web on Literature")

PhD, University of South Australia - Thesis submitted in fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of PhD, 2004

Chairperson of Supervisory Committee: Professor Claire Woods, School of Communication, Information and New Media

Date: Tuesday, August 03, 2004

The Thesis

A comprehensive 445-page exploration of chatroom discourse, available at the University of South Australia and the National Library of Australia



Online Discourse Analysis Method (ODAM)

This thesis introduces ODA M, a novel methodology for analyzing online conversations. Through seven comprehensive case studies, it explores the linguistic, semiotic, and pragmatic dimensions of chatroom communication, establishing new frameworks for understanding digital discourse.

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Thesis Structure

1 Abstract	2 Introduction
3 Literature Review	4 Methodology
5 Case Studies 1-7	6 Discussion
7 Conclusion	8 ODA M

Editors: Dr. Terrell Neuage, Dr. Jackie Cook, Bernarda Biemond
Available at: University of South Australia, National Library of Australia
Format: 452 pages : ill. (some col.) ; 30 cm. + 1 CD-ROM (4 3/4 in.)

Seven Case Studies

In-depth explorations of chatroom discourse across diverse contexts and theoretical frameworks

1

Hurricane Floyd Chatroom

Reader-Response Theory

Analysis of crisis communication in real-time chatroom discourse during Hurricane Floyd

Language Features

Discourse Structure

Metalinguistic Knowledge

2

Instant Messenger Analysis

Computer-Mediated Communication

Examining the comparability between electronic talk and verbal communication

CMC Theory

IM Protocols

Conversational Patterns

3

Britney Spears Chatroom

Semiotics & Pragmatics

Exploring emoticons, symbols, and pragmatic dimensions of fan discourse

Emoticons

3D Virtual Chats

Symbolic Activity

4

Speech Act Theory

Speech Acts in Chatrooms

Application of speech act theory to online conversational exchanges

Illocutionary Acts

Perlocutionary Effects

Pragmatic Analysis

5

Turn-Taking Mechanisms

Conversation Analysis

Investigation of turn-taking and conversational structure in digital spaces

Sequential Organization

Adjacency Pairs

Repair Mechanisms

6

Identity & Performance

Online Identity Construction

How participants construct and perform identity in chatroom environments

Self-Presentation

Anonymity

Role-Playing

7

September 11 Chatroom

Crisis Discourse

Analysis of collective meaning-making during the September 11 attacks

Trauma Discourse

Community Building

Real-Time Response

Comprehensive Analysis

Each case study employs rigorous methodological approaches including Conversation Analysis, Reader-Response Theory, Semiotics, and Speech Act Theory. Together, they provide a holistic understanding of online discourse patterns, community dynamics, and the unique characteristics of chatroom communication.

About the Thesis

A pioneering work in online discourse analysis, establishing the ODAM methodology for studying digital communication.

Access

- [Complete PDF \(445 pages\)](#)
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- [National Library of Australia](#)

Dr. Terrell Neuage

[neuage.org](#) [neuage.us](#) [Resume](#)

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