

Pre-COMET Masterclass @ Hong Kong

Engaging qualitatively with healthcare discourse data

Srikant Sarangi

Professor in Humanities and Medicine, Aalborg University, Denmark
Director, Danish Institute of Humanities and Medicine/Health (DIHMH)
Honorary Professor, Cardiff University, UK, Visiting Research Professor, The University of Hong Kong

Language/communication-based healthcare studies – concerned with talk, text and other modalities (discourse, more generally) – have been carried out over the past four decades, both within quantitative and qualitative research paradigms. Within the qualitative tradition, researchers adopt different methodological and analytic perspectives when engaging with talk data (e.g. clinical encounters, research interviews) and text data (e.g., websites, media representations, illness narratives). Within what can be broadly captured as theme-oriented discourse analysis (Roberts and Sarangi 2005), this masterclass will be primarily devoted to ‘activity analysis’ (Sarangi 2000, 2010a, 2010b) which is distinctive in at least three ways: mapping of structural, interactional and thematic trajectories; relationality concerning focal themes and analytic themes; and role performance vis-à-vis participant structure. Additionally, attention will be given to ‘accounts analysis’ which orients to the rhetorical properties of language/communication data.

There are four parts to this masterclass: (i) an overview of mainstream methodological and analytical challenges facing the qualitative researcher (access to authentic data; choice of coding/categorisation systems; generalisation and uptake of findings); (ii) an introduction to key analytical tools associated with discourse analysis; (iii) an exercise in sample data analysis; and (iv) a discussion of concerns arising from participants’ own research experiences.

References

- Roberts, C. and Sarangi, S. (2005) Theme-oriented discourse analysis of medical encounters. *Medical Education* 39: 632-640.
- Sarangi, S. (2000) Activity types, discourse types and interactional hybridity: the case of genetic counselling. In S. Sarangi and M. Coulthard (eds.) *Discourse and Social Life*, 1-27. London: Pearson.
- Sarangi, S. (2004) Towards a communicative mentality in medical and healthcare practice. *Communication & Medicine* 1 (1): 1-11.
- Sarangi, S. (2007) The anatomy of interpretation: Coming to terms with the analyst’s paradox in professional discourse studies. *Text & Talk* 27 (5/6): 567-584.
- Sarangi, S. (2010) Healthcare interaction as an expert communicative system: An activity analysis perspective. In J. Streeck (ed.) *New Adventures in Language and Interaction*, 167-197. Amsterdam: Benjamins.
- Sarangi, S. (2010) Practising discourse analysis in healthcare settings. In I. Bourgeault, R. DeVries and R. Dingwall (eds.) *The SAGE Handbook of Qualitative Methods in Health Research*, 397-416. London: Sage.

PRE-COMET MASTERCLASS @ The University of Hong Kong

Engaging qualitatively with healthcare discourse data

The Pre-COMET Masterclass, led by Professor Srikant Sarangi, will take place on Wednesday, June 24, from 9.30 to 17.00, in the Seminar Room (Room CRT-7.45), The School of English, The University of Hong Kong.

PROGRAMME

TIME	Pre-COMET Masterclass Seminar Room, The School of English
08:30-09:30	Registration/Welcome/Introduction
9:30-11:00	Lecture 1 Health communication research: an overview of concepts and themes
11.00-11.30	Coffee Break
11:30-13:00	Lecture 2 Engaging with health communication data from multiple perspectives
13:00-14:00	Lunch Break
14:00-15:30	Group work [data session]
15:30-16.00	Coffee Break
16.00-17.00	Forum discussion on themes raised by participants

Onsite registration may be possible if there are vacant places.