



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
English

Syllabus

Talk and social interaction

Course Code:	ENATS9
Course Title:	Talk and social interaction <i>Tal och social interaktion</i>
Credits:	7.5
Degree Level:	Master's level
Progressive Specialisation:	Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (A1N)

Major Field of Study:
ENA (English)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2025-09-01, and is valid from the Spring semester 2026 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

90 ECTS credits, including at least 30 ECTS credits at the G2F level in one of the main fields of study English, Psychology, Sociology, Swedish, Pedagogy, or Pedagogical Work, plus upper secondary level English 6 or English level 2, or equivalent

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. give an independent account of and evaluate the theoretical and methodological principles of ethnomethodological conversation analysis,
2. critically examine and evaluate empirical studies of interaction in institutional contexts,
3. demonstrate basic knowledge of the collection, processing, transcription, and handling of recorded interaction data and give an account of the ethical considerations involved in research based on video and sound recordings, and
4. apply knowledge of mechanisms for sequential organisation of social interaction as well as

multimodal resources in independent analyses of interactional practices in institutional talk.

Content

Conversation analysis, especially the ethnomethodological approach Conversation Analysis (CA), is an established field of research both in applied linguistics and in social science disciplines. The course provides an introduction to the theoretical foundations and methodological assumptions of conversation analysis and their application in studies of recorded social interaction in various institutional contexts such as education, healthcare, services, and working life. The main focus is the organisation of language in social interaction to build social action, and methodological principles and approaches that can be used to understand and describe conversation. Students also develop knowledge and skills in the transcription and analysis of recorded interaction data, consider aspects of research ethics in relation to sound and video recordings, and read and discuss both classic and current studies in applied conversation analysis.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment of all learning outcomes is based on individual written hand-in assignments and individual oral presentations.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to Targeted Study Support due to a documented disability, the examiner has the right to give such students an adapted examination or to examine them in a different manner.

Grades

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the course.

Quality Assurance

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional information

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.