

**070SL - INTERPRETAZIONE DI  
TRATTATIVA INGLESE 2018**  
*Comunicazione Interlinguistica Applicata*

*Professoressa E. Dal Fovo*

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*Chiara Canale, Giulia Costantini, Enrica Massalin, Ilaria Mussolin, Cecilia Provenziani, Anna  
Scassillo, Anna Viero*



# REVISITING THE CLASSICS

## REPLIES AND RESPONSE CRIES



*Interaction and Dialogue Interpreting*

*by Melanie Metzger*

# MELANIE METZGER



- Master's degree in **American Sign Language** (ASL) Linguistics from Gallaudet University (Washington DC)
- Doctoral degree in **Sociolinguistics** from Georgetown University
- Empirically-based examination of **power and neutrality issues** in the field of interpretation
- Professor in the **Department of Interpretation** at Gallaudet University

# ERVING GOFFMAN



- Erving Goffman (11 June 1922 – 19 November 1982)
- Sociologist, social psychologist and writer

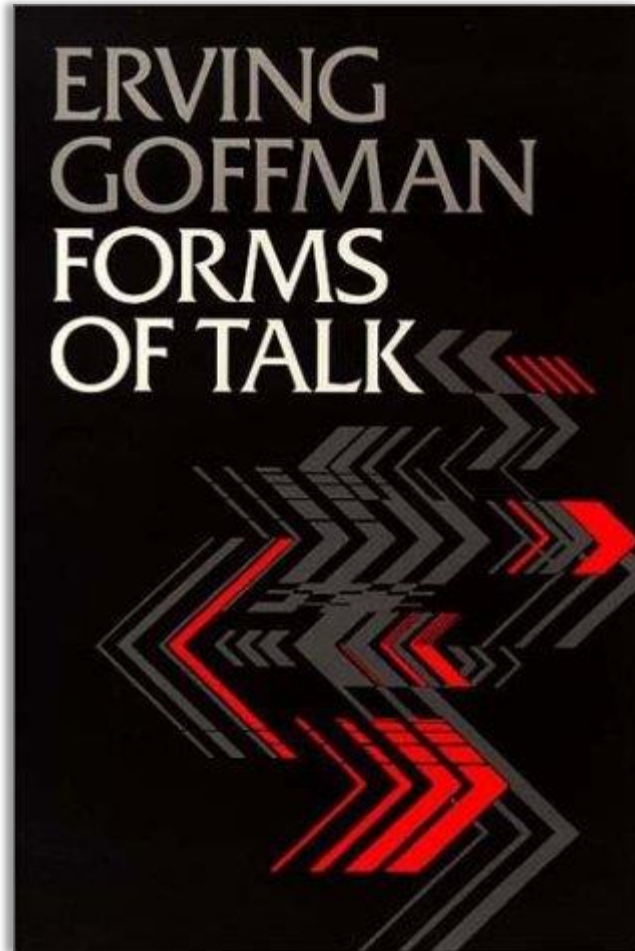
- "the most influential American sociologist of the twentieth century"

- Goffman was the 73rd president of the American Sociological Association
- Theory symbolic interaction

# FORMS OF TALK

## 1981

# FORMS OF TALK



One of the **classic contribution** to our understanding of **human interaction**

Re-printing of three previous articles about the **theory of behaviour** and communication

Two original papers to **apply the theory**

## HUMAN **BEHAVIOUR** AND **LANGUAGE**

- Basis for the **study of interpreting** and a difference between dialogue interpreting and conference interpreting
- 3 themes: **ritualization**, **participation status**, **embedding**

# RITUALIZATION

Conversational **interaction** study field

Interactive discourse: important for both the speaker and the addressee

Behaviour which is

1

**LEARNED**

Gestural information

2

**RULE-GOVERNED**

Oral information

3

**UNCONSCIOUS**

# INVOLVEMENT STRATEGIES

- Involve the addressees
- Assist them in inferring inexplicit things

## IMPLICATION FOR DIALOGUE INTERPRETERS

they must convey the allusions previously hinted at with a certain behaviour







# PARTICIPATION STATUS

all the individuals have a status in  
the discourse

**INTERPRETERS**, as individual present during the  
interaction, **have a participation status**

**Interpreters are not neutral**

# EMBEDDING



A speaker can produce  
utterances that reflect  
the words of other  
people

# THE BOOK

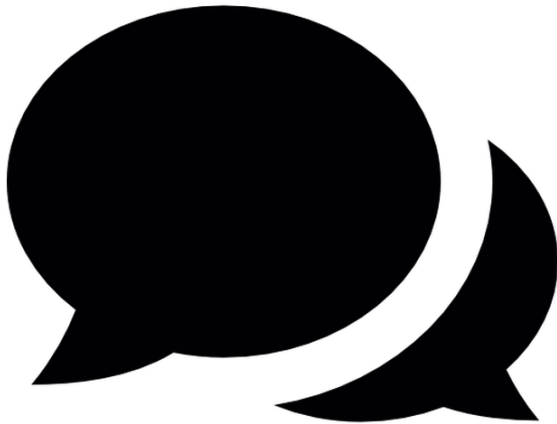
- ritualization, participation, embedding: themes discussed throughout *Forms of Talk*
- Forms of Talk: nuances of **interactive discourse** in dyadic or multiparty encounters



- spreads new light on **interpreted interaction** discussions; **innovative approaches** to dialogue interpreting



# FIRST CHAPTER: REPLIES AND RESPONSES



## ADJACENCY PAIRS:

- those two-part units of discourse that provide evidence of the sequential nature of interactive discourse
- greetings, closings, question-answer pairs...

## DYADIC INTERACTION AND TURNS AT TALK

# CHAINING

## TWO-PART ADJACENCY PAIRS CONDENSED INTO THREE TURNS AT TALK

- A. Have you got coffee to go?  
B. Milk and sugar?  
A. Just milk.



# MOVES



## GOFFMAN SUGGESTS:

- the units of **interaction** are not precise and identifiable
- the basic unit of talk in interactive discourse is the **move**.
- a move can be a sentence, a turn, an utterance, a silence...



# MOVES

A question for the dialogue interpreter:

**HAS THE MOVE THAT WAS  
INTENDED BY THE ORIGINATOR OF  
AN UTTERANCE BEEN CONVEYED  
APPROPRIATELY?**





# MOVES

**Interactive discourse** : a jointly negotiated process that participants engage in.

**DIALOGUE INTERPRETERS ARE CENTRALLY INVOLVED IN THIS NEGOTIATION PROCESS.**



# THIRD CHAPTER: FOOTING

## DIALOGUE INTERPRETERS' UNIQUE PARTICIPANT STATUS

- Relationship **between participants** in interaction.
- **Bystanders** can influence the unfolding of interactive discourse.
- «speaker-hearer»
- **production and reception**
- Is a 'speaker' always animating their own words, ideas and positions?



# THIRD CHAPTER: FOOTING

## SPEAKER ROLES

1

**AUTHOR**

2

**PRINCIPAL**

3

**ANIMATOR**



*That's all Folks!*

## CONCLUSIONS

*Why is Forms of Talk critical to the foundation of dialogue interpreting?*

**IMPORTANT INSIGHTS REGARDING THE  
STRUCTURE OF INTERACTIONAL  
DISCOURSE**

**SOCIOLOGICAL POINT OF VIEW**