DiSCourse Seminar

The Digital Science Center at the University of Innsbruck would like to invite you to the following talk:

Mari Hatavara
Tampere University

Narrative Detection in Political Talk. Bringing together Computational Recognition and Narrative Theory

Narrative is a powerful tool for argumentation since narratives organize time and communicate human experientiality. Yet, narratives are used sparsely in the Finnish parliament, and therefore first need to be identified from the large volume of parliamentary records data for the experts to analyze. Narratives in the Parliament are often short, intertwined with argumentation and oriented towards the future, which poses challenges to the detection task. For this reason, several definitions of narrative need to be considered to identify key features of narrativity. This talk explores efforts to extract narratives from Finnish parliamentary records (1980–2025) by drawing upon approaches from interdisciplinary narrative theory and computational modeling based on linguistic features. Particular focus is on verbs that portray human experientiality, which are understood as central to narratives. Modeling complex concepts such as narrative creates new possibilities for humanities and computer sciences cooperation in natural language processing.

About the speaker

Mari Hatavara is Chair Professor of Finnish Literature at Tampere University, Finland. She has published extensively on interdisciplinary narrative theory and analysis, fictionality studies, and narrative minds and voices across narrative environments.

Date, Time, Place:
Friday, 27 March 2026, 12:00 (CET), hybrid
Participants are invited to join the event at the Digital Science Center, Innrain 15, Open Space Area (1st floor) *or* online via Big Blue Button.