

***L'ordre du discours* – Outline**

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I. Frame: Anxiety of beginning discourse; institutional ritual

II. Hypothesis: [limiting] regulation of production of discourse

- A. Exclusion
 - 1. Prohibitions: link of discourse w/ desire and power
 - 2. Madness
 - 3. Falsity: will to truth and its self-masking
 - a. Greek philosophy defeats overt link of discourse and power (sophistry; rhetoric)
 - b. Modern form of will to knowledge (science)
 - (1) possible objects: observable, measurable, classifiable
 - (2) knowing subject: observing, verifying
 - (3) technological level of employment of knowledge as verifiable and useful
 - (4) institutional support
 - (5) power of constraint on other forms of discourse
 - (a) literature
 - (b) economic practices
 - (c) Penal Code
 - c. Self-masking of the will to truth:
 - (1) self-effacement in face of revealed truths
 - (2) turning of will to truth against value of truth itself (as excluding madness)
 - (a) Nietzsche
 - (b) Artaud
 - (c) Bataille
- B. Internal Rules
 - 1. Commentary
 - a. Gradation of discourse
 - (1) everyday and ephemeral
 - (2) discourse that is origin of other discourse
 - b. Unstable boundary between these types
 - c. Interdependence of primary and secondary text
 - (1) creation of new discourses ad infinitum
 - (2) final saying of what has been articulated deep down but never said
 - (a) dream of masked repetition
 - (b) averts chance elements
 - 2. Author-principle: unifies mere group of writings or statements into an *oeuvre*
 - 3. Disciplines (not sum total of truths)
 - a. Inclusion of 'disciplined error'
 - b. Conditions for statements to be *dans le vrai* (repulsion of 'monsters')
- C. 'Subjection' of discourse
 - 1. Ritual
 - a. Qualifications of speaker
 - b. Accompanying gestures, signs, etc
 - c. Significance, effects, limitation of validity
 - 2. 'Fellowships of discourse'
 - a. Archaic models
 - b. Contemporary cult of author
 - 3. Doctrine (as dual subjection of discourse)
 - a. Of subject to approved discourse
 - b. Of discourse to select group

4. 'Social appropriation of discourse' (educational system)

III. Philosophical themes relative to limiting regulation of production of discourse

- A. Effects: Conforming to activity of limitation by proposing:
 1. Ideal truth as law of discourse;
 2. Immanent rationality as principle of their behavior
 3. Ethic of knowledge: truth promised only to desire for truth and power to think
- B. Elision of reality of discourse: no room between thought and words
 1. Muzzling of sophistry
 2. Modern themes
 - a. founding subject (Husserl)
 - b. originating experience (Merleau-Ponty)
 - c. universal mediation (Hegel)

IV. Nullification of reality of discourse by sovereignty of signifier: symptom of fear of discourse

- A. Three decisions necessary in order to analyze this fear
 1. Question will to truth
 2. Restore event-character of discourse
 3. Abolish sovereignty of signifier
- B. Methodological demands
 1. Negative principles for analysis of discourse
 - a. Reversal: recognize principle of rarefaction of discourse
 - b. Discontinuity: no great continuous discourse repressed in spots
 - c. Specificity: no prior signification to be read off the world (contra Merleau-Ponty)
 - d. Exteriority: no hidden meanings
 2. Positive principles for analysis of discourse
 - a. Event
 - b. Series
 - c. Regularity
 - d. Conditions of existence
- C. 'Two additional remarks'
 1. Contemporary history of events:
 - a. Defining series that locate events
 - b. No longer consciousness/liberty and continuity/causality
 2. Philosophical problems posed by analysis of discourse (contra Hegel)
 - a. Incorporeal materialism (cf. Deleuze and *Logic of Sense*)
 - b. Discontinuous systematization
 - c. Chance

V. Forecast of future work

- A. Critical studies: limitation of discourse / 'studied casualness'
 1. Sets reversal principle to work: rarefaction, consolidation, unification of discourse
 2. Examples
 - a. Reason and madness
 - b. Taboos on sexuality
 - c. Will to truth
 - (1) selection of our will to truth
 - (a) Platonic/Socratic
 - (b) 16th/17th C England: observational science
 - (c) 19th C: modern science, industrial society, positivist ideology
 - (2) penal code
 - (3) author principle

- (a) 16th to 19th C history of medicine
- (b) 18th and 19th C literary criticism
- B. Genealogical studies: affirmation/ 'happy positivism'
 - 1. Studies effective formation of discourse: dispersion, discontinuity, regularity
 - 2. Examples:
 - a. Sexuality: tangle of discursive ensembles
 - b. Wealth, poverty, money, production, trade
 - c. Heredity
- C. Complementarity of critical and genealogical studies

VI. Acknowledgments

- A. Dumézil
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- C. Hyppolite
 - 1. Responsible for French 20th C presence of Hegel
 - 2. Confrontation with Hegel: Modernity as test of Hegelianism and philosophy
 - 3. Inversion of Hegelian themes
 - a. Endless task/infinite horizon (Husserl)
 - b. Continuous recommencement/ absolute beginning (Fichte)
 - c. Contact with non-philosophy (Bergson)
 - d. Paradoxes of repetition (Kierkegaard)
 - e. History (Marx)

VII. Frame: anxiety of discourse