

James R Martin

Australia, University of Sydney
james.martin@sydney.edu.au

Ideational semiosis: field, discourse semantics and lexicogrammar

In this paper I return to the challenge of modelling ideational semiosis in a stratified model of language and context. This work grows out of the ongoing dialogue between Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) and Legitimation Code Theory (LCT) concerning the nature of knowledge (e.g. Martin & Maton 2013, Martin et al. 2017). In this paper I am particularly concerned with resources for building uncommon sense discourse – including activity, the classification and composition of items involved, and their properties. A key focus will be the role played by grammatical metaphor in distilling academic knowledge (Halliday 1998, Martin 2008) and clarification of the function of nominalisation in this process (Hao in press). The discussion draws examples from multimodal texts (infographics involving verbiage and image) from the field of immunology, as recontextualised for senior secondary school students in Australia.

References

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