Critical Discourse Analysis
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Preface

Gilbert Weiss and Ruth Wodak

This volume was inspired by a stimulating conference in Vienna in July 2000. Most of the contributors to this volume and some other colleagues discussed intensively problems and issues of Critical Discourse Analysis and Interdisciplinarity for three days. However, many issues remained unresolved. This fact triggered the idea to request the contributors to revise their papers and to reflect their positions. Moreover, we invited several other colleagues in the field to discuss the central notions of ‘inter/trans/multidisciplinarity’ in the Social Sciences with us as well.

The possibility of publishing this volume gave us a chance to frame this discussion more broadly, to set it into a long development of theory and empirical work in the Social Sciences. The questions which arise lead us from abstract reflections on theory building to aspects of application of empirical results and to political practice.

We would like to thank all the contributors to this volume for their contributions. We would also like to thank the publishers for their support and patience. We are very grateful to Lieselotte Martin for her help in organizing the conference in July 2000. Heidemarie Markhardt checked the non-native English papers and translated some of our work in a most efficient and remarkable way. Lastly, we would like to thank the Austrian Science Foundation (FWF) for awarding the Wittgenstein Prize to Ruth Wodak which made the work on this book, the conference and our teamwork possible.

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