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Altri autori (Persone)	ChiltonPaul A (Paul Anthony) TianHailong WodakRuth <1950->
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planned to market economy; 4.3 Metadiscourse of "three represents"; Diversifying the forms of ownership; 4.4 Metadiscourse of "harmonious society"; 5. Conclusion; Notes; References; Institutional language as power in contemporary China; 1. Introduction; 2. Data collection 3. Enacting power through language 3.1 Power from many accented words; 3.2 Power from topic control; 3.3 Power from closed questions; 3.4 Power from rhetorical questions (I); 3.5 Power from rhetorical questions (II); 3.6 Power from tag questions; 3.7 Power from the construction of professionally illegitimate relationship; 3.8 Power from Unchecked Blaming; 3.9 Power from use of power-laden Pet Phrases; 4. Discussion; 5. Conclusions; Acknowledgment; Note; References; A cultural political economy of transnational knowledge brands; 1. Introduction 2. The theoretical contexts of cultural political economy 3. Three stages in the development of the cultures of "competitiveness"; 3. Recontextualization of Knowledge Brands to Hong Kong/Pearl River Delta since the 1990's; 3.1 The changing global-national-regional contexts; 3.2 First discursive-strategic moment: Hong Kong's 'hollowing-out' debate and knowledge brands; 3.3 The hegemony of a broader global-local service bloc; 3.4 Second discursive-strategic moment: The transborderization of the Harvard brand to the PRD; 4. Conclusion; Notes; References Discursive production of teaching quality assessment report1. Introduction; 2. Critical discourse analysis; 2.1 Dynamics of power relations; 2.2 CDA methodology; 3. The data; 3.1 TQA practice; 3.2 TQA report; 4. Discursive strategies; 4.1 Deploying institutional power; 4.2 Incorporating a promotional genre; 4.3 Entextualising assessed topics; 5. Conclusion; Note; References; Discursive construction of Chinese foreign policy; 1. Introduction; 2. Literature review; 3. The AWR and its FPS; 4. Theoretical framework and analytical methods; 4.1 CDA and foreign policy studies 4.2 Discourse practice as a social practice and cognitive process

## Sommario/riassunto

China's opening up to the West, its extraordinary economic rise, and the subsequent internal and global issues, are an object of huge interest and concern. Discourse and Socio-political Transformations in Contemporary China focuses on one aspect of the contemporary Chinese phenomenon, one that is so obvious that it is generally ignored in the mainstream academic departments - that politics, society and transformation are the product of myriad collective linguistic interchanges, some stabilized, some competing, some agonistic, some new and emerging. As an outcome of dialogue between