

Semiotics

Semiotics, also called **semiology**, the study of [signs](#) and sign-using behaviour. It was defined by one of its founders, the Swiss linguist [Ferdinand de Saussure](#), as the study of “the life of signs within society.” Although the word was used in this sense in the 17th century by the English philosopher [John Locke](#), the idea of semiotics as an interdisciplinary mode for examining phenomena in different fields emerged only in the late 19th and early 20th centuries with the independent work of Saussure and of the American philosopher [Charles Sanders Peirce](#).

<https://www.britannica.com/science/semiotics>

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