

Semantics and Pragmatics – AN31005BA/AN5301OMA
3-credit seminar
Spring 2022

Course Description

This course is concerned with the study of meaning. More specifically, we will be interested in exploring the foundations of formal, truth-conditional semantics, covering topics such as predicate-argument structure, Davidsonian vs. Neo-Davidsonian event semantics, grammatical vs. lexical aspect and some argument structural consequences of word meaning. Given that this course is offered for students in the teacher training program (in addition to students in the BA program), we will also discuss experimental research into the second language acquisition of word meaning and the consequences that this research has for the teaching of words in the EFL classroom.

Textbook

Kearns, Kate. 2000. *Semantics*. New York: St. Martin's Press.

Grading

The final grade will be based on a midterm test and an endterm test. Grades on the midterm test will carry a weight of 40% of the final grade, whereas grades on the endterm test will carry a weight of 60%. Retake opportunities will not be available for the midterm test and the endterm test.

Attendance

No more than three absences are allowed, illness included.

Weekly Syllabus

Week #	Class content	Reading assignments
Week 1	Truth-Conditional Theories 1	pp. 1-24
Week 2	Truth-Conditional Theories 2	
Week 3	First Order Logic	pp. 25-51
Week 4	Events	pp.176-199
Week 5	Tense and Aspect	pp. 148-175
Week 6	Midterm Test	

Week 7	Aspectual Classes of Events 1	pp. 200-227
Week 8	Spring break – No class meeting	
Week 9	Aspectual Classes of Events 2	
Week 10	Lexical Semantics	Kardos, Éva. 2021. Lexical semantics. In Bas Aarts, April McMahon & Lars Hinrichs (Eds.), <i>The Handbook of English Linguistics</i> , 2 nd edition, (pp. 501-523). Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.
Week 11	Review	
Week 12	Endterm Test	
Week 13	Semantics-syntax correspondences in SLA 1	Juffs, Alan. 1996. Semantics-syntax correspondences in second language acquisition. <i>Second Language Research</i> 12, 177-221.
Week 14	Semantics-syntax correspondences in SLA 2	

Place and Time

Room II, Thursday 8:00-9:40 am

Contact

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Office hours

Wednesday and Thursday 1:00-2:00 p.m.