Semantics and Pragmatics – AN31005BA

3-credit seminar Spring 2024

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, compositionality, existential versus universal quantification, modality and temporal categories such as tense and aspect.

Textbook

Kearns, Kate. 2011. Semantics. 2nd edition. Palgrave Macmillan.

Grading

Your grade will be based on your participation in the in-class sessions and your grade on the endterm test.

Attendance

No more than three absences are allowed, illness included.

Week#	Class content	Reading assignments
Week 1 Feb. 14	Introduction	рр. 1-23
Week 2 Feb. 21	Basic Logical Tools	pp. 24-44
Week 3 Feb. 28	The Logical Quantifiers	pp. 45-56
Week 4 Mar. 6	Formal Composition	pp. 57-78
Week 5 Mar. 13	Review	

Weekly Syllabus

Week 6 Mar. 20	Modality and Possible Worlds	рр. 79-93
Week 7 Mar. 27	Aspectual Classes of Events	рр. 156-175
Week 8	Spring break	
Week 9 Apr. 10	Tense and Aspect	рр. 176-205
Week 10 Apr. 17	Review	
Week 11 Apr. 24	Endterm Test	
Week 12	No class meeting on May 1	

Place and Time

Room 106 Wednesday 8:00 a.m. – 9:40 a.m.

Contact

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