INTRODUCTION TO SEMANTICS/ LIN 4803-3586
SEMANTICS I / LIN 6804-3731
Fall 2014

MWF 8th period (3:00-3:50), MAT 0112
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Office hours: MWF 5th period (11:45-12:35), or by appointment
Computer classroom support: 392-6683
Course website on E-Learning in Sakai: http://lss.at.ufl.edu/

Course Description
The course is an introduction to truth Conditional Semantics. As truth conditional semantics involves logic, the course will encompass both theoretical concepts and technical exercises in first and second order logic. Students will learn how set theory and other logical theories can be used to specify meanings and explain semantic phenomena. An emphasis will be made on the distinction between pure logic and logic in natural language.

The course will also examine the interface of semantics and pragmatics. The latter concerns the study of meanings that are determined by linguistic communication in situated contexts, and that depend on the assumptions and intentions of language users.

Prerequisite: LIN 3010, graduate standing or permission by instructor.

Textbooks (Available at the Reitz Union bookstore, Tel. 392-0194)


Course Website
Course material (syllabus, lecture notes, homework assignments, extra reading, etc.) - available on Sakai:
http://lss.at.ufl.edu/

Course requirements and grading:

Undergraduates
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Homework</th>
<th>2 x 8 = 16%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>21 % x 4 = 84%</td>
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Homework: Homework will not be graded but only given a pass/fail check. In order to pass, each assignment must be completed and its lower grade should be a D, i.e., at least 60% of the assignment should be good. For each failing or un-submitted homework assignment, your grade will be lowered by 2%, up to 8%.

Homework exercises are to be typed and printed out neatly. Staple multiple sheets together and put your name on it. Please write in complete sentences and complete thoughts. H/W assignments are due in class on the date stated on the syllabus. We will typically discuss the homework in class, so late homework cannot be accepted. If you are not in class when homeworks are handed back, it is your responsibility to get your work from the instructor.

You may discuss the problems with other members of this class section only. You must write up your solutions entirely on your own, without help, in accordance with the Honor Code:
http://www.chem.ufl.edu/~itl/honor.html
**Exams**  The exams are not cumulative except to the extent that the material builds on itself and you cannot control the more complex concepts without first getting the more basic ones. There is no final exam. There will be no make-up exams without a documented medical excuse.

**Attendance and participation**  
Attendance and participation are essential. You are unlikely to succeed in this course without coming to class and paying attention. The material on the exams will come from the texts but also from what we do in class. Lecture notes and the texts will not always coincide.

Each student will be allowed 3 absences without penalty. After that, one point will be deducted from the final grade for every non-excused absence. Showing up later or leaving earlier is considered ½ absences.

**Note:** There will be no extra credit work to help raise your grade; please do not ask. The best strategy is to do the best work you are capable of on the assigned work (exams, homework, presentation, etc.).

**Grades**

- **Exams**  
  - 18.5% x 4 = 74%

- **Term paper**  
  - 14%

A term paper is a conference-style paper, to be presented in class weeks 14, 15. The paper (10+ pages, double space, Font 12) and oral presentation (10-15 minutes, plus questions) will constitute 14% of the final grade (10% for the written part and 5% for the presentation). **Topics must be approved by week 13.** All papers due by December 8th.

Other Information:

- Honor Code:  [http://www.chem.ufl.edu/~itl/honor.html](http://www.chem.ufl.edu/~itl/honor.html)
- Disabilities:  [http://www.chem.ufl.edu/~itl/disabilities.html](http://www.chem.ufl.edu/~itl/disabilities.html)
- Counseling:  [http://www.chem.ufl.edu/~itl/counseling.html](http://www.chem.ufl.edu/~itl/counseling.html)

**Schedule (subject to changes according to class progress):**

**Week 1:** 8/25, 27, 29  
Course overview and introduction; What is meaning? Semantics vs. pragmatics;  
*Read* Kearns §§1.1-1.3.3; AAD ch.1.  
Recommended: de Swart Ch. 1&2; Gamut 1991, ch.1; Putnum 1975; Katz & Fodor 1963.

**Week 2:** 9/3, 5  
(Note: 9/1 is Labor Day – no classes ) Set theory  
*Read* AAD §§ 2.1-2.3  
9/5 HW1

**Week 3:** 9/8, 10, 12  
Set theory (Cont.)  
*Read* AAD § 2.4  
9/12 HW2

**Week 4:** 9/15, 17, 19  
Set theory (sum.); Inferences and entailments  
*Read* AAD ch.3; Kearns §1.3.4  
9/17 Review; 9/19 Exam1

**Week 5:** 9/22, 26  
(Note: 9/24 is Rosh Ha-Shana Eve – class cancelled) Propositional logic  
*Read* Kearns §§ 2.1 – 2.2; AAD §§ 4.1-4.2
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>9/29, 10/1, 10/3</td>
<td>Propositional logic (sum.) 10/3 HW3</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>10/6, 8, 10</td>
<td>Predicate logic 10/6 HW4</td>
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<td>Read Kearns §2.3; AAD §5.1 10/10 HW4</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>10/13, 15</td>
<td>(Note: 10/17: Homecoming - no classes) Predicate logic (cont.) 10/15 HW4</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Read Kearns §3</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>10/20, 22, 24</td>
<td>Predicate logic 10/20 HW4</td>
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<td>10/22: Review 10/24: Exam 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>10/27, 29, 31</td>
<td>Natural language quantifiers 10/31 HW5</td>
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<td>Read Kearns §§6.1-2</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>11/3, 5, 7</td>
<td>Natural language quantifiers (cont.) 11/7 HW 6</td>
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<td>Read Kearns §§6.3-4</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>11/10, 12, 14</td>
<td>Natural language quantifiers (cont.) 11/14 HW7</td>
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<td>Read Kearns §6.5-6.6</td>
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<td>Read Kearns §6.7, §6.9</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>11/24</td>
<td>(Note: 11/26, 28: Thanksgiving – no classes) Aspectual classes of events 11/26 HW 8</td>
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<td>Read Kearns §8.1-8.3</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>12/1, 3, 5</td>
<td>Aspectual classes of events (cont.) 12/5 HW 8</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>12/8, 10</td>
<td>12/8: Review; 12/10: Exam4</td>
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**Complementary Reading**


McCawley, J. D. 1993 [1981]. *Everything that linguists have always wanted to know about logic but were ashamed to ask*. 2nd ed., Chicago: Chicago University Press.


