INTRODUCTION TO SEMANTICS/ LIN 4803-3586
SEMANTICS I/ LIN 6804-26EG
Fall 2019

MWF 5th period (11:45-12:35), AND 19
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Computer classroom support: 392-6683
Course website on E-Learning in Canvas: http://elearning.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 logical theories, such as propositional logic, predicate calculus and set theory, 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)
1. Allwood, Jens, Anderson, Lars-Gunner, and Dahl, Östen (AAD). 1977. *Logic in Linguistics,* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
2. Kearns, Kate. 2011. *Semantics,* Second edition, New York: Palgrave Macmillan
3. Optional: Language in Action. An online course in language (download for free)

Course requirements and grading:
Undergraduates
Homework	8 x 2% = 16%
Exams	4 x 21% = 84%

Graduates
Homework	8 x 2% = 16%
Exams	4 x 18% = 72%
Term paper	12%

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%.
- Homework exercises are to be typed and printed out neatly. Staple sheets together and put your name on it.
- We will typically discuss the homework in class, so late homework cannot be accepted.
- 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 deduced from the final grade for every non-excused absence. Showing up later or leaving earlier is considered 1/2 absences.

NOTE: if you show up late it is your responsibility to make sure that I turn the absence into late. The least distracting method is to approach me at the end of the class.

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 12% of the final grade (6% for the written part and 6% for the presentation).
Topics must be approved by week 13. All papers due by December 2nd.

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.).

Cell Phone Policy: Cell phones should be switched off for class. If you need it on for a specific class (because of a family medical emergency, for example) please notify me before class and sit near the door.

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.

The course grading scale is below. Further information about UF's grading policies can be found at:
http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-
92 or above	89-91.9	85-88.9	80-84.9	77-79.9	74-76.9	70-73.9	67-69.9

D+	D	D-	E
64-66.9	60-63.9	57-59.9	56.9 or below

Other Information:
Honor Code: http://www.chem.ufl.edu/~itl/honor.html
Disabilities: http://www.chem.ufl.edu/~itl/disabilities.html
Counseling: http://www.chem.ufl.edu/~itl/counseling.html

Schedule (subject to changes according to class progress):

Week 1: 8/21, 23
Course overview and introduction**:** What is meaning? Semantics vs. pragmatics
 Read: Kearns §§1.1-1.3.3; AAD ch.1.
Week 2: 8/26, 28, 30
Introduction (cont.)
 HW1 (F)
Week 3: 9/4, 6 (Note: 9/2 is Labor Day – no classes)
Set theory
 Read: AAD §§ 2.1-2.3
HW2 (F)

Week 4: 9/9, 11, 13
       Set theory (cont.);
       Read: AAD § 2.4
       HW3 (F)
Week 5: 9/16, 18, 20
       Inferences and entailments
       Read: AAD ch.3; Kearns §1.3.4
       Propositional logic
       Read: Kearns §§ 2.1 – 2.2; AAD §§ 4.1-4.2
       Review (M); Exam1 (F)
Week 6: 9/23, 25, 27
       Propositional logic – Continue
       HW4 (F)
Week 7: 10/2 (Note: 9/30 is Rosh Ha-Shana and 10/4 is homecoming - classes cancelled)
       Predicate logic
       Read: Kearns §2.3; AAD §5.1
Week 8: **10/7, 11 (Note: 10/9 is Yom Kippur; class cancelled)**
       Predicate logic - Continue
       Read: Kearns §3
       HW5 (F)
Week 9: **10/14, 16, 18**
       Predicate logic- Continue
       Review (W) Exam 2 (F)
 Week 10: **10/21, 23, 25**
       Natural language quantifiers
       Read: Kearns §§6.1-2
       HW 6 (F)
Week 11: 10/28, 30, 11/1
       Natural language quantifiers (cont.)
       Read Kearns §§6.3-4
Week 12: 11/4, 6, 8
       Natural language quantifiers (cont.)
       Read Kearns §6.5-6.6
       HW7 (F)
Week 13: 11/13, 15 (Note: 11/11: Veterans Day; no classes)
       Natural language quantifiers (sum.);
       Read Kearns §6.7; §6.9
       Review (W) Exam 3 (F)
Week 14: 11/18, 20, 22
       Events: Davidson's Theory
       Read Kearns §11.1-11.2
       HW 8 (F)
Week 15: 11/25: instructor is at a conference – class cancelled; 11/27, 29: Thanksgiving – no classes
Week 16: 12/2, 4
       Review (M); Exam4 (F)