

Meaning and Use/Intro to Formal Pragmatics

LIN 4820-1A09-14921 & 1B09-26352

LIN6826-073D-14993 & 074D-27015

Spring 2021

Instructor: Galia Hatav
Time: MWF 5th period (11:45-12:35)
Place: Turlington 2328/online - in a synchronous format
Office: 4129 Turlington Hall
Tel: 294-7452
E-mail: ghatav@ufl.edu
Office hours: MWF 6th period (12:50-1:40), or by appointment
Course website on E-Learning in Canvas: <http://elearning.ufl.edu>

SINCE THIS IS A HYPFLEX CLASS, I.E., DELIVERED BOTH ONLINE IN A SYNCHRONOUS FORMAT AND IN F2F, PLEASE NOTE:

- While this course is delivered online (in addition to F2F), there will be several synchronous activities, including lectures, discussions, students' presentations, and your feedback. These activities will take place during our assigned class time as indicated above. You are expected to be available during those times.
- Additionally, please keep in mind that all times listed on this syllabus and announced in class are according to Eastern Standard Time (i.e., Gainesville time). If you are not located in the Eastern Standard Time zone, you should adjust times for all synchronous activities and due dates accordingly.
- Most of our one-on-one communication will occur via email. There are two important course policies regarding email: 1) I expect that you are reading your email at least once per day, and 2) All emails that you send must follow basic rules for professional correspondence. If you are unsure of what constitutes professionalism, feel free to ask...or simply err on the side of caution
- Computer Access: The University requires access to and on-going use of a computer. This should not be a tablet device or smartphone, but an actual desktop or laptop computer. To succeed in this course, you will also need a stable internet connection and appropriate space to take online exams using the Honor-Lock proctoring service. Minimum equipment specifications are available at:
<https://it.ufl.edu/policies/student-computing-requirements/>.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is an introduction to pragmatics, or the study of non-truth-conditional aspects of utterance meanings that are determined by *situated uses* of language and linguistic communication as a social activity. In this connection, we will explore the role of discourse and extra-linguistic context in the production and interpretation of utterances. An important part of the course is to provide students with a solid understanding of the development of theories of language use in linguistics and philosophy of language. Particular attention will be paid to the relationship between pragmatics and semantics (the study of the truth-conditional meaning of sentences). The course also touches on some issues in the relations between pragmatics and syntax. Topics to be covered include sense and reference, presupposition, implicature, and speech acts.

PREREQUISITES: LIN 3010, or graduate standing, or permission of instructor.

TEXTS

- REQUIRED:

- Birner, Betty J. 2013. *Introduction to Pragmatics*, Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell. (Available at the Reitz Union bookstore, Tel. 392-0194 and at Gator Textbooks, 3501 SW 2nd Ave. Tel. 374-4500)
- Articles posted on E-Learning by the instructor and available at the library – see the list of readings below.

- RECOMMENDED:

- Huang, Yan. 2014. *Pragmatics*. Second Edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (Available at Smathers Library.)

REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

- **Reaction papers:** 12 x 2% = 24%

A ‘reaction paper’ on each reading assignment is due on Wednesday of its respective week. I will create an “assignment” on Canvas, where the RP should be submitted.

NOTE: I will not grade late papers without a documented excuse. Please let me know ahead of time if there are extenuating circumstances that will force you to return in late work.

The point of a reaction paper is to *react*, i.e. evaluate, criticize, support, or merely raise questions about the assigned readings.

Reaction papers are to be at least one full page in length (but not more than two); typed (font size 12; double space). They will not be assigned a letter grade, but only a pass/fail check.

- **Homework:** 5 x 2% = 10%

The Homework assignments are related to the reading chapters.

At your choice, undergraduate students are to write a reply on ONE of the questions suggested by Birner at the end of each respective chapter and the graduate students should answer TWO.

The replies are to be at least one full page in length (but not more than two) for each question (i.e., grads are supposed to submit at least two and not more than four pages); typed (font size 12; double space). They will not be assigned a letter grade, but only a pass/fail check.

For each HW exercise I will create an “assignment” on Canvas, where the HW should be submitted.

- 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:** 2 x 23% = 46%

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.

- The exams will be given online using the service of HonorLock. I will give you an extra 30 minutes (15 before and 15 after the class) to complete the test.
- **NOTE: There will be no make-up exams without a documented medical excuse.**

• **Term Paper:** 20%

A term paper is an essay-style paper, to be presented in class on Monday, Wednesday or Friday of weeks 11-14. Please sign up for presentation during the week after the first test.

- The written paper is to be 10-15 pages in length; typed (font size 12; double space). All papers are due by Monday, April 19. I will create an “assignment” on Canvas, where you can upload your paper.
- The oral presentation is to be planned for 10-15 minutes talk + up to five minutes’ questions or comments.

• **Class participation:**

Since the format of this class is lecture, class work, discussion and students’ presentations, your attendance and active participation in class are essential for success in this course. For this reason, absences put you at a severe disadvantage.

Each student will be allowed three 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 absence.

The way I take attendance is mainly via your comments, using the Chat button on Zoom, at the end of the class. I would appreciate it if you gave me some feedback on the material or any other issue.

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, h/w assignments, reaction papers and term paper). **Missed course work would lower your grade, according to what was missed.**

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-
93-100	90-92.9	87-89.9	83-86.9	80-82.9	77-79.9	73-76.9	70-72.9
D+	D	D-	E				
67-69.9	63-66.9	60-62.9	Below 60				

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: Jan 11, 13 and 15

- **Topic: Introduction**
- **Read:** Birner, 1-14, 22-35
- **Recommended** (but optional) reading: section 1.2.1.3 (pp. 14-22)

This section is a good summary of issues discussed in the semantics class. For students who took semantics it would be a good review and for those who did not it would supply a good glimpse to those issues.

- **Recommended** Extra Reading: Huang, Ch. 1.

Week 2: Jan 20 and 22 (Note: Jan 18 is MLK Day - no classes)

- **Topic: Implicature I**
- **RP1** (due W) on: Birner, 1-14, 22-35
- **HW1** (due W):

Undergrads: Choose one exercise/question from the list given in Birner pp. 36-39

Grads: Choose two exercises/questions from the list given in Birner pp. 36-39

Week 3: Jan 25, 27 and 29

- **Topic: Implicature II**
- **RP2** (due W) on: Birner chapter 2
- **Recommended** Extra Reading: Huang, Ch. 2
- **HW2** (due W):

Undergrads: Choose one exercise/question from the list given in Birner pp 75-76

Graduates: Choose two exercises/questions from the list given in Birner pp 75-76.

Week 4: Feb 1, 3 and 5:

- **Topic: Implicature III**
- **RP3** (due W): Grice 1975
- **No HW**

Week 5: Feb 8, 10 and 12:

- **Topic: Reference I**
- **RP4** (due W): Birner section 4.1
- **Recommended** Extra Reading: Huang, Ch. 6
- **No HW**

Week 6: Feb 15, 17, 19:

- **Topics: Reference II; Deixis and Anaphora**
- **RP5** (due W): Birner sections 4.2-4.6
- **HW3** (due W):

Undergrads: Choose one exercise/question from the list given in Birner pp 143-145

Grads: Choose two exercises/questions from the list given in Birner pp 143-145

Week 7: Feb 22, 24 and 26:

- **Topics:** Reference III ; **The definite article**
- **RP6** (due W): Filmore 1971a
- Review (W)
- **Test #1 (F)**

Week 8: March 1, 3 and 5

- **Topic: Presupposition I**
- **No assignment**
- **Recommended** Extra Reading: Huang, Ch. 3

Week 9: March 8, 10 and 12

- **Topic: Presupposition II**
- **RP7** (due W): Birner chapter 5
- **HW4** (due W)

Undergrads: Choose one exercise/question from the list given in Birner pp 173-174

Grads: Choose two exercises/questions from the list given in Birner pp 173-174

Week 10: March 15, 17 and 19:

- **Topics: Presupposition III; Student Presentation**
- **RP8** (due W): Keenan 1971

Week 11: March 22 and 26 (Note: March 24 is recharging day – class suspended)

- **Topics: Speech Acts I; Student Presentation**
- **RP9** (due W): Birner chapter 6, sections 6.1-6.7
- **Recommended** Extra Reading: Huang, Ch.4

Week 12: March 29, 31 and April 2:

- **Topics: Speech Acts II; Student Presentation**
- **RP10** (due W): Searle 1965

Week 13: April 5, 7 and 9

- **Topics: : Speech Acts III; Student Presentation**
- **RP11 (W):** Searle 1975.
- **HW5 (W):**

Undergrads: Choose one exercise/question from the list given in Birner pp 204-206

Grads: Choose two exercises/questions from the list given in Birner pp 204-206

Week 14: April 12, 14 and 16

- **Topics: Conclusion; Student Presentation**
- **RP12 (due W):** Birner Chapter 10

Week 15: April 19 and 21:

- **Topic: Review (M)**
- **Term papers are due (M).**
- **Test #2 (W)**

Disclaimer: The above course information is tentative. The instructor reserves the right to make corrections, additions and/or deletions as the semester progresses. Syllabus corrections will be announced as they occur.

- **References and complementary reading**

Fillmore, C. J. 1971a. "Towards a theory of deixis." In *University of Hawaii working papers in linguistics*, vol. 3 No. 4, 219-242.

Fillmore, C. J. 1971b. "Verbs of judging: an exercise in semantic description." In Fillmore, C. and D.T. Langendon, eds. *Studies in Linguistic Semantics*. NY: Holt, Rinehart & Winston.

Fillmore, C.J. 1971c. *Lectures on Deixis*. Published by CSLI Lecture Notes, Nr. 65. 1997. Stanford: CSLI Publications.

Frege, G. 1952. "On sense and reference." In P. T. Geach & M. Black (eds.), *Translations from the philosophical writings of Gottlob Frege*. Oxford: Basil Blackwell. Pp 56-78.

Grice, H.P. 1975. "Logic and conversation." In Cole, P. and J.L. Morgan, eds. *Syntax and Semantics Vol. 3. Speech Acts*. NY: AP. Pp. 41-58. Also in Davis, S., ed. *Pragmatics: A reader*. 1991. NY: Oxford University Press. Pp. 305-15.

Heim, Irene. 1983. *The semantics of definite and indefinite noun phrase*. PhD. Dissertation. U. of Mass, Amherst. [Distributed by GLSA.]

Horn, Laurence R. 1989. *A natural history of negation*. Chicago: U. of Chicago Press. Reissued 2001 by CSLI.

Keenan, E. 1971. "Two kinds of presupposition in natural language." In C. Fillmore & D. T. Langendoen (eds.), *Studies in linguistics semantics*, 45-52. New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston.

- Kiparsky, P. and Kiparsky, C. 1971. *Fact*. In D. Steinberg & L. Jacobovits (eds.), *Semantics, an interdisciplinary reader*, 345-369, Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press.
- Potts, Christopher. 2005. *The Logic of Conversational Implicature*. Oxford: OUP
- Reinhart, T. 1980. "Conditions for text coherence." *Poetics Today* 1:4, 161-180.
- Searle, J.R. 1965. "What is a speech act?" In Searle, J.R., ed. *The Philosophy of Language*. London: Oxford University Press. Pp. 23-38. Also in Davis, S., ed. *Pragmatics: A reader*. 1991. NY: Oxford University Press. Pp. 254-264.
- Searle, J. 1975. "Indirect speech acts." In Cole, P. and Morgan, J.L., eds. *Syntax and Semantics. Vol. 3. Speech Acts*. NY: AP. Also in Davis, S., ed. *Pragmatics: A reader*. 1991. NY: Oxford University Press. Pp. 265-77.
- Searle, J.R. 1983. *Intentionality: An Essay in the Philosophy of Mind*. Cambridge: CUP.
- Searle, J.R. 1995. *The Construction of Social Reality*. Simon and Schuster, Inc.
- Searle, J.R. 1998. *Mind, Language and Society*. Basic Books.
- Sperber, D. and D. Wilson. 1996. "Précis of Relevance: Communication and Cognition." In Geirsson, H. and Lososky, M. (eds.), 460-86. Previous version appeared in 1987, *Behavioral and Brain Sciences* 10, 697-754.
- Strawson, P. F. "On referring." *Mind* 59, 320-344.