



Course Syllabus

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
LALI-362	Semantics and Pragmatics	6
Prerequisites	Department	Semester
LALI-141	Languages and Literature	Fall
Type of Course	Field	Language of Instruction
Required	Linguistics	English
Level of Course	Lecturer	Year of Study
1 st Cycle	Dr Maria Economidou-Kogetsidis	3 rd
Mode of Delivery	Work Placement	Corequisites
Conventional	N/A	None

Course Objectives:

The main objectives of the course are:

- to demonstrate an overview of basic concepts and problems central to the study of semantics within current linguistic theory;
- to demonstrate an overview of basic concepts and problems central to the study of pragmatics within current linguistic theory;
- to enable students to analyse language from a semantic and pragmatic point of view;
- to introduce students to the variety of meanings which words and utterances can encode.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Analyse language from a semantic and a pragmatic point of view;
2. Explain the nature and scope of semantics and pragmatics and their place within linguistics;
3. Exemplify the ways in which meanings are shaped by contextual and cultural factors;
4. Identify the key features of speech act theory, conversational maxims, and politeness theory;

Course Content:

Areas covered in the course include the following:

- Sentences, Utterances and Propositions
- Reference and Sense
- Referring Expressions
- Sense properties and sense relations - Identity and similarity of sense
- Analytic Sentences
- Synthetic Sentences
- Oppositeness and dissimilarity of sense and ambiguity
- Contradiction
- Ambiguity
- Homonymy
- Polysemy
- Pragmatics vs. Semantics
- Presupposition
- Speech Acts: Language as Action
- Cooperation and Implicature (Grice's theory)

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Lectures, seminars, readings, discussions, activities and analyses, assignment and final exam.

Assessment Methods:

Assignments, Midterm, Final exam

Required Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Semantics a Coursebook	Hurford James, Heasley Brendan and Smith Michael	Cambridge University Press	2007	9780521671873
Pragmatics – Language Workbook	Stilwell Peccei Jean	Routledge	2005	0415205239

Recommended Textbooks / Readings:

Additional book(s)/reading material that would support the course (but not a requirement).

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Doing Pragmatics	Grundy, Peter	Routledge	2008	978-0340971604
Understanding semantics	Lobner, Sebastian	Routledge	2013	B00LZM63G2