

# LING 802: SEMANTICS

Fall semester 2011

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## CLASS SCHEDULE AND READING LIST

*He had to choose. But it was not a choice  
Between excluding things. It was not a choice*

*Between, but of. He chose to include the things  
That in each other are included, the whole,  
The complicate, the amassing harmony.*

—Wallace Stevens, 'Notes Toward a Supreme Fiction'

**TEXTBOOK:** Heim and Kratzer (1998). *Semantics in Generative Grammar*. Blackwell.

Week1A  
9/7

### Introductions

#### CHAPTER 1: TRUTH-CONDITIONAL SEMANTICS AND THE FREGEAN PROGRAM

COGNITIVE LINGUISTICS BACKGROUND: Croft and Cruse (2004). "Introduction: What is Cognitive Linguistics?" [\*Cognitive Linguistics\*](#), Cambridge University Press, 1-4.

BIOLINGUISTICS BACKGROUND: Fitch (2010), [\*The Evolution of Language\*](#), "Semantics", Chapter 3, section 7. 119-129.

MATHEMATICS BACKGROUND: Ch. Han: LING 324 notes: [sets, relations and functions](#).

Week1B  
9/9

#### CHAPTER 2: EXECUTING THE FREGEAN PROGRAM

Week2A  
9/14

LOGIC BACKGROUND: Ch. Han: LING 324 notes: [propositional logic](#).

#### CHAPTER 3: SEMANTICS AND SYNTAX: 3.1-3.3

Week2B  
9/16

#### 3.4-3.5

#### CHAPTER 4: MORE OF ENGLISH: NONVERBAL PREDICATES, MODIFIERS, DEFINITE DESCRIPTIONS: 4.1-4.3

Week3A 9/21	4.4 4.5
	<p>FORMAL SEMANTICS BACKGROUND: Chierchia and McConnell-Ginet (2000). <i>Meaning and Grammar</i>. Chapter 1.3 "Implication relations";</p> <p>PRAGMATICS BACKGROUND: Grice (1975). "Logic and Conversation".</p> <p>BIOLINGUISTICS BACKGROUND: Fitch (2010). <a href="#"><i>The Evolution of Language</i></a>, "Pragmatics", Chapter 3, section 8. 129-140.</p>
Week3B 9/23	<p><b>COGNITIVE LINGUISTICS READINGS: Goldberg (2003).</b>  <b>"Constructions: A new theoretical approach to language". <i>Trends in Cognitive Science</i> 7(5). 219-224.</b></p> <p><b>Goldberg (2006). <a href="#"><i>Constructions at Work: The Nature of Generalization in Language</i></a>.</b> Chapter 1. "Overview". 3-18.  Chapter 7. "Island Constraints and Scope". 129-165.</p>
WEEK 4A 9/28	<p>LOGIC BACKGROUND: Ch. Han: LING 324 notes: <a href="#">predicate logic</a>.</p> <p><b>CHAPTER 5: RELATIVE CLAUSES, VARIABLES, VARIABLE BINDING: 5.1-5.2</b></p>
Week 4B 9/30	<p><b>FORMAL SEMANTICS READING: Potts (forthcoming).</b>  <b>"<a href="#">Conventional implicature and expressive content</a>". <i>Semantics: An International Handbook of Natural Language Meaning</i>.</b></p>
Week 5A 10/5	<p><b>FORMAL SEMANTICS READING: Simons, Tonhauser, Beaver and Roberts (2010). "<a href="#">What projects and why</a>". <i>Proceedings of SALT 20</i>: 309-327.</b></p>
Week 5B 10/7	<p><b>FORMAL SEMANTICS READING: Féry and Krifka (2008).</b>  <b>"<a href="#">Information structure</a>" <i>Unity and Diversity of Languages</i>, ed. P. Van Sterkenburg. John Benjamins, 123-136.</b></p>
Week 6A 10/12	<p><b>COGNITIVE LINGUISTICS READING: Birner, Kaplan and Ward (2007). "Functional compositionality and the interaction of discourse constraints." <i>Language</i> 83. 317-343.</b></p>
Week 6B 10/14	5.3 5.4
Week7A 10/19	5.6 <b>CHAPTER 6: QUANTIFIERS: THEIR SEMANTIC TYPE: 6.1-6.4</b>

Week 7B 10/21	<b>6.5-6.6 6.7</b>
Week 8A 10/26	<b>6.8; CHAPTER 7: QUANTIFICATION AND GRAMMAR: 7.1-7.2 7.3</b>
Week 8B 10/28	<b>7.4 7.5</b>
Week 9A 11/2	<b>CHAPTER 8: SYNTACTIC AND SEMANTIC CONSTRAINTS ON QUANTIFIER MOVEMENT</b>
Week9B 11/4	<b>CHAPTER 9: BOUND AND REFERENTIAL PRONOUNS AND ELLIPSIS</b>
Week 10A 11/9	<b>CHAPTER 10: SYNTACTIC AND SEMANTIC BINDING</b>
Week 10B 11/11	<b>HOLIDAY</b>
Week 11A 11/16	<b>CHAPTER 11: E-TYPE ANAPHORA</b>
Week 11B 11/18	<b>WECOL Conference</b>
Week 12A 11/23	<b>COGNITIVE LINGUISTICS READING: van Hoek (1997). <i>Anaphora and Conceptual Structure</i>. Chapter 1: "Introduction". Chapter 2: "Theoretical foundations". Chapter 6: "Bound Anaphora".</b>
Week 12B 11/25	<b>COGNITIVE LINGUISTICS READING: Fauconnier (1997). <i>Mappings in Thought and Language</i>. Chapter 1: "Mappings". Chapter 2: "Mental-Space Connections".</b>
Week 13A 11/30	<b>CHAPTER 12: FIRST STEPS: TOWARDS AN INTENSIONAL SEMANTICS</b>
Week 13B 12/2	<b>Discussion of Student Research Papers  Conclusions</b>