

**Meaning and Use/Intro to Formal Pragmatics**  
LIN 4930-4237& LIN6932-073D  
Spring 2012

Instructor: Galia Hatav  
Time: MWF 7<sup>th</sup> period (1:55-2:45)  
Place: AND 32  
Office: 4129 Turlington Hall  
Tel: 294-7452  
**E-mail:** [ghatav@ufl.edu](mailto:ghatav@ufl.edu)  
Office hours: MWF 8<sup>th</sup> period (3:00-3:50), or by appointment  
Course website on E-Learning in Sakai: <http://lss.at.ufl.edu/>

**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)**

- Green, Georgia. 1989/96. *Pragmatics and Natural Language Understanding*. Second edition. 1996. Mahwah, New Jersey: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates. (Available at the Reitz Union bookstore, Tel. 392-0194)
- Course reading packet (Available in Gator Textbooks, 3501 SW 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Tel 374-4500)  
The articles included are listed below.

**REQUIREMENTS**

*Undergrads:*

• **Reaction papers:** (20%)

A total of TEN reaction papers must be submitted. Together they will constitute 20% of the final grade (2% each).

A 'reaction paper' on each reading assignment is due in class on Wednesday of its respective week; **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) and printed out neatly. They will not be assigned a letter grade, but only a pass/fail check.

• **Observations:** (4%)

Two short (1/2-1 page each, typed) descriptions of observations from real life language use, applying the linguistic tools learned in class.

Observations may be turned in at any time, although they must all be turned in by 4/25. I recommend turning one in as we finish each topic. I would like you to tell the class about your observations, and I'll ask a volunteer at the beginning of most class meetings.

• **Exams:** Two exams 20% x 2 = 40%

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.

• **Term Paper:** 36%

A term paper is a conference-style paper, to be presented in class on Monday, Wednesday or Friday of weeks 11-16. Please sign up for presentation during the week after the first test. The paper (10+ pages) and oral presentation (10-15 minutes + questions) will constitute 36% of your grade. All papers are due by 1:55 PM on Monday, April 23, but you are encouraged to submit your paper not later than a week after your presentation.

• **Class participation:**

Since the format of this class is lecture, class work and discussion, 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 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.

*Graduate:*

- **Reaction papers (24%)**

A total of TWELVE reaction papers must be submitted. Together they will constitute 24% of the final grade (2% each).

Ten of the papers are the same ones assigned to undergrads (and due the same time); the other two are of your choice (submitted any time during the semester but not later than April 25).

- **Observations:** (4%)
- **Exams:** Two exams 20% x 2 = 40%
- **Term Paper:** 32%
- **Class participation:**

Since the format of this class is lecture, class work and discussion, 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 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, 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-
91 or above	87-90.9	84-86.9	80-83.9	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: Jan 9, 11 and 13: Introduction (M); Indexicals and Anaphora I (W,F)**

READ: Green, Chapter 1, pp.1-14; Chapter 2, pp.17-35.

**RP1 is due**

**Week 2: Jan 18 and 20: Indexicals and Anaphora II.**

**Note: Jan 16 is MLK Day - no classes**

READ: Fillmore 1971a

**RP2 is due**

**Week 3: Jan 23, 25 and 27: Reference I**

READ: Green, Chapter 3, pp.37-61.

**RP3 is due**

**Week 4: Jan 30, Feb 1 and 3: The Definite and the Indefinite articles**

**No RP is due**

**Week 5: Feb 6, 8 and 10: Speech Acts I**

READ: Green, Chapter 4.1, pp.65-72 and Searle 1965

**RP4 is due on BOTH reading items – make sure you incorporate insights from both.**

**Week 6: Feb 13, 15, and 17: Speech Acts II**

READ: Searle 1975

**RP5 is due**

**Week 7: Feb 20, 22 and 24: Speech Acts III (M); Review (W)**

**Test #1 (F)**

**Week 8: Feb 27 and 29, March 2: Presupposition I**

READ: Green, Chapter 4.2, pp.72-86

**RP6 is due**

**Week 9, March 5, 7 and 9: Spring Break – No classes**

**Week 10: March 12, 14 and 16: Presupposition II**

READ: Kiparsky & Kiparsky 1971

**RP7 is due**

**Week 11: March 19, 21 and 23: Presupposition III; Student Presentation**

READ: Keenan 1971

**RP8 is due**

**Week 12: March 26, 28 and 30: Implicature I; Student Presentation**

READ: Green, Chapter 5, pp.89-129; Grice 1975

**RP9 is due on BOTH reading items – make sure you incorporate insights from both.**

**Week 13: April 2 and 4: Implicature II; Student Presentation**

**Note: April 6 is Passover eve – class is cancelled**

**No RP is due**

**Week 14: April 9, 11 and 13: Implicature III; Student Presentation**

**No RP is due**

**Week 15: April 16, 18 and 20: Coherence; Student Presentation**

READ: Reinhart (1980)

**RP10 is due**

**Week 16, April 23 and 25: Review/Student Presentation (M)**

**Test #2 (W)**

**Term papers are due (M).**

**Disclaimer:** The above course information is tentative. The instructor reserves the right to make corrections, additions and/or deletions as the semester progresses. Syllabus correction 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. Jakobovits (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 Losonsky, 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.