

Semantic Theory (A and B)

Tuesdays; online due to SARS-CoV-2

Instructors:

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Goals of the course: The meanings conveyed by natural language utterances are subtle and complex, arising as a function of the conventional content of the expressions uttered and of various contextual factors. Semantics is the study of the conventional system itself, while pragmatics studies how context plays a role in conveying meaning. This course is an introduction to the study of meaning, i.e., semantics and pragmatics.

Readings: The required reading for the course is Coppock & Champollion's *Invitation to Formal Semantics* (please use the version uploaded to ILIAS) and **WHAT FOR TENSE AND ASPECT?**.

Course schedule:

Date	Reading
21.04.20	Course overview, syllabus
28.04.20	
05.05.20	
12.05.20	
19.05.20	
26.05.20	
02.06.20	<i>No class, Pfingstferien</i>
09.06.20	
16.06.20	
23.06.20	
30.06.20	
07.07.20	
14.07.20	
WHEN IS THE ONLINE EXAM?	

How we will interact in this online version of the course:

1. Weekly readings screencast: These screencast will point out important or difficult concepts in the readings and relate the readings to the weekly exercise. The screencasts are uploaded to ILIAS on the Thursday before the reading due date (see course schedule).
2. Weekly online quiz (on ILIAS): These quizzes allow you to assess your understanding of the reading. The quizzes are optional and not graded, though we will set them up in such a way that you can see whether your answers are correct. We strongly recommend that you take these quizzes so that you can get used to taking exams on ILIAS. A subset of the quiz questions will be on the final exam. For each quiz, we will post model

answers. The quiz will be available from 10am to 6pm on the chapter due date; if the Thursday is a holiday, they will be available at the same time on the immediately following Friday.

3. ILIAS fora: There is a forum on ILIAS for each of the chapters of the book that we will cover. If you have a question about the reading, please post it there. Any of you can answer these questions; I will answer them if nobody else has provided an answer, or if I feel the need to chime in.
4. Office hours: Come to my office hours to introduce yourself and ask questions about the course materials!
5. The ILIAS course is set up in such a way that you can see who is enrolled, so that you can form study groups.

Assessment:

Your grade for the course is determined by the online final exam, which will take place **WHEN**. The final is cumulative, open book and open notes. The term 'open book' means that you can bring the assigned readings; the term 'open notes' means that you can bring your notes.

The final exam will be graded on the following scale:

100-95,5 points: 1,0	87-83,5 points: 2,0	75-71,5 points: 3,0	63-60 points: 4,0
95-91,5 points: 1,3	83-79,5 points: 2,3	71-67,5 points: 3,3	59-0 points: 5,0
91-87,5 points: 1,7	79-75,5 points: 2,7	67-63,5 points: 3,7	

Academic misconduct:

I expect all the work you do in this course to be your own, unless collaboration is explicitly requested for a particular task. Academic dishonesty will not be allowed under any circumstances. Any case of cheating or plagiarism will be handled according to academic policy.

Accommodations:

The University of Stuttgart strives to make all learning experiences accessible for students with disabilities or chronic illnesses. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability or chronic illness, please let me know as soon as possible so that we can privately discuss options. For accommodations concerning exams please contact the chair of the Prüfungsausschuss (<https://www.student.uni-stuttgart.de/beratung/pruefungsausschuss/>). Further information about accommodations and contact information for advisory services can be found here: <https://www.student.uni-stuttgart.de/en/counseling/disability/>.