INSTRUCTOR	Dr. Prerna Nadathur (prerna.nadathur@phil.hhu.de)
OFFICE	24.53.00.87
CLASS SCHEDULE	Tuesday 8.30-10.00
CLASS LOCATION	24.21.U1.21 (Z50)
COURSE WEBSITE	`pnadathur.github.io/lexsem-2019.html` All course materials will be posted on the website.

DESCRIPTION

Lexical semantics involves the linguistic study of meaning at the word level and below, focusing on what words mean, how these meanings can be analyzed and broken down into basic concepts, and how the meanings of individual words or word classes affect inference and interpretation at the phrasal or sentential level. This course examines a number of questions in these areas, including: how are the meanings of words determined from their internal morphological structure? What rules govern systematic correspondences between word classes? How does the meaning of a word govern its syntactic properties and its interaction with other elements of the compositional system? What kinds of information can be lexically encoded? How can we use empirical evidence from use and interpretation to access and establish the internal structure of words? Topics include the lexicon and lexical decomposition, lexical aspect and its connections to the mass/count distinction in nouns, and the inferential properties of words (factivity, implicativity, scalar inferences). This course is intended for students who have some background in semantics and pragmatics.

POLICIES

(i) **Readings.** Readings should be completed before the class for which they are assigned. All readings can be downloaded from the course webpage. To access the reading list, you will need the course password: `aktionsart`.

(ii) **Assignments.** Assignments will be given every 2-3 weeks. They will be made available on Tuesdays on the course webpage, and are due by 2pm on the following Tuesday. They can be submitted in class, by email, or dropped off in the 'Lexical Semantics' tray in 24.53.00.86.

(iii) **Participation.** To receive credit points (Kreditpunkten, Beteiligungsnachweis) for participation, you must complete all of the assignments.

(iv) **Final exam/Abschlussprüfung.** In order to qualify for the AP, you must take and pass a final exam. You can apply for the AP using the appropriate forms for your course of study, available in the linguistics department office (24.53.00.86). The final exam for this class will be a take-home paper, consisting of several short answer or essay questions (similar to the assignments).

(v) **Language.** Lectures and assignments will be given in English. You are strongly encouraged to complete the assignments in English: assignments completed in English will be graded solely for content, and will NOT be penalised for grammatical mistakes. If you would prefer to complete assignments in German, please let me know in advance so that I can make arrangements for grading. If you intend to apply for the AP and wish to take the final exam in German, please let me know by 17 December.

(vi) **Academic integrity.** Academic dishonesty and plagiarism are strictly prohibited. You are welcome to use the library, textbooks, journal articles, and other resources in completing the assignments, but you *must* cite any sources that you use. Quoted material in particular must be attributed, including page numbers where possible. You are also welcome to work with other students to solve the problems, but you must write up your solutions independently, in your own words. You may NOT work with other students on the final exam.

(vii) **Electronic devices.** As a courtesy to other students, please do not use cell phones during class. You may use a laptop to take notes.

COURSE PLAN (subject to revision)

Readings should be completed prior to the class for which they are assigned.

1. Introduction and course overview   08.10.2019

2. Sense relations, polysemy   15.10.2019
   Reading: Cruse 1995; Dölling (to appear)

3. Lexical encoding, types of lexical information   22.10.2019
   Reading: Fillmore 1969, 1971; McCawley 1979   *Assignment 1 due*

4. Lexical information across categories, grammatical regularities   29.10.2019
   Reading: Clark & Clark 1979; Kiparsky 1997

5. Nouns: sense/reference, kinds, the mass/count distinction   05.11.2019
   Reading: Carlson 1977; Wierzbicka 1988; Chierchia 2010   *Assignment 2 due*

6. Adjectives: concepts, antonymy, vagueness   12.11.2019
   Reading: Dixon 1982; Hale 1971

7. Adjectives: gradability, scales, pragmatic enrichment   19.11.2019
   Reading: Sapir 1944; Kennedy & McNally 1999; Horn 1984   *Assignment 3 due*

8. Lexical meaning and grammatical structure: thematic roles and argument selection 26.11.2019
   Reading: Dowty 1979; Davis 2011; Levin & Rappaport Hovav 2005 (excerpts)

9. Argument structure and alternations   03.12.2019
   Reading: Fillmore 1970; Dowty 1991; Rappaport Hovav & Levin 2012   *Assignment 4 due*

10. Lexical and analytical causatives   10.12.2019
    Reading: Fodor 1970; McCawley 1978; Wierzbicka 1998

11. Manner/result duality   17.12.2019
    Reading: Slobin 1996; Rappaport Hovav & Levin 2010

12. Aspectual classes and temporal properties   07.01.2020
    Reading: Vendler 1957, Dowty 1977, Mittwoch 2019   *Assignment 5 due*

13. Compositional theories of lexical aspect   14.01.2020
    Reading: Bach 1986; Krifka 1989; Rappaport Hovav 2008

14. Inferential properties of words (factives, implicatives, aspectual verbs)   21.01.2020
    Reading: Kiparsky & Kiparsky 1970; Karttunen 1971

15. Review class   28.01.2020

REFERENCES

[1] Bach, E. 1986. The algebra of events. *Linguistics and Philosophy* 9, 5–16.

[2] Barker, C. 2006. Lexical semantics. *Encyclopedia of Cognitive Science,* 1–7.

[3] Beavers, J. 2010. The structure of lexical meaning: why semantics really matters. *Language* 86, 821–864.

[4] Carlson, G. 1977. Natural kinds and common nouns. In A. von Stechow and D. Wunderlich (eds.), *Semantik: Ein internationales Handbuch der zeitgenössischen Forschung.* Berlin: de Gruyter.

[5] Chierchia, G. 2010. Mass nouns, vagueness, and semantic variation. *Synthese* 174, 99–149.

[6] Clark, E. & H. Clark. 1979. When nouns surface as verbs. *Language* 5, 767–811.

[7] Cruse, D. 1995. Polysemy and related phenomena from a cognitive linguistic view- point. In P. Saint-Dizier and E. Viegas, eds., *Computational lexical semantics,* 33–49. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

[8] Davis, A.R. 2011. Thematic roles. In C. Maienborn, K. von Heusinger, and P. Portner, eds., *Semantics: An International Handbook of Natural Language Meaning,* 399–420. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.

[9] Dixon, W. 1982. *Where Have All the Adjectives Gone? and Other Essays in Semantics and Syntax.* Berlin: Mouton.

[10] Dölling, J. To appear. Systematic Polysemy. In L. Matthewson, C. Meier, H. Rullmann, and T. E. Zimmermann, eds., *The Blackwell Companion to Semantics.*

[11] Dowty, D. 1977. Toward a semantic analysis of verb aspect and the English 'imperfective' progressive. *Linguistics and Philosophy* 1, 45–77.

[12] Dowty, D. 1979. *Word Meaning and Montague Grammar.* Sectins 2.1–2.4, 3.8. Dordrecht: Reidel.

[13] Dowty, D. 1991. Thematic proto-roles and argument selection. *Language* 67, 547–619.

[14] Fillmore, C. 1969. Types of lexical information. In F. Kiefer, ed., *Studies in Syntax and Semantics*, Foundations of Language, vol. 10. Dordrecht: Springer.

[15] Fillmore, C. 1970. The grammar of hitting and breaking. In R. Jacobs and P. Rosenbaum, eds., *Readings in English Transformational Grammar,* 120–133. Waltham: Ginn.

[16] Fillmore, C. 1971. Verbs of Judging: An Exercise in Semantic Description. In C. Fillmore and T. Langendoen, eds., *Studies in Linguistic Semantics,* 272–289. New York: Holt, Reinhart and Winston, Inc.

[17] Fodor, J. 1970. Three reasons for not deriving "kill" from "cause to die." *Linguistic Inquiry* 1, 429–438.

[18] Frege, G. 1948. (1892). Sense and reference. *The Philosophical Review* 57, 207–230.

[19] Hale, K. 1971. A note on a Warlbiri tradition of antonymy. In D. Steinberg and L. Jakobovits (eds.), *Semantics.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

[20] Horn, L. 1984. Toward a new taxonomy for pragmatic inference: Q-based and R-based implicature. In D. Schiffrin, ed., *Meaning, Form, and Use in Context: Linguistic Applications,* 11–42. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press.

[21] Karttunen, L. 1971a. The Logic of English Predicate Complement Constructions. Publications of the Indiana University Linguistics Club, Bloomington.

[22] Karttunen, L. 1971b. Implicative verbs. *Language* 47, 340–358.

[23] Kennedy, C. & L. McNally. 1999. Deriving the scalar structure of deverbal adjectives. *Catalan Working Papers in Linguistics* 7, 125–139.

[24] Kiparsky, P. 1997. Remarks on Denominal Verbs. In A. Alsina, J. Bresnan and P. Sells, eds., *Complex Predicates,* 473-499. Stanford: CSLI Publications.

[25] Kiparsky, P. & C. Kiparsky. 1970. Fact. In D.D. Steinberg and L.A. Jakobovits, eds., Semantics: *An Interdisciplinary Reader in Philosophy, Linguistics and Psychology,* 345–369. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

[26] Krifka, M. 1989. Nominal reference, temporal constitution, and quantification in event semantics. In R. Bartsch, J. van Benthem, and P. van Emde Boas (eds.), *Semantics and Contextual Expression,* 75–115. Dordrecht: Foris.

[27] Levin, B. 1993. *English Verb Classes and Alternations.* Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

[28] Levin, B. & M. Rappaport Hovav. 2005. *Argument Realization.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

[29] McCawley, J. 1978. Conversational implicature and the lexicon. In P. Cole (ed.), *Syntax and Semantics 9: Pragmatics*, 245–258. New York: Routledge.

[30] McCawley, J. 1979. Verbs of Bitching. In J. McCawley, *Adverbs, Vowels, and Other Objects of Wonder,* 135–150. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

[31] Mittwoch, A. 2019. Aspectual classes. In R. Truswell (ed.), *The Oxford Handbook of Event Structure.* Oxford: Blackwell.

[32] Rappaport Hovav, M. 2008. Lexicalized meaning and the internal temporal structure of events. In S. Rothstein (ed.), *Crosslinguistic and Theoretical Approaches to the Semantics of Aspect,* 13–42. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

[33] Rappaport Hovav, M. & B. Levin. 2010. Reflections on manner/result complementarity. In M. Rappaport Hovav, E. Doron, and I. Sichel (eds.), *Syntax, Lexical Semantics, and Event Structure,* 21–38. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

[34] Rappaport Hovav, M. & B. Levin. 2012. Lexicon uniformity and the causative alternation. In M. Everaert, M. Marelj, and T. Siloni (eds.), *The Theta System: Argument Structure at the Interface,* 150–176. Oxford:Oxford University Press.

[35] Sapir, E. 1944. Grading, a study in semantics. *Philosophy of Science* 11, 93–116.

[36] Slobin, D. 1996. Two Ways to Travel: Verbs of Motion in English and Spanish. In M. Shibatani and S.A. Thompson, eds., *Grammatical Constructions: Their Form and Meaning,* 195–219. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

[37] Van Valid, R.D. 2006. Some universals of verb semantics. In R. Mairal and J. Gil, (eds.), *Linguistic Universals* 155–178. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

[38] Vendler, Z. 1957. Verbs and times. *The Philosophical Review* 66, 143–160.

[39] Wierzbicka, A. 1988a. Oats and Wheat: The Fallacy of Arbitrariness, in A. Wierzbicka, *The Semantics of Grammar*, 499–560. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

[40] Wierzbicka, A. 1988b. What's in a noun? Chapter 9 of *The Semantics of Grammar.* Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

[41] Wierzbicka, A. 1998. The semantics of English causative constructions in a universal? typological perspective. In M. Tomasello, ed., *The New Psychology of Language: Cognitive and Functional Approaches to Language Structure,* 113–153, Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum.

[42] Wisniewski, E.J. 2010. On Using Count Nouns, Mass Nouns, and Pluralia Tantum: What Counts, in F.J. Pelletier, (ed.), *Kinds, Things and Stuff*, 166–190. Oxford: Oxford University Press, Oxford.

[43] Zwicky, A.M. 1997. Count versus Mass in English: How to Talk about Plants, unpublished ms., Stanford University and Ohio State University.