Name of the course: Conversational Dynamics
Lecturer name: Lavi Wolf
Course number: 
Office hours: by appointment

Short course description (5-10 lines) with key words at the end of the paragraph

Conversation is a dynamic process in which information is exchanged. Conversational participants alternate between the roles of speaker and addressee, both conveying information and interpreting it. The course is concerned with the mechanisms underlying the conversational process and the role of semantic and pragmatic features in this process. We will explore various aspects of conversational dynamics, e.g. the 'conversational scoreboard', the context update process, the representation of items under discussion, the inquisitive nature of conversation and the linguistic techniques by which speakers influence hearers' beliefs.

Key words:
Conversation, dynamics, semantics, pragmatics

Course requirements:
Attendance required yes
1. Quizzes 20%
2. Home assignments 25%
3. Final test 55%

Topics:
A. The conversational scoreboard
B. The context update process
C. Questions (and other items) Under Discussion
D. Conversational inquisitiveness
E. Utterance force modifiers
F. Truth conditional and use-conditional conversation effects
Reading material


