Semantics A

Lecturer name: Ariel Cohen

Course number: 132.1.2751

Office hours: TBA

Short course description (5-10 lines) with key words at the end of the paragraph
An age-old definition of linguistics is the investigation of the relation between sound and meaning. How is it that mere air vibrations or squiggles on a page can convey ideas, thoughts, beliefs, feelings? In this class we will consider this question. We will investigate what meanings are, which factors affect the meaning of an utterance, and consider the meanings of a variety of linguistic constructions.

Course requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Assignments</td>
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<td>2. Midterm</td>
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<td>3. Final exam</td>
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Prerequisites: Introduction to Semantics


Topics to be covered:
1. Predicate logic: syntax, semantics (model theory), scope ambiguities (chapter 5)
2. Modal and temporal logic (chapter 7)
3. Intensions and extensions (8.1-8.2)
4. Definite descriptions (9.2)
5. Types and lambda calculus (9.4)
6. More as time permits…