



אוניברסיטת בן-גוריון בנגב
הפקולטה למדעי הרוח והחברה

המחלקה לספרויות זרות ובלשנות, תש"פ 2019-20

Name of the course: Introduction to Semantics

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

An old description 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 begin a consideration of this question. We will investigate what meanings are, which factors affect the meaning of an utterance, and consider the meanings of some simple linguistic constructions. The course topics include Semantics as the study of meaning, semantic inference – entailments and presuppositions, set theory, logical inference – deductive reasoning, propositional calculus, pragmatic inference – conversational implicature.

Key words:

Course requirements:

Attendance required	yes
1. Home assignments	30 %
2. Final exam	70 %

Course topics:

- Semantics as the study of meaning
- entailments – Semantic inference
- presuppositions – pragmatic inference – Semantic
- Set theory
- deductive reasoning – Logical inference
- Propositional calculus
- conversational implicature – Pragmatic inference

Textbook

J. Allwood, L. Andersson, and O. Dahl (1977), Logic in Linguistics, Cambridge University Press