

**\*\* NOTE: This is a preliminary course outline intended to give an overview of the likely course content and requirements. Actual content and requirements may change. The final course outline will be made available on the first day of class. \*\***

## **LING 319: Introduction to Semantics**

Days and Time: MWF 11:00-11:50 (10.01.2011 – 15.04.2011)

Room: ST126

Instructor: Dr. Karsten Koch  
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Telephone: 403-220-6119  
E-mail: kochk@ucalgary.ca  
Office Hours: TBA

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Office: SS815  
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*or by appointment*

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Introduction to the study of conventional meaning. Topics may include: word meaning, propositional and predicate logic, properties of quantifiers, the interpretation of tense/aspect/modality, event semantics, and pragmatics. This course may not be repeated for credit. *Prerequisite:* Linguistics 201.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Your final grade will be based on:

Quizzes:	4 @ 6% each	24 %
Assignments:	2 @ 13% each	26 %
Midterm exam:		20 %
Final exam:		30 %
Total:		100 %

The final examination will take place on a date to be set by the University. Students may bring one, one-sided 8.5x11" page of notes with them to the final and midterm exams. Other aids (textbook, electronic devices, etc.) are not permitted.

### **GRADING SCHEDULE**

The following grading system will be used:

A+ = 97-100 %	B+ = 83-87%	C+ = 68-72%	D+ = 53-57%
A = 93-96 %	B = 78-82%	C = 63-67%	D = 50-52%
A- = 88-92 %	B- = 73-77%	C- = 58-62%	F = 0-49%

(See the University Calendar for broader interpretation of the letter grades.)

### **ABSENCE AND LATE WORK**

1. Quizzes are written at the start of class. Writing the quiz at a later date is not possible (don't be late!).
2. There will be no make-up midterm exam. Students who miss the midterm may, under exceptional circumstances (see calendar), have the weighting normally assigned to the midterm exam transferred to the final

exam. Students who miss the final exam will only be able to make up the exam in exceptional circumstances (see calendar). Valid excuses for test absence are birth, death, marriage, and serious illness or injury on the day of the exam.

3. Unless otherwise indicated, all assignments are handed in at the beginning of the class period for which they are due.

4. Late assignments are not accepted.

5. Assignments may be printed/written on used paper; simply put a large "X" through the used side. Double-sided printing is also fine.

6. Disputes about grades are handled by the instructor. Any student wishing to dispute a grade must submit a written request.

7. Use of laptop computers or cellular phones by students during lectures is not permitted.

See the University of Calendar Calgary for further full details on general course policies:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html>

## COURSE SCHEDULE

[actual timing of topics and content may vary due to time constraints]

	Topic	Reading	Additional notes
PART 1: WHAT IS MEANING?			
Week 1 January 10-14	Introduction: Semantics and Pragmatics	Chapter 1	
Week 2: January 17-21	Sense and reference, Lexical semantics, Compositionality		
Friday, January 21	Last day to drop Winter Term half courses. No refunds for Winter Term half courses after this date.		
Monday, January 24	Last day to add or swap Winter Term half courses. Last day for change of registration from audit to credit or credit to audit.		
PART 2: FIRST ORDER LOGIC			
Week 3: January 24-28	Proposition, truth, entailment	Chapter 2	Jan. 26: Quiz #1 (6%)
Week 4: Jan. 31-Feb. 4	Logical connectives, propositional logic		
Week 5: February 7-11	Predicates and arguments		Feb. 7: Assignment #1 due (13%)
Week 6: Feb. 14-18	Quantifiers, negation, and scopal ambiguity		Feb. 16: Quiz #2 (6%)
Feb. 20-27	Reading Week	No lectures	
PART 3: NATURAL LANGUAGE QUANTIFIERS			
Week 7: Feb. 28-Mar. 4	Multiple quantifiers and scope, Generalized quantifiers	Chapter 4	

<b>Week 8:</b> <b>March 7-11</b>	<i>There-constructions, negative polarity items</i>		<i>Mar. 7:</i> <i>Midterm exam (20%)</i>
PART 4: TENSE, ASPECT, AND MODALITY			
<b>Week 9:</b> <b>March 14-18</b>	<i>Modality, possible worlds, counterfactuals, evidentials</i>	<i>Chapter 3</i>	
<b>Week 10:</b> <b>March 21-25</b>	<i>Tense and aspect</i>	<i>Chapter 7</i>	<i>Mar. 23: Quiz #3 (6%)</i>
PART 5: EVENTS			
<b>Week 11:</b> <b>Mar. 28-Apr. 1</b>	<i>Events, thematic roles, and tense</i>	<i>Chapter 8</i>	<i>Mar. 28:</i> <i>Assignment #2 due (13%)</i>
<b>Week 12:</b> <b>April 4-8</b>	<i>Aspectual classes of events</i>	<i>Chapter 9</i>	<i>Apr. 6: Quiz #4 (6%)</i>
PART 6: PRAGMATICS			
<b>Week 13:</b> <b>April 11-13</b> <b>Friday, April 15</b>	<i>Implicature, Grice's maxims, presupposition, scales</i>	<i>Chapter 11</i>	
Last day to withdraw with permission from full courses or Winter Term half courses (except Weekend University).			
<b>TBA</b>	<b>Final Exam (30%)</b>		<b>Final Exam (30%)</b>

**REQUIRED TEXT(S)**

*Semantics (Modern Linguistics)*. 2005. Kate Kearns. Palgrave MacMillan.

**RECOMMENDED TEXT(S)****ADDITIONAL READING**

TBA

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

<http://www.ethnologue.com/>

[languages of the world]

<http://phonetics.ucla.edu/>

[UCLA phonetics lab data – sounds of the world's languages by Peter and Jenny Ladefoged]

<http://www.firstvoices.com/>

[indigenous languages of Canada]

[www.unesco.org/culture/en/endangeredlanguages](http://www.unesco.org/culture/en/endangeredlanguages)

[status of the world's languages]

## GENERAL COURSE/UNIVERSITY INFORMATION FOR ALL STUDENTS

### LINGUISTICS STUDENT ADVISING

For any questions regarding the linguistics major or minor, the organization of your program, or the selection of courses, you can see the linguistics **under/graduate advisor/coordinator**:

Dr. Robert Murray	SS 824	403-220-8109	<a href="mailto:ling_undergrad@ucalgary.ca">ling_undergrad@ucalgary.ca</a>
Dr. Steve Winters	SS 814	403-220-7230	<a href="mailto:ling_undergrad@ucalgary.ca">ling_undergrad@ucalgary.ca</a>
Dr. Suzanne Curtin	SS 842	403-220-3927	<a href="mailto:linggrad@ucalgary.ca">linggrad@ucalgary.ca</a>

### FACULTY of ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING and STUDENT INFORMATION

For questions about interdisciplinary programs, to see an Associate Dean, to inquire about COOP, or for general information, please visit the new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre located in Social Science, Room 110. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>.

For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit us at the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor of MacEwan Student Centre.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit us in the MacKimmie Library Block.

### ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY ACT (FOIP)

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act was enacted by the Alberta Legislature on June 1, 1994. The Act is intended first of all to allow any person the right of access to the records in the custody and under the control of a public body although this right is subject to limited and specific exceptions. The Act also includes a strong right to privacy component, allowing individuals to control the manner in which a public body collects personal information, to control the use that a public body may make of the information, and to control the disclosure of that information by a public body. It also allows individuals the right of access to personal information about themselves held by a public body and the right to request corrections to that information.

For more information on FOIP, please visit: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>  
Or contact Jo-Anne Munn Gafuik at (403) 220-3602 or by email: [munngafu@ucalgary.ca](mailto:munngafu@ucalgary.ca)

### PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:

1. the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),
2. parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
3. the whole work (e.g. an essay) is copied from another source, and/or

4. a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Students are encouraged to work together in preparing homework assignments. However, unless noted otherwise in writing, students must write up their own answers for submission of the assignment. Failure to do so constitutes plagiarism.

Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. Possible penalties for plagiarism include; failing the assignment, failing the course, disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of plagiarism is also guilty of academic misconduct.

For more information on academic misconduct and related UofC regulations please consult the Student Misconduct web pages in the on-line University Calendar. These can be found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

### **EMERGENCY EVACUATION / ASSEMBLY POINTS**

The University of Calgary is committed to creating a safe and healthy living and learning environment. The health and safety of our employees, students and the general public are the highest priority of the University of Calgary's Emergency Management Program. During times of emergency, Assembly Points have been identified across campus. These areas have been selected as they are large enough to hold a significant number of people and will provide an evacuated population access to washroom facilities and protection from the elements.

Assembly points are also designed to establish a location for information updates:

- from the emergency responders to the evacuees; and
- from the evacuated population to the emergency responders.

**Please familiarize yourself with the Emergency Assembly Points listed here:**

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

**And the Emergency Instructions listed here:** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/node/28>

### **SAFE WALK INFORMATION**

Twenty four hours a day and seven days a week Safewalk volunteers walk people safely to their destination on campus. This service is free and available to students, staff and campus visitors.

**Requesting Safewalk volunteers to walk with you is easy!**

- Call 403-220-5333 (24 hours a day/seven days a week, 365 days a year)
- Use the Help Phones (they are not just for emergencies)
- Approach an on-duty Safewalker and request a walk

**For more information** call the Safewalk office at 403-220-4750 or email [safewalk@ucalgary.ca](mailto:safewalk@ucalgary.ca).

### **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION**

The Students' Union in partnership with the University of Calgary and the Graduate Students' Association (GSA) offers students a key advocacy resource to assist in addressing concerns and issues they encounter at the university with the Office of the Student Ombuds.

Students in undergraduate programs, please contact the Student's Union:

<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/home/contact.html>

Students in graduate programs, please contact the GSA: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>

Student Ombudsman: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>