

LING 216: PRAGMATICS II

Syllabus SoSe2021

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In daily conversations, speakers understand the meaning of utterances beyond what is literally said. This course examines several aspects of non-literal and/or non-at-issue meaning and different processes leading to meaning enrichment, including: presupposed content; expressive meaning; the distinction between definite and indefinite noun phrases in entity-tracking in discourse; commitment spaces in a dynamic discourse model; speaker bias and other constraints in questions. By covering these phenomena, the students will gain insights in experimental pragmatics and acquire analytical tools.

MEETINGS: **Lecture:** synchronous on Mondays at 10-11:30h
 Tutorium: synchronous on Wednesdays at 15:15h-16h, both at
<https://zoom.us/j/92887069494?pwd=MIY4SWtPbkRtT3FKR1dBeGljWW1zUT09>

INSTRUCTOR: Prof. Maribel Romero (short for María Isabel Romero Sangüesa)
maribel.romero@uni-konstanz.de
Office hours: Wednesdays 9-10h (you have to book a slot in advance via my secretary angelika.albrecht@uni-konstanz.de)

TUTOR: David Krassnig, david.krassnig@uni-konstanz.de
Office hours: Wednesdays 16-17h

PREREQUISITES: Ling116 is highly recommended. (If you have not taken Ling116, please talk to the instructor.)

READINGS:

Core readings: Birner, B. 2013. *Introduction to Pragmatics*. Oxford, Malden: Wiley-Blackwell.
 Kadmon, Nirit. 2001. *Formal Pragmatics*. Blackwell.
 Potts, Chris. 2005. *The logic of conventional implicatures*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Topic-specific readings: See course outline on next page and articles in Ilias.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADE

Weekly exercises to practice	0%
Mid-term exam: Take Home I (potentially in groups)	30%
Class presentation / Referat (potentially in groups)	30%
Final exam: Take Home II (individually!!!)	40%

IMPORTANT CAVEAT: You need to pass the final exam / Take Home II by itself –i.e., independently of Take Home I and your presentation– to pass the course.

NOTE: Instead of the final exam, you can also write a term paper (Hausarbeit) in preparation for your BA thesis. Same caveat from above applies.

Outline of the course

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
April 12	Overview of the course Distinguishing layers of meaning (review)	Birner (2013)
April 19	Conventional Implicatures I	Potts 2005: Chapter 2
April 26	Conventional Implicatures II	Potts 2005: Chapter 3
May 3	Conventional Implicatures III: Discourse particles and alike: <i>totally, even</i>	Beltrama 2018; Iatridou & Tatevosov 2016; Ippolito & Farkas 2019
May 10	Discourse Representation I: DRT (Krassnig)	Kadmon 2001: Chapter 2
May 17	Discourse Representation II: DRT (cont'd) Take Home I (mid-term)	Kadmon 2001: Chapter 2
May 24	PFINGSTMONTAG	
May 31	LECTURE FREE PERIOD	
June 7	Discourse Representation III: Centering	Grosz, Weinstein & Joshi 1995
June 14	CONSOLIDATION WEEK The Pragmatics of Questions I: Commitments in Polar Declarative and Tag questions	Farkas & Bruce 2010, Gunlogson 2002, Malamud & Stephenson 2014
July 21	The Pragmatics of Questions II: Biased questions	Domaneschi, Romero & Braun 2017
June 28	The Pragmatics of Questions III: Discourse structure and <i>or-not</i> -questions Take Home II (final)	Büring 2003, Beltrama, Meertens & Romero 2018
July 5	OUR CONSOLIDATION WEEK	
July 12	In-class student presentations	
July 19	In-class student presentations	