



Course Specifications

Course Title:	Semantics
Course Code:	3012465-3
Program:	English Language 301200
Department:	English Language
College:	Al Leith University College
Institution:	Umm Al-Qura University

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A. Course Identification

1. Credit hours: 3
2. Course type
a. University <input type="checkbox"/> College <input type="checkbox"/> Department <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/>
b. Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elective <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Level/year at which this course is offered: Sixth Level / Third Year
4. Pre-requisites for this course (if any): Introduction to language 1
5. Co-requisites for this course (if any): None

6. Mode of Instruction (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom	3 hours per week	100%
2	Blended	0	0%
3	E-learning	0	0%
4	Correspondence	0	0%
5	Other	0	0%

7. Actual Learning Hours (based on academic semester)

No	Activity	Learning Hours
Contact Hours		
1	Lecture	(3 hours) x (15 weeks)
2	Laboratory/Studio	0
3	Tutorial	0
4	Others (specify)	(1 office hour) x (15 weeks)
	Total	60 hours
Other Learning Hours*		
1	Study	(1 hour) x (15 weeks)
2	Assignments	(1 hour) x (15 weeks)
3	Library	(1 hour) x (15 weeks)
4	Projects/Research Essays/Theses	0
5	Others (specify)	0
	Total	45 hours

* The length of time that a learner takes to complete learning activities that lead to achievement of course learning outcomes, such as study time, homework assignments, projects, preparing presentations, library times

B. Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

1. Course Description

The course is designed as a one-semester course for 6th- level B.A. students. This means that there will be 15 classes of three hours each. The course is not only meant to be an introduction to the major fields of the discipline, but also to the dominant approaches that shape semantics in its current state of the art. It tries to open the view on linguistic meaning from different perspectives. These include the language-internal level of meaning relations, the cognitive level of meanings as concepts in our minds and the 'objective' level of truth and reference. It also including subjects like non-descriptive meaning and processes of interpretation beyond compositional meaning.

2. Course Main Objective

- Define the technical terms required to describe meaning.
- Identify lexical relations between sentences including paraphrase, entailment, implicature, and presupposition.
- Distinguish between semantics, pragmatics, semiotics and other sub-disciplines within the field of semantics.
- Identify truth tables of synonymy, entailment, contradiction and presupposition.
- Identify sense relations between words including hyponymy, polysemy, synonymy, antonymy, and derivational relations such as causative verbs and agentive nouns.

3. Course Learning Outcomes

CLOs		Aligned PLOs
1	Knowledge:	
1.1	Demonstrate knowledge of lexical relations and derivational relations.	K1
1.2	Employ semantic components and their role in defining lexical relations, binary features and redundancy rules	K2
1.3	Identify the types of Truth-Conditional semantics.	K3
1.4	Understand and recognize semantic relations that hold between sentences especially entailment and presupposition.	K4
2	Skills :	
2.1	- Develop critical thinking skills to analyse and synthesize the different semantic characteristics within one's own language and other languages.	S1
2.2	- Demonstrate the skill of recognition and distinction of the different terms of modern semantics.	S2
2.3	- Develop maturity and self-growth in learning about one's own language and other languages.	S3
2.4	- Solve entailment problems by applying the basic rules of entailment and presupposition.	S4
3	Competence:	
3.1	Assess and examine speech act theory, Gricean theory, and theories of concepts.	C1
3.2	Examine Katz's Semantic Theory highlighting the nature of his theory of decompositional meaning with special emphasis on projection rules	C2

CLOs		Aligned PLOs
	and selectional restrictions.	
3.3	Use tools of logic to represent semantic meaning.	C3
3.4	Demonstrate knowledge of principles of studying meaning in context.	C4

C. Course Content

No	List of Topics	Contact Hours
1	Introduction to semantics, semiotics & pragmatics	6
2	Types of reference & mental representations; necessary & sufficient conditions, prototypes, linguistic relativity	6
3	Lexical relations: polysemy, hyponymy, antonymy, derivations relations, lexical universals.	3
4	Lexical relations & truth; logic, entailment and presupposition	6
5	Sentence relations; situation types, modality and evidentiality	6
6	Thematic roles; classifying participants, voice, classifiers and noun classes.	6
7	Context and inference; deixis, knowledge as context, information structure.	6
8	Functions of language; speech act theory, performatives, sentence types	6
Total		45

D. Teaching and Assessment

1. Alignment of Course Learning Outcomes with Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	Knowledge		
1.1	Demonstrate knowledge of lexical relations and derivational relations.	Lectures/tutorials Individual work Team/peer work	Exams (midterm/final) Homework/written assignments
1.2	Employ semantic components and their role in defining lexical relations, binary features and redundancy rules	Lectures/tutorials Individual work Team/peer work	Exams (midterm/final) Homework/written assignments Oral discussion
1.3	Identify the types of Truth-Conditional semantics.	Lectures/tutorials Individual work Team/peer work	Exams (midterm/final) Homework/written assignments Oral discussion
1.4	Understand and recognize semantic relations that hold between sentences especially entailment and	Lectures/tutorials Individual work Team/peer work	Exams (midterm/final) Homework/written

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
	presupposition.		assignments/quizzes Oral discussion
2.0	Skills		
2.1	- Develop critical thinking skills to analyse and synthesize the different semantic characteristics within one's own language and other languages.	Lectures/tutorials Individual work Team/peer work	Exams (midterm/final) Homework/written assignments Oral discussion
2.2	- Demonstrate the skill of recognition and distinction of the different terms of modern semantics.	Lectures/tutorials Individual work Team/peer work	Exams (midterm/final) Homework/written assignments
2.3	- Develop maturity and self-growth in learning about one's own language and other languages.	Lectures/tutorials Individual work Team/peer work	Exams (midterm/final) Homework/written assignments Oral discussion
2.4	- Solve entailment problems by applying the basic rules of entailment and presupposition.	Lectures/tutorials Individual work Team/peer work	Exams (midterm/final) Homework/written assignments
3.0	Competence		
3.1	Assess and examine speech act theory, Gricean theory, and theories of concepts.	Lectures/tutorials Individual work Team/peer work	Exams (midterm/final) Homework/written assignments Oral discussion
3.2	Examine Katz's Semantic Theory highlighting the nature of his theory of decompositional meaning with special emphasis on projection rules and selectional restrictions.	Lectures/tutorials Individual work Team/peer work	Exams (midterm/final) Homework/written assignments
3.3	Use tools of logic to represent semantic meaning.	Lectures/tutorials Individual work Team/peer work	Exams (midterm/final) Homework/written assignments Oral discussion
3.4	Demonstrate knowledge of principles of studying meaning in context.	Lectures/tutorials Individual work Team/peer work	Class participation and oral discussion

2. Assessment Tasks for Students

#	Assessment task*	Week Due	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1	Written assignments/oral discussion/presentations	Every week	10 %

#	Assessment task*	Week Due	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
2	Midterm exam	6 th / 7 th week	30 %
3	Final exam	End of term	% 60

*Assessment task (i.e., written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.)

E. Student Academic Counseling and Support

Arrangements for availability of faculty and teaching staff for individual student consultations and academic advice :

- Each instructor should provide academic guidance to a specific number of students in the English language department. Faculty members have four office hours per week in which they try to provide students with further clarification related to the delivered lessons, when needed.

F. Learning Resources and Facilities

1. Learning Resources

Required Textbooks	Saeed, John I. (2009). <i>Semantics</i> . Third Edition. London: Wiley-Blackwell.
Essential References Materials	Kreidler, C. (2002). <i>Introducing English semantics</i> . London: Routledge Hurford, J. R., Heasley, B., & Smith, M. B. (2007). <i>Semantics: A coursebook</i> . Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
Electronic Materials	
Other Learning Materials	*****

2. Facilities Required

Item	Resources
Accommodation (Classrooms, laboratories, demonstration rooms/labs, etc.)	- large size classrooms with a capacity of 35 chairs at least
Technology Resources (AV, data show, Smart Board, software, etc.)	- Data show, Smart Board

Item	Resources
Other Resources (Specify, e.g. if specific laboratory equipment is required, list requirements or attach a list)	*****

G. Course Quality Evaluation

Evaluation Areas/Issues	Evaluators	Evaluation Methods
Effectiveness of teaching and assessment	Students	Direct (online questionnaires)
Quality of learning resources	Students Faculty members	Direct (online questionnaires)
Extent of achievement of course learning outcomes	Quality Unit Faculty members Students	Direct (online questionnaires)

Evaluation areas (e.g., Effectiveness of teaching and assessment, Extent of achievement of course learning outcomes, Quality of learning resources, etc.)

Evaluators (Students, Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewer, Others (specify))

Assessment Methods (Direct, Indirect)

H. Specification Approval Data

Council / Committee	The English language department's council
Reference No.	
Date	
Head of department:	Dr. Hadi Hussein Al-Samadani Signature: 