LING3310 - Language and Meaning  
Course Outline

Course Co-ordinator: Dr. Silvia Ratcheva  
Email: Silvia.Ratcheva@newcastle.edu.au  
Consultation hours: Thursday 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm  
Room: MC 136, McMullin Building

Course Overview
Semester: Semester 2 - 2010  
Unit Weighting: 10  
Teaching Methods: Lecture  
Contact Hours: Lecture for 2 hours per week for the full term

Callaghan Campus Timetable
Lecture Tuesday 1.00 pm – 3.00 pm Room SRR205A LING3310 shared with LING6930.

Brief Course Description

This course explores the study of how meaning is expressed through language and how it is understood in different real world situations. Particular attention will be paid to lexical and sentence level semantics, and to how languages encode time and space relationships (including deictic elements which are linked to the non-linguistic context).

Learning Materials/Texts

Useful books have been put on Short Loan in Auchmuty.  
Course materials will be made available through the Blackboard site.

Assumed Knowledge

LING1111 or equivalent

Course Outline Issued and Correct as at: Week 1, Semester 2 - 2010  
CTS Download Date: 14 July 2010
Course Objectives

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- identify different forms of lexical semantic relationships
- discuss in detail the nature of tense, mood and aspect systems in English
- identify and discuss cohesive devices in connected discourse
- distinguish between presupposition and implicature

Course Content

Topics covered will include:

- semantic relations in the lexicon
- deictic and canonical expression of spatial relationships
- time reference: tense and aspectual distinctions in language
- lexical and grammatical expression of mood in English
- lexical and grammatical cohesion in discourse
- pragmatics: presupposition and implicature

Course Outline

**Lexical semantics**
- Week 1: Sense, reference and sense relations
- Week 2: Theories of semantics

**Meaning in grammar I: Entities and events**
- Week 3: Representing entities
- Week 4: Representing events

**Language, culture and cognition**
- Week 5: Cultural categories and Linguistic Relativity
- Week 6: Language of space

**Meaning in grammar II: Deixis, tense, aspect and mood**
- Week 7: Deixis and tense, aspect and mood
- Week 8: Tense, aspect and mood in English

**Pragmatics**
- Week 9: Utterance meaning, implicature, and Relevance Theory
- Week 10: Speech Act Theory and Politeness Theory

**Discourse**
- Week 11: Information structure and discourse and context
- Week 12: Conversational analysis

Assessment Items

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<tr>
<th>Essays / Written Assignments</th>
<th>Assignment 1 (problem sets &amp; short answer questions) - 25%</th>
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<tr>
<td>Essays / Written Assignments</td>
<td>Assignment 2 (problem sets &amp; short answer questions) - 25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essays / Written Assignments</td>
<td>Essay (approx. 2500 words) - 50%</td>
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Online Tutorial Registration:

Students are required to enrol in the Lecture and a specific Tutorial time for this course via the Online Registration system. Refer - [http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/enrolment/regdates.html](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/enrolment/regdates.html)

NB: Registrations close at the end of week 2 of semester.

Studentmail and Blackboard: Refer - [www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/](http://www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/)

This course uses Blackboard and studentmail to contact students, so you are advised to keep your email accounts within the quota to ensure you receive essential messages. To receive an expedited response to queries, post questions on the Blackboard discussion forum if there is one, or if emailing staff directly use the course code in the subject line of your email. Students are advised to check their studentmail and the course Blackboard site on a weekly basis.

Important Additional Information

Details about the following topics are available on your course Blackboard site (where relevant). Refer - [www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/](http://www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/)

- Written Assignment Presentation and Submission Details
- Online copy submission to Turnitin
- Penalties for Late Assignments
- Special Circumstances
- No Assignment Re-submission
- Re-marks & Moderations
- Return of Assignments
- Preferred Referencing Style
- Student Representatives
- Student Communication
- Essential Online Information for Students