

**REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
UNIVERSITY OF VLORA ISMAIL QEMALI
FACULTY OF HUMAN SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES
ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

COURSE SYLLABUS

Semantics

[ENG 241]

Semester	Total Class Hours	Credits
I	45	8

**ACADEMIC YEAR
2009-2010**

COURSE INSTRUCTOR:

Erida Prifti, Lecturer

SEMANTICS

[ENG 241]

Course Title:	Semantics
Course Instructor:	Erida Prifti, Lecturer
Email:	eprifti@univlora.edu.al
Office hours:	H, M, P, 12:00-13:00
Course Duration:	First Semester
Total Workload:	45 class hours
Assessment:	Absences Allowed 3
	Midterm Exam 1 20%
	Midterm Exam 2 20%
	Midterm Exam 3 20%
	Final Exam 40%
Number of Credits:	8

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides students with the basic principles of undergraduate level language semantics. The main purpose of the course is to give students some useful and practical information in order to train their creative thought so they can understand the logical structure and the complexity of the language. Special attention will be given to lexical and grammatical devices that the English language uses to express meanings.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, students will have clear ideas about Semantics as a field of study and how to do semantic analyses. The information they are going to receive in this subject will make them specifically evaluate the nature English language. The theoretical part of this course is illustrated with numerous examples that will serve as reference points to the concepts and definitions presented in the lectures. Practical exercises in each chapter will encourage students to practice what they have learned.

MAIN TOPICS

Java	Data	Testime	Tema
Week 1	Oct 12, 2009 Oct 14, 2009 Oct 16, 2009		Introduction to the Course. 1. Semantics; The study of meaning; The systematic study of meaning; The nature of language; Language and the individual. Demonstrating semantic knowledge. 2. Language in use; Pragmatics; Natural and Conventional Signs; Linguistic Signs.
Week 2	Oct 19, 2009 Oct 21, 2009 Oct 23, 2009		3. Utterance and Sentence; Prosody; Non-verbal Communication. 4. The dimensions of meaning; Reference and denotation; Connotation; Sense relations Further discussion, practice and exercises.
Week 3	Oct 26, 2009 Oct 28, 2009 Oct 30, 2009		5. Lexical and grammatical meaning; Morphemes; Homonymy and Polysemy; 6. Lexical Ambiguity; Sentence Meaning Further discussion, practice and exercises.
Week 4	Nov 02, 2009 Nov 04, 2009 Nov 06, 2009	Midterm Exam 1	7. Semantic roles; Sentence and propositions; Semantic roles. 8. Valency zero; Valency one; Valency two; Some changes in valency. Further discussion, practice and exercises. MIDTERM EXAM 1
Week 5	Nov 09, 2009 Nov 11, 2009 Nov 13, 2009		9. Lexical fields; Kinship; Hyponymy: 10. Synonymy; Antonymy. Further discussion, practice and exercises.
Week 6	Nov 16, 2009 Nov 18, 2009 Nov 20, 2009		11. Binary and non-binary antonyms; A comparison of four relations. 12. Converse Antonyms. Further discussion, practice and exercises.
Week 7	Nov 23, 2009 Nov 25, 2009 Nov 27, 2009		13. Symmetry and Reciprocity; Expressions of Quantity. 14. Transitions and Transfer Predicates; Transition; Transfer. Further discussion, practice and exercises.
Week 8	Nov 30, 2009 Dec 02, 2009 Dec 04, 2009	Midterm Exam 2	15. Referents. Referents and referring expressions; Extension and intension; Some different kinds of referents. Unique and non-unique referents; Concrete and abstract referents, Countable and non-countable referents. 16. Different ways of referring; Generic and non-generic reference; Specific and non-specific reference. Definite and Indefinite Reference. Further discussion, practice and exercises. MIDTERM EXAM 2
Week 9	Dec 07, 2009 Dec 09, 2009 Dec 11, 2009		17. Deixis; Anaphora; Shifts in ways of referring; Referential ambiguity; 18. Sentences as arguments; Full statement clauses; Question clauses; Infinitive clauses; Gerund clauses; Verbal nouns. Further discussion, practice and exercises.
Week 10	Dec 07, 2009 Dec 09, 2009 Dec 11, 2009		19. Types of clauses. Syntactic ambiguity. 20. Speech Acts. The form of sentences and the purpose of utterances; Analysis of speech acts. Further discussion, practice and exercises.
Week 11	Dec 14, 2009 Dec 16, 2009 Dec 18, 2009		21. Seven kinds of speech acts. Assertive Utterances, Performative Utterances; Verdictive Utterances; Expressive Utterances; Directive Utterances. 22. Commissive Utterances (Comparison between four speech acts; Phatic utterances) Further discussion, practice and exercises.
Week 12	Jan 04, 2010 Jan 06, 2010 Jan 08, 2010	Midterm Exam 3	23. Aspect. (Generic and specific predications; Stative predicates and dynamic predicates) 24. Different kinds of predicates. (Predicates of location; predicates of possession; Predicates of cognition; Event predicates) Further discussion, practice and exercises. MIDTERM EXAM 3
Week 13	Jan 11, 2010 Jan 13, 2010 Jan 15, 2010		25. Some grammatical expressions of aspect. (The prospective; The progressive) 26. Factivity, implication and modality. (Factivity; Implicative predicates; modality, perceptual predicates). Further discussion, practice and exercises.
Week 14	Jan 18, 2010 Jan 20, 2010 Jan 22, 2010		27. The semantics of morphological relations. (Formal processes of derivation) 28. Semantic processes in derivation; (Verbs formed from nouns; Transfer meanings; Effective meanings; Instrumental meanings). Further discussion, practice and exercises.
Week 15	Jan 25, 2010 Jan 27, 2010 Jan 29, 2010		29. Vehicular meanings. (Verbs from adjectives; Verbs from verbs; Adjectives derived from verbs; Adjectives derived from nouns) 30. Applied Semantics; The value of Paraphrase. Further discussion, practice and exercises.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

ASSIGNMENTS		PERCENTAGE
Class Assignments	Midterm exam 1	20%
	Midterm exam 2	20%
	Midterm Exam 3	20%
Final Exam	Final Exam	40%
GRAND TOTAL		100%

GRADING SCALE

$S > 90\%$	= 10
$80 \leq S < 90\%$	= 9
$70 \leq S < 80\%$	= 8
$60 \leq S < 70\%$	= 7
$50 \leq S < 60\%$	= 6
$40 \leq S < 50\%$	= 5
$30 \leq S < 40\%$	= 4
$20 \leq S < 30\%$	= 3
$S \leq 20\%$	= 2

COURSE TEXTBOOK

Kreidler, Charles W. 1998. *Introducing English Semantics*. London: Routledge.