

Daily schedule

Chris Potts, Ling 390a: Controlling the Discourse, Fall 2007

Sep 5; Revised Nov 14

Topics might shift; quiz and due dates will not.

Introduction

Week 1

Sep 5 Ways of controlling the discourse

Sep 7 **Homework 1 due**; Introduction to psycholinguistic investigation

Pragmatics

Week 2

Sep 10 Introduction to pragmatics

Sep 12 The Gricean maxims and their applications

Sep 14 **Quiz 1**; *Group work: Using the maxims*

Week 3

Sep 17 Conversational implicatures

(Add/Drop deadline)

Sep 19 Scalar implicatures; *Application: Politicians' implicatures*

Sep 21 **Homework 2 due**; *Group work: Collected data*

Week 4

Sep 24 Discussion of technical writing

Sep 26 Processing scalar implicatures

Sep 28 **Paper 1 due**; *Application: Pragmatics and the law*

Information structure

Week 5

- Oct 1 Introduction to information structuring; given vs. new
- Oct 3 Preposing
- Oct 5 **Quiz 2**; Postposing

Psycholinguistic experimentation

Week 6

- Oct 9 Why we run experiments (Tue with Mon schedule)
- Oct 10 Types of psycholinguistic experiment
- Oct 12 The significance of statistical significance

Presupposition and anaphora

Week 7

- Oct 15 **Homework 3 due**; Presupposition and accommodation
- Oct 17 *Application: Presupposition and accommodation in the media and advertising*
- Oct 19 **Quiz 3**; *Group work: Brainstorming paper topics and ideas*

Week 8

- Oct 22 Discourse Representation Theory
- Oct 24 Choosing a referring device
- Oct 26 **Paper 2 due**; *Group work: Working with DRT*

Week 9

- Oct 29 Ellipsis (last day to drop with W)
- Oct 31 When elided verb phrases lack antecedent
- Nov 2 **Quiz 4**; Discourse coherence

Week 10

- Nov 5 The main assertion hypothesis
- Nov 7 *Application: Embedded and underhanded?*
- Nov 9 *Group work: Experimental hypotheses*

Week 11

- Nov 14 Planning your experiment (Wed with Mon schedule)
- Nov 16 *Group work: Pilot studies*

Framing

Week 12

- Nov 19 **Quiz 5**; Introduction to framing
- Nov 21 *Group work: Putting frames to use*

Intonational meaning

Week 13

- Nov 26 Focus and conversational implicature
- Nov 28 **Homework 4 due**; Rising intonation
- Nov 30 **Quiz 6**; *Group work: Biasing effect*

Conceptualizing discourses

Week 14

- Dec 3 Expressive meaning
- Dec 5 Apposition
- Dec 7 *Group work: Workshopping paper drafts*

Week 15

- Dec 10 **Homework 5 due**; Guest lecture by Florian
- Dec 12 *Application: Language and law*
- Dec 14 Wrap-up

Dec 21: Paper 3 due