

**Course Syllabus**



**Course Name: SEMANTICS**



**Course Number: 01023225**

# General Course Information:

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| Course title | Semantics |
| Course number | 01023225 |
| Credit hours (theory, practical) | 3 CHs, theory |
| Contact hours (theory, practical) | 45 hrs. |
| Prerequisites/corequisites | 01023111 |
| Academic Program | BA English Language and Literature |
| Program code | 02 |
| Awarding institution | Isra University |
| Faculty | Faculty of Arts |
| Department | Department of English Language and Literature |
| Level of course | BA Advanced (3rd year and 4th year) |
| Academic year /semester | 2019/2020 (Autumn Term) |
| Awarded qualification | BA English Language and Literature |
| Other department(s) involved in teaching the course |  |
| Language of instruction | English |
| Date of production/revision | 20.10.2019 |

**Course Coordinator:**

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| **Coordinator's Name:** | **Dr Abdullah Thalji** |
| **Office No.** | **2107** |
| **Office Hours** | **Sun. (11.00-12.00)/ Tue. (13.00-14.00)/ Thu. (15.00-16.00)**  **Mon. (11.30-12.30)/ Wed. (14.00-16.00)** |
| **Office Phone** | **Ext. 2390** |
| **Email** | [**abdullah.thalji@iu.edu.jo**](mailto:abdullah.thalji@iu.edu.jo) |

**Other Instructors:**

**Instructor’s Name: Office No.:**

**Office Phone: Office Hours: Email:**

**Course Description:**

* Study of 'meaning' as encoded within the vocabulary and grammar of language.
* Face to face communication.
* Utterances: sentences vs. utterances, facial expressions.
* Proposition: sense relations, intended meaning; occurrences and contexts: meaning of meaning, meaning and intonation patterns; reference, predicates and arguments: referring expressions, sense property, proposition and sense, discourse analysis, logic and facts
* Real situation and daily experiences

**Text Book: *Author(s), Title, Publisher, Edition, Year, Book website.***

1. Hurford, J. R., Heasley, B., & Smith, M. B. (2007). *Semantics: A coursebook*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

**References: *Author(s), Title, Publisher, Edition, Year, Book website.***

Required book (s), assigned reading and audio-visuals:

1. Löbner, S. (2013). *Understanding semantics*. 2nd Edition. London: Routledge.
2. Saeed, J. (2009). *Semantics*. 3rd Edition. London: Wiley-Blackwell.
3. Kreidler, C. (2002). *Introducing English Semantics*. London: Routledge.

# Course Educational Objectives (CEOs):

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| --- | --- |
| **1.** | Develop students’ competence in semantics. |
| **2.** | Provide students with a solid foundation for understanding all the concepts involved. |
| **3.** | Better students’ thinking and analytical skills. |
| **4.** | Teach students how to use logic and set symbols (formal language) to represent sentence meaning. |

**Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO’s):**

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|  | Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO’s) | **Relationship to CEOs** | **Contribution to PLOs** |
| **A** | **Knowledge and Understanding:** | | |
| A1 | Identify and explain concepts central to the study of semantics. | 1, 2 | 2 |
| A2 | Understand key issues involved in the study of semantics. | 1, 2 | 2 |
| A3 | Understand the difference between *speaker (utterance) meaning* and  *sentence (or word) meaning*. | 1, 2 | 2 |
| **B** | **Intellectual skills:** | | |
| B1 | Identify sense relations between words, including synonymy,  hyponymy, antonymy, ambiguity, and sense relations between sentences including paraphrase, entailment, etc. | 1, 2, 3 | 4, 9 |
| B2 | Identify sense relations between predicates and those between  sentences. | 1, 2, 3 | 4, 9 |
| **C** | **Subject specific skills:** | | |
| C1 | Translate sentences into logical notations for simple propositions. | 3, 4 | 8, 9 |
| C2 | Formulate truth tables for logical connectives (e.g. *and, or,* etc.). | 3, 4 | 8, 9 |
| **D** | **Transferable skills:** | | |
| D1 | Data and analytic skills through work with linguistic data, analyzing  and interpreting it. | 3, 4 | 4, 8, 9 |

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| D2 | Optimize communication and/or translation through an  understanding of semantic/linguistic structure. | 3, 4 | 3, 4, 8, 9 |
| D3 | Advanced critical thinking and problem-solving skills. | 3, 4 | 9 |

**Topic Outline and Schedule:**

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| **Topic** | **Weeks** | **Achieved ILOs** |
| Chapter 1: **Basic ideas in semantics** (Units 1 and 2) | 1 | A1, A2 |
| Unit 2 (continued): Sentences, Utterances and Propositions | 2 | A1, A2, A3 |
| Unit 3: Reference and Sense | 3 | A1, A2, A3 |
| Chapter 2: **From reference** (Unit 4: Referring expressions) | 4 | A1, A2 |
| Unit 5: Predicates | 5 | A1, A2 |
| Unit 5 (continued) | 6 | A1, A2 |
| Unit 6: Predicates and referring expressions. | 7 | A1, A2, D1 |
| Unit 7: Deixis and definiteness | 8 | A1, A2, D1, D3 |
| Chapter 3: **To sense** (Unit 9: Sense properties and stereotypes) | 9 | A1, A2, D1 |
| **Mid-Term Exam** | 10 |  |
| Unit 10: Sense relations (1) | 11 | A1, B1, B2, D1, D3 |
| Unit 11: Sense relations (2) | 12 | A1, B1, B2, D1, D3 |
| Chapter 4: **Logic** (Units 12-15) | 13 | C1, C2, D1, D2, D3 |
| Chapter 4 (Continued): **Logic** (Units 12-15) | 14 | C1, C2, D1, D2, D3 |
| Revision Week | 15 | A1 to D3 |
| **Final Exam** | 16 |  |

**Teaching Methods and Assignments:**

Development of ILOs is promoted through the following teaching and learning methods:

* Lectures

**Course Policies:**

A- Attendance policies:

The maximum allowed absences is 15% of the lectures. B- Absences from exams and handing in assignments on time:

First Exam and second exam can be retaken based on approval of excuse by the instructor's discretion. Not handing assignment on time will incur penalties.

C- Academic Health and safety procedures

D- Honesty policy regarding cheating, plagiarism, and misbehaviour:

Cheating, plagiarism, misbehaviour will result in zero grade and further disciplinary actions may be taken.

E- Grading policy:

* All homework is to be posted online through the e-learning system.
* Exams will be marked within 72 hours and the marked exam papers will be handed to the students. F- Available university services that support achievement in the course: **Labs, Library.**

**Required equipment:**

Textbook, and any given supplementary materials.

**Assessment Tools implemented in the course:**

* First Written Exam.
* Second Written Exam.
* Final Written Exam.
* Quizzes.
* Homework.
* Integrative Projects.
* Case Study.
* Written Reports.
* Participation in Lecture.
* Practice in the Lab.
* Illustrative Presentations.
* Oral Exams.
* Others (identify):

**Program Learning Outcome (PLOs):**

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| --- | --- |
| **Program Learning Outcomes describe what students are expected to know and be able to do by the time of graduation. These relate to the knowledge, skills, and behaviours that students acquire as they progress through the program. A graduate of the () program will demonstrate** | |
| **1.** | Acquiring the basic language skills in English. |
| **2.** | Understanding the disciplines of knowledge of the English language. |
| **3.** | Developing different skills of contact and communication |
| **4.** | Analysing linguistic and literary texts. |
| **5.** | The ability to adapt to different working environments and conditions. |
| **6.** | Evaluating different working environments and conditions. |
| **7.** | The ability to write scientific researches related to English language and literature. |
| **8.** | Acquiring technical skills in the field of scientific research. |
| **9.** | Enhancing critical thinking skills. |

**Responsible Persons and their Signatures:**

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| **Course Coordinator** | **Dr Abdullah Thalji** | **Completed Date** | 22/10/2019 |
|  | | **Signature** |  |

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| **Received by**  (Department Head) |  | **Received Date** | / / |
|  | | **Signature** |  |