

LING 4345 -- 001 Semantics (Spring 2017)

Classroom:	UH 02 (basement) , Tues./Thur. 12:30-1:50 p.m.
Professor:	Laurel Smith Stvan
TA	Kristen Fleckenstein
Office Hours:	Stvan (132 Hammond Hall) Tuesday and Wed 3:00-4:00, and by appointment Faculty Profile: https://www.uta.edu/profiles/laurel-stvan
	Fleckenstein (217-A Trimble Hall) Thursday 11-12, and by appointment
	Dept. Phone: (817) 272-3133 Email: stvan@uta.edu (preferred medium) kristen.fleckenstein@mavs.uta.edu

Course Description

This course introduces you to the field of semantics, focusing on the representation of meaning at the lexical level. This semester topics will include ways of describing meaning (sense and reference, componential analysis and prototype theory), ways of organizing meaning (the mental lexicon, connotation and euphemism, linguistic relativity), and ways of applying these concepts to sort predicates by argument structure patterns.

The course serves the requirement for an upper division Linguistics course for the BA, or the minor in Linguistics, and can serve as an elective for MA students in Linguistics or in TESOL.

Course prerequisites: LING 3311 or permission of instructor.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

--describe and illustrate theories that have been proposed to describe the organization of the lexicon

--discuss linguistic literature that provides insight into practical applications of semantics as it interacts with other fields of linguistics

--describe and illustrate how denotation of words differs from connotation

--describe and illustrate which information is entailed in words

--provide and explain an analysis that shows how concepts are encoded

--provide individual examples of lexical relations and their patterns in a language

Course Requirements

1. Attend class regularly and take part in class discussions and in-class exercises.
2. Read chapters from the textbook and articles distributed in class and come to class prepared to discuss them.
3. Submit eight 3-page written exercises throughout the semester in which you practice the concepts discussed in class on your adopted word.
4. Submit a portfolio of revisions of your best three class homework assignments.

Required Course Material

There are two required sources of readings for this class:

--The book *Lexical Meaning (2001)* by M. Lynne Murphy. It is available at the UTA Bookstore, or through any bookseller of your choice, in either paperback or electronic form. (ISBN: 978-0-521-67764-6).

--We will also use a set of required articles that will be available online in the class Blackboard folder (<https://learn.uta.edu>).

Grading

Your course grade will be determined as follows:

Attendance and Class Participation	10%
Written Homework Assignments (~3 pages each) (8 X 8%)	64%
Three homeworks rewritten in a portfolio	<u>26%</u>
	100%

There will be no exam. Participation includes attendance and preparation for class discussion. Homework and final portfolio assignments will receive grades determined as follows:

A- 90-92 %	B- 80-82 %	C- 70-72	D- 60-62%	F 59 or lower
A 93-96 %	B 83-86 %	C 73-76	D 63-66	
A+ 97-100 %	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69	

Course Policies

Attendance: At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator in student success. Each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I do have a policy that class attendance is **required**. You are responsible for the material presented in class lectures and for any handouts passed out in class as well as for any group work done in class; for your own benefit, come to class. But if you must miss a lecture, do the reading and homework, get notes and information from another student, and then make an appointment to talk to me as soon as possible.

However, while UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients "begin attendance in a course." UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Blackboard. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.

Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the day listed in the schedule, and no later. No late assignments will be accepted without PRIOR approval—please contact me if you're having difficulties, rather than skipping an assignment. Even approved late submissions will receive a reduction in points.

Important Academic and Administrative Policies

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the

registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

Disability Accommodations: UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, *The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA)*, and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a **letter certified** by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD) www.uta.edu/disability or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability.

Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) www.uta.edu/caps/ or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

Non-Discrimination Policy: *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit uta.edu/eos.*

Title IX Policy: The University of Texas at Arlington ("University") is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination

based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. *For information regarding Title IX, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or jmhood@uta.edu.*

Academic Integrity: Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System Regents' Rule 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at <https://www.uta.edu/conduct/>.

Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Campus Carry: Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college

campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students' anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Final Review Week: for semester-long courses, a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit: walk straight out and go forward as you exit the room, then turn right at the base of the stairs and walk up the stairs to the ground level exit. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities. <https://www.uta.edu/policy/procedure/7-6>

Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include [tutoring](#), [major-based learning centers](#), developmental education, [advising and mentoring](#), personal counseling, and [federally funded](#)

[programs](#). For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>.

The IDEAS Center (2nd Floor of Central Library) offers **free** tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. To schedule an appointment with a peer tutor or mentor email IDEAS@uta.edu or call (817) 272-6593.

The English Writing Center (411LIBR): The Writing Center Offers free tutoring in 20-, 40-, or 60-minute face-to-face and online sessions to all UTA students on any phase of their UTA coursework. Our hours are 9 am to 8 pm Mon.-Thurs., 9 am-3 pm Fri. and Noon-6 pm Sat. and Sun. Register and make appointments online at <http://uta.mywconline.com>. Classroom Visits, workshops, and specialized services for graduate students are also available. Please see www.uta.edu/owl for detailed information on all our programs and services.

The Library's 2nd floor Academic Plaza offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services are available during the library's hours of operation. <http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza>

Librarian to Contact: Ms. Jody Bailey jbailey@uta.edu 817-272-7516
A to Z List of Library Databases libguides.uta.edu/az.php
Course Reserves pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do

Auditors: Department of Linguistics and TESOL faculty, staff, and students currently enrolled in a linguistics/TESOL programs may be able to audit a course (with the permission of the professor). Audited courses cannot be used to satisfy any degree or program requirements/electives, nor will any credit (including retroactive) be granted for audited courses.

Emergency Phone Numbers: In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911.
The non-emergency number 817-272-3381.

**Ling. 4345--Semantics
Spring 2017**

(Last Updated: January 17, 2017)

Readings to have prepared for class

Tasks or events to be aware of

1.	Tues. Jan 17 Thur. Jan 19	No readings for today: Introduction to the study of meaning Murphy: Ch. 1. The lexicon - some preliminaries	
2.	Tues. Jan 24 Thur. Jan 26	Denotation vs. Connotation Euphemism and Taboo	
3.	Tues. Jan. 31 Tues. Feb 2	Murphy Ch. 2. What do we mean by meaning? More on sense and reference	Homework #1 due
4.	Thur. Feb 7 Thur. Feb 9	Murphy Ch. 3. Components and prototypes More on Prototypes	
5.	Tues. Feb 14 Thur. Feb 16	Murphy Ch. 4. Modern componential approaches - and some alternatives More on GO, BE, and STAY	Homework #2 due
6.	Tues. Feb 21 Thur. Feb 23	Murphy Ch. 5. Meaning variation: polysemy, homonymy and vagueness More on polysemy	Homework #3 due
7.	Tues. Feb. 28 Thur. March 2	Ch. 6. Lexical and semantic relations More on lexical relations	
8.	Tues. March 7 Thur. March 9	Murphy Ch. 7 Ontological categories and word classes More on word classes	Homework #4 due

----Spring Break----

9.	Tues. March 21 Thur. March 23	Murphy Ch. 8. Nouns and countability Stvan Ch. 2	Homework #5 due
10.	Tues. March 28 Thur. March 30	Linguistic Relative and Translation Murphy Ch. 9. Predication: verbs, events, and states	
11.	Tues. April 4 Thur. April 6	Fillmore, Ch. 8: The Grammar of hitting and breaking Levin and Hovav: Wiping the Slate Clean, pp. 123-151	Homework #6 due
12.	Tues. April 11 Thur. April 13	More on events and states Clark and Clark: When Nouns Surface as Verbs	
13.	Tues. April 18 Thur. April 20	Murphy Ch. 10. Verbs and time More on aspect	Homework #7 due
14.	Tues. April 25 Thur. April 27	Murphy Ch. 11. Adjectives and properties. More on adjectives	Homework #8 due
15.	Tues. May 2 Thur. May 4	TBA—buffer day Summary and Review	Student Feedback Surveys

Exam Thurs May 11
Week

**Everyone's portfolio is DUE
by 5:30 pm in Blackboard**

Additional Semester Dates to Note

Wed.	Feb. 1	Census Date
Fri.	March 31	Last day to Drop a Course
Fri.	May 17	Grades available: http://www.uta.edu/mymav