Department	International College of Liberal Arts		
Semester	Fall 2024	Year Offered (Odd/Even/Every Year)	Every Year
Course Number	LANG210		
Course Title	Semantics		
Prerequisites	None		
Course Instructor	RAFIEYAN Vahid	Year Available (Grade Level)	1
Subject Area	Interdisciplinary Arts: Language Arts	Number of Credits	3
Class Style	Lecture	Language of instruction	English

(NOTE 1) Depending on the class size and the capacity of the facility, we may not be able to accommodate all students who wish to register for the course

Course Description	The Meaning of Meaning is dedicated to asking this central question; what do we mean when we talk about meaning? That is, what mental, physical, and emotional behavior do we experience when we understand a message, convey a message, or just interpret the world around us? This course will not emphasize technical matters of semantics but rather creative problem-solving of questions concerning aspects of meaning and interpretation. The interdisciplinary approach to the study of meaning will allow certain lines of investigation to be considered from several different perspectives and incorporate references to classical texts into a framework that also includes more recent scholarship on cognitive linguistics and metaphor. This course will not assume any background in linguistics and will start from basic principles. This interdisciplinary course overlaps with studies in formal logic, truth conditions, pragmatics, semiotics, cognitive linguistics, discourse analysis, the philosophy of language and mind, the poetics of figurative language, and other forms of anomalous language use. As always, this syllabus reflects the expression of students on course surveys who want interactive, challenging, but clear and fairly assessed instruction. Among other topics, we will consider the following, though probably not in the order presented below: 1. Language and Thought: Does language REALLY = thought? How and how not? 2. Thought and Reality: Does thinking it makes it real? 3. Word Meanings: Hedgehogs, Unicorns, and Goblins; & dogs and cats 4. Sentence Relations and Truth Conditions: What can be true or false? 5. Language Games: Is non-sense rule-governed? 7. Sentence Semantics: Situations, Participants, and Thematic Roles: Who did what to whom, by what means? 8. Pragmatics: Context, Inference, and Reference: If you don't find proof in the pudding, look in the inferences! 9. Functions of Language: Speech Acts: When talking is doing! 10. Metaphor, Metonymy, and the Creation of Conceptual Worlds: Is most of human meaning a bunch of metaphors (and the like)?
Class plan based on course evaluation from previous academic year	There will be exercises at the end of each chapter to master what is being taught.

Course related to the instructor's practical experience (Summary of experience)	My main practical experience is familiarity with several languages. I will apply the know-how I have gained to the course.
Learning Goals	The Meaning of Meaning will emphasize the following: 1) introduce the basic concepts and tools of analysis used in semantics and semiotics, 2) introduce classical texts on the subject of meaning and a glimpse into the intellectual traditions that inform present-day research on meaning, 3) dispel common myths about the meaning of words, sentences, and so-called figurative language, 4) encourage and enable you to develop a critical perspective on matters of meaning, 5) train and enhance critical thinking skills in the study of meaning and symbolic systems. 6) enhance practical understanding of rhetorical devices in English 7) enhance problem-solving skills

iCLA Diploma Policy	DP1／DP3

iCLA Diploma Policy

(DP1) To Value Knowledge — Having high oral and written communication skills to be able to both comprehend and transfer knowledge

(DP2) To Be Able to Adapt to a Changing World — Having critical, creative, problem-solving, intercultural skills, global and independent mindset to adopt to a changing world

(DP3) To Believe in Collaboration — Having a disposition to work effectively and inclusively in teams

(DP4) To Act from a Sense of Personal and Social Responsibility — Having good ethical and moral values to make positive impacts in the world

Active Learning Methods	Problem-Based Learning／Group Work
More details/supplemental information on Active Learning Methods	None
Use of ICT	UNIPA Functions

Contents of class preparation and review	Before and after each class, students are expected to review the instructional materials specified for that session to enhance their understanding.	Hours expected to be spent preparing for class (hours per week)	2 hours	Hours expected to be spent on class review (hours per week)	4 hours
Feedback Methods	Exam papers will be graded and returned along with the correct answers. Essays will be graded based on a grading rubric and returned with explanations. Individual meetings will be held if requested.				

Grading Criteria		
Grading Methods	Grading Weights	Grading Content
Class Activity	20%	
Mid-term & Final Quizzes	40%	
Mid-term & Final Essays	40%	

Required Textbook(s)	Semantics by John I. Saeed
Other Reading Materials/URL	Other Semantics books.
Plagiarism Policy	Plagiarism is when someone presents the work of others as if it were their own, which is dishonest and unacceptable. Similarly, submitting the same work more than once is also considered plagiarism. Depending on the severity of plagiarism, it can result in failing the assignment or even the course. If you are caught plagiarizing multiple times, the University will be notified and may impose further penalties.

Other Additional Notes (Outline crucial policies and info not mentioned above)	To achieve a good grade, attending classes regularly, participating actively in class activities, and paying attention to lectures are important.

(NOTE 2) Class schedule is subject to change

Class Schedule	
Class Number	Content
Class 1	Introduction to Semantics in Linguistics
Class 2	Introduction to Semantics in Linguistics
Class 3	Chapter 2: Meaning, Thought, and Reality
Class 4	Chapter 2: Meaning, Thought, and Reality
Class 5	Chapter 2: Meaning, Thought, and Reality
Class 6	Chapter 2: Meaning, Thought, and Reality

Class 7	Chapter 2: Meaning, Thought, and Reality
Class 8	Chapter 3: Word Meaning
Class 9	Chapter 3: Word Meaning
Class 10	Chapter 3: Word Meaning
Class 11	Chapter 3: Word Meaning
Class 12	Chapter 3: Word Meaning
Class 13	Chapter 4: Sentence Relations and Truth
Class 14	Chapter 4: Sentence Relations and Truth
Class 15	Chapter 4: Sentence Relations and Truth

Class 16	Chapter 4: Sentence Relations and Truth Essay#1 on Lexical Semantics
Class 17	Quiz#1 on Chapters 2, 3, & 4
Class 18	Chapter 5: Sentence Semantics 1: Situations
Class 19	Chapter 5: Sentence Semantics 1: Situations
Class 20	Chapter 5: Sentence Semantics 1: Situations
Class 21	Chapter 5: Sentence Semantics 1: Situations
Class 22	Chapter 5: Sentence Semantics 1: Situations
Class 23	Chapter 5: Sentence Semantics 1: Situations
Class 24	Chapter 6: Sentence Semantics 2: Participants

Class 25	Chapter 6: Sentence Semantics 2: Participants
Class 26	Chapter 6: Sentence Semantics 2: Participants
Class 27	Chapter 6: Sentence Semantics 2: Participants
Class 28	Chapter 6: Sentence Semantics 2: Participants
Class 29	Chapter 6: Sentence Semantics 2: Participants
Class 30	Quiz#2 on Chapters 5 & 6