

HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE

1. COURSE TITLE

Studying Meaning

2. COURSE CODE

ENGL3305

3. NO. OF UNITS

3 Units

4. OFFERING DEPARTMENT

Department of English Language and Literature

5. PREREQUISITES

ENGL2005 Introduction to the Study of Language

6. MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

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7. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

To provide analytic knowledge of word-level and sentence-level semantics.

8. COURSE CONTENT

I. Word-level Meaning

- Different theories in pinning down word meaning
- Lexical relations

II: Sentence-level Meaning

- Utterances, sentences and propositions
- Entailments and Presuppositions
- Participants in situations

III: Constructing Explanation to Patterns of Meaning

- Vagueness and ambiguity
- Nominal interpretation
- Event interpretation

- Semantics and context

9. COURSE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (CILOs)

CILO	By the end of the course, students should be able to:
CILO 1	Show sensitivity to subtleties in word meanings
CILO 2	Explain lexical relations
CILO 3	Explain logical relations between propositions encoded in linguistic expressions
CILO 4	Decompose a linguistic expression into its different meaning components
CILO 5	Explain different patterns of meaning in language

10. TEACHING & LEARNING ACTIVITIES (TLAs)

CILO alignment	Type of TLA
CILO 1	Discuss difficulties involved in defining words and explain patterns of meaning via group discussion and in assignment
CILO 2	Analyze the word relations in assignment, quiz, assignment
CILO 3	Explain logical relations as required in assignment, quiz, and exam
CILO 4	Perform word meaning decomposition (with explanations), as required, in assignment, quiz, and exam
CILO 5	Explain patterns of meanings, as required, in assignment, quiz, and exam

11. ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMs)

Type of Assessment Methods	Weighting	CILOs to be addressed	Description of Assessment Tasks
Coursework	20 %	1, 2, 3	Individual assignment 1.
Coursework	20 %	4, 5	Individual assignment 2.
Coursework	20 %	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Quiz.
Examination	40 %	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	The final examination assesses students' abilities to discuss and analyze word meanings and word structures

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