

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)

<u>CILO</u>	<u>By the end of the course, students should be able to:</u>
CILO 1	Demonstrate sensitivity to subtleties in word meanings
CILO 2	Identify and explain lexical relations
CILO 3	Identify and 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)

<u>CILO alignment</u>	<u>Type of TLA</u>
CILO 1	- Discuss difficulties involved in defining words - Explain patterns of meaning - Try to define words
CILO 2	- Define words - Identify lexical relation: relating words to other words - Explain patterns of meaning
CILO 3	- Define meaning components of sentences - Differentiate different kinds of meaning - Explain patterns of meaning
CILO 4	Explain patterns of meaning
CILO 5	- Discuss difficulties involved in defining words - Explain patterns of meaning - Try to define words

11. ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMs)

<u>Type of Assessment Methods</u>	<u>Weighting</u>	<u>CILOs to be addressed</u>	<u>Description of Assessment Tasks</u>
Coursework	50 %	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Coursework may include take-home assignments, quizzes and/or term projects, etc that allow students to construct semantic analyses. When conducting independent projects, doing off-site group work and for self-study, the HKBU

			Phonology Lab may be regularly accessed for coursework and its assessment.
Examination	50 %	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	The final examination assesses students' abilities to identify semantic properties of linguistic expressions and provide explanations for them.

Last Update: 2019-07-25
Published Date: 2019-08-30

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