



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
Department of Philosophy

PHIL 671.6-01
Winter Term 2018

Course Outline

Topics in Philosophical Logic and the Philosophy of Language (What Is Meaning?)

Lectures: W 3-5:45, SS1253

Instructor: David Liebesman
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Office Hours: M 11-1

Course Description

We're going to tackle the following question: what is (linguistic) meaning? We'll begin by reading several articles by Frege and then extracting a number of influential theses about meaning. The rest of the semester will be dedicated to further examination of these theses. Our topics will include the sense/reference distinction, the concept/object distinction, compositionality, and the relationship between truth and meaning, among others.

Prerequisites: Consent of the Department

Course Learning Outcomes

Students who complete this course will have a grasp of some of the key theoretical issues that underlie the effort to develop a systematic semantic theory for natural language. This will give them the tools to understand a large swath of contemporary work in philosophy of language. Students will also be required to write a series of papers in which they interpret and analyze complex ideas and arguments.

Required Texts (available at the campus bookstore):

- Beaney, Michael (ed.) *The Frege Reader*.
- Kripke, Saul. *Naming and Necessity*
- Stalnaker, Robert. *Inquiry*.

Course Assessment

- Eight short (approx. 350 word) papers. Each worth 5% of the total grade. Due dates: Jan. 17th, 24rd, 31st, Feb. 7th, 14th, 28th, Mar. 7th, 14th.
- One final paper in two drafts. Rough draft is worth 3%, final is worth 52%. Rough draft due March 28th. Final Due April 11th.
- Peer review: worth 5% of your grade. Due April 4th.
- Late assignments are penalized 1/3 letter grade per (calendar) day.
- There will be no registrar-scheduled final exam.

Letter Grade Conversion Table

A+	96 –100 %	C+	67-69.9 %
A	91-95.9 %	C	64-66.9 %
A-	86-90.9 %	C-	60-63.9 %
B+	80-85.9 %	D+	55-59.9 %
B	75-79.9 %	D	50-54.9 %
B-	70-74.9 %	F	0- 49.9 %

Course Policies:

No devices (laptops, cell phones, tablets) are allowed in class without explicit permission of the instructor.

IMPORTANT DEPARTMENTAL, FACULTY AND UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Academic Honesty

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense, the penalty for which may be an F on the assignment, an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw from the University. See the relevant sections on 'Academic Misconduct' in the current University Calendar. Intellectual honesty requires that your work include adequate referencing to sources. Plagiarism occurs when you do not acknowledge or correctly reference your sources. If you have questions about correct referencing, consult your instructor.

Academic Accommodation

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their instructor.

D2L Help

Desire2Learn is UCalgary's online learning management system. Important information and communications about this course may be posted on D2L. Go to <https://ucalgary.service-now.com/it> for help.

Protection of Privacy

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. The Department of Philosophy ensures the student's right to privacy by requiring all graded assignments be returned to the student directly from the instructor or teaching assistant.

Internet and Electronic Communication Devices

The instructor reserves the right to establish course policies regarding the use of devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartbooks. If allowed, these devices must be used exclusively for instructional purposes and must not cause disruption to the instructor or to fellow students. Cell phones and paging devices should be set to silent mode during lectures. Audio or video recording of lectures is not permitted without the written permission of the instructor. Students violating this policy are subject to discipline under the University of Calgary's Non-Academic Misconduct policy

Emergency Evacuation:

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints> . Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

Other Helpful Contacts

- Safewalk and Campus Security: 403-220-5333.
- Student Union: <https://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>; 403-220-6551.
- Student Ombuds' Office (ucalgary.ca/ombuds/) ombuds@ucalgary.ca
- Campus Mental Health Strategy: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>