

Additional information will be shown if available from the Registrar.

Instructors:

Kate Davidson, kathryndavidson@fas.harvard.edu

Masoud Jasbi, masoudjasbi@fas.harvard.edu

TF: Shannon Bryant

Location: Boylston 303

Expected background

1. Either: a two-course graduate sequence in formal semantics (can be currently enrolled in Semantic Theory 2)
2. Or: At least one course (undergrad/grad) in formal semantics plus active research in psycholinguistics or developmental psychology

Most students should also expect to spend time outside of the course gaining additional familiarity with psycholinguistics (in Case 1 above) or practicing semantics (in Case 2) in order to understand some of the readings below.

We've scheduled ASL-English interpreters at each class. If you have any accessibility concerns of any sort please don't hesitate to reach out.

Course requirements

For each required reading, three students will play a role in class discussion, on a rotating basis. (So depending on the class size, you may play a role every week or only some weeks). For each reading, someone will:

- Be an advocate
- Be a skeptic
- Bring the methods to life (for every non-theoretical paper)

These mirror three important roles of an academic: that of a supportive letter-writer, a reviewer, and a replicator, and will hopefully help keep the works more memorable for everyone. This will be a major component of the course, likely requiring audio-visual support (slides, etc.). Students' effort will be reflected in the fact that it will comprise 60% of the credit for your final grade.

The other 40% will come from a final research proposal on a topic in psychosemantics (40% of final grade), which you will need to have in final shape to pre-register with OSF. Collaboration on final projects is encouraged, as is course synergy (presenting on a topic that you also write about), although collaborators will be evaluated semi-independently. Each enrolled student will need to meet with an instructor once before spring break to discuss topics, and once again before the end of the term.

Course Schedule

Date	Details	
Fri Jan 31, 2020	Intro to Psychosemantics	<i>due by 11:59PM</i>
Fri Feb 07, 2020	Scalar implicatures: Kids	<i>due by 11:59PM</i>
Fri Feb 14, 2020	SI: Adults	<i>due by 11:59PM</i>
Fri Feb 21, 2020	Homogeneity	<i>due by 11:59PM</i>
Fri Feb 28, 2020	QUD and Context	<i>due by 11:59PM</i>
Fri Mar 06, 2020	Mass/Count	<i>due by 11:59PM</i>
Fri Mar 13, 2020	LING 132: Psychosemantics	<i>09:45AM to 11:45AM</i>
Fri Mar 13, 2020	Linking Hypothesis (Degen papers)	<i>due by 11:59PM</i>
Fri Mar 27, 2020	LING 132: Psychosemantics	<i>09:45AM to 11:45AM</i>
Fri Mar 27, 2020	Recap Linking Hypothesis + Definiteness	<i>due by 11:59PM</i>
Tue Mar 31, 2020	Final Project Discussion Group	<i>11:00AM to 12:00PM</i>
Thu Apr 02, 2020	Final Project Discussion Group	<i>01:00PM to 02:00PM</i>
Fri Apr 03, 2020	LING 132: Psychosemantics	<i>09:45AM to 11:45AM</i>
Fri Apr 03, 2020	Sign languages & Language modality	<i>due by 11:59PM</i>
Fri Apr 10, 2020	LING 132: Psychosemantics	<i>09:45AM to 11:45AM</i>
Fri Apr 10, 2020	Neurosemantics (Guest: Josh Greene (Harvard Psych))	<i>due by 11:59PM</i>
Fri Apr 17, 2020	LING 132: Psychosemantics	<i>09:45AM to 11:45AM</i>
Fri Apr 17, 2020	Modals	<i>due by 11:59PM</i>
Fri Apr 24, 2020	LING 132: Psychosemantics	<i>09:45AM to 11:45AM</i>
Fri Apr 24, 2020	Final presentations	<i>due by 11:59PM</i>
Fri May 08, 2020	Final Proposal due	<i>due by 11:59PM</i>