

PHIL4313
Philosophy of Language 語言哲學

Course Outline

Tentative outline for information only. To be superseded by formal outline available on Blackboard in due course

Time : T 2:30pm-5:15pm

Location : LSK 206

Course overview

This course introduces students to a set of major issues and theories in the twenty-first century philosophy of language and philosophical logic in the tradition of analytic philosophy.

Prerequisites: This course assumes (a) that students have taken a course in elementary logic that includes the first-order predicate theory or possess equivalent knowledge & (b) a basic or some familiarity with analytic philosophy.

Topics

(List of major elements of lecture content. Does not reflect the actual order of lecture presentations.)

- Frege's new logic
- Traditional theories of propositions
- Possible worlds semantics
- Verificationism
- Intensional semantics
- Kripke on names and reference
- Fregean theory of linguistic reference
- Russell on definite description
- The referential vs the attributive
- Truth-conditional theories
- Truth and meaning: Tarski and Davison
- Causal theory of reference
- Indexicals and Context
- Grice and intentional based semantics
- Speech acts
- What is said vs what is meant
- Assertion
- Presupposition
- Implicative relations
- The expressive language
- The Kripkenstein Paradox

Learning activities

Lectures, presentation, group discussions, weekly or bi-weekly writing assignments

Assessments

<i>Task nature</i>	<i>Weight</i>
Weekly or bi-weekly assignments	TAB
Tests	TAB
Presentation	TAB

Grade Descriptor

Please refer to: http://phil.arts.cuhk.edu.hk/~phidept/UG/Grade_descriptors.pdf

Recommended learning resources

Contact details for teacher(s) or TA(s)

Teacher	
Name:	Wong Kai Yee
Office location:	Room 428, Fung King Hey Building
Telephone:	3943 7145
Email:	wongky@cuhk.edu.hk

TA	
Name:	TAB

Academic honesty and plagiarism

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/>

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration.

For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.

Main Texts:

- Martin, R. *The Meaning of Language*, MIT Press, 1987
- William G. L., *Philosophy of Language: A Contemporary Introduction*, 3rd ed., Routledge, 2019.
- Martinich, P. (ed.), *The Philosophy of Language*, 5th ed. Oxford University Press, 2006.
- McGinn, C. *Philosophy of Language*, MIT, 2015