

LEXICAL SEMANTICS AND MENTAL DICTIONARIES (GIGA/GI):

Introduction to Semantics

Course registration NR: 13162/29464

Friday, 11:10-12:40

Spring/Summer Semester 2025

Class format: Face-to-face

Room: ε22

Lecturer: Akitaka Yamada

Office: λ206

Office hours: Friday 12:40-13:40 and by appointment

Email: a.yamada@keio.jp

NB: There are a few modifications from the online syllabus. Please follow the instructions of this syllabus, which is the latest, updated version.

Course description:

1. This course is composed of several lectures introducing the basics of modern semantics.
2. Unfortunately, discussion of other semantic frameworks is not covered in the textbook, so the lecturer distributes supplemental materials to help students develop a more flexible and open-minded view of semantics.

Requirements:

1. Active and mutually supportive class participation
2. Completion of weekly homework assignments
3. Mid-term and final exams

Textbooks:

1. Portner, P. (2005) *What is Meaning?* Oxford: Blackwell. [For GIGA students]
2. ポール・ポートナー (片岡宏仁 訳) (2015) 『意味って何? : 形式意味論入門』勁草書房. [For non-GIGA students]

Grading policy:

1. Midterm exam (40%)
2. Final exam (60%)

Assignments:

Although weekly homework assignments will be provided, please note that they will not be included in your final grade. These assignments are intended solely for your review and practice. You are encouraged to discuss the assignments with your friends, and ask a question in class.

Tentative schedule: (The schedule is subject to change!)

Lecture 1	Preliminaries	
Lecture 2	Fundamentals of Formal semantics and cognitive semantics	
Midterm exam		TBA
Review day		TBA
Lecture 3	Verbs and Auxiliaries	
Lecture 4	Nouns	
Practice day		Class 15
Final exam		