

Subject name/code:	Semantics / BNY-DK-007A	
Subject coordinator:	Head of the Doctoral School	
Lecturer(s) of the subject:	Surányi Balázs, PhD DSc, professor	
Credits:	8	
Lesson type:	lecture	
Brief subject description:	The course introduces students to semantic aspects of linguistic meaning in human languages. Students will be familiarised with the basic concepts of semantics and core semantic phenomena, as well as with the possibilities of semantic analysis, employing different semantic theories.	
Theoretical knowledge to be acquired:	The main topics covered include the following. Basic concepts of semiotics and of linguistic meaning. Lexical meaning and encyclopedic knowledge. Polysemy and homonymy. Sense and reference. Semantic ambiguities. Lexical sense relations. Sentence and proposition. Compositionality of meaning. Basic notions of propositional and first order predicate logic. Eventualities and thematic roles. Quantification.	
Practical knowledge to be acquired:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - analyse the semantic meaning of words and sentences; - identify semantic relations between word meanings; - evaluate competing semantic approaches to linguistic meaning; - apply theoretical semantic concepts to case studies; - integrate semantic insights into broader linguistic research. 	
List of the most important required literature (2–4 pieces) with bibliographical details (author, title, edition or specific pages, ISBN)	<p>Saeed, John I. <i>Semantics</i>. 5th Edition. Wiley-Blackwell, 2023. ISBN: 978-1-119-70985-5. Chapters 1-4, 6, 10.</p> <p>Riemer, Nick. <i>Introducing Semantics</i>. Cambridge University Press, 2010. ISBN-13: 978-0-521-61741-3. Chapters 1-3, 5-6, 10.</p>	
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Theory to practice ratio: 10 % practice – 90 % theory	Theory lessons: 100%	Practice lessons: 0%
Applied teaching methods:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Theoretical lectures with visual aids - Data-driven exercises in semantic analysis 	
Method of assessment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Written end-term exam that includes various kinds of questions (multiple choice questions, fill-in the blanks questions, terminological definitions, semantic analysis, giving examples) 	
Assessment criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 80-100% = Excellent (5) - 60–79% = Satisfactory (3) - 0–59% = Unsatisfactory (1) 	

How the subject contributes to the achievement of the learning outcomes at level 8 of the MKKR, as identified as learning outcomes in the doctoral school's training programme:

- Knowledge: Understands the central issues and current debates in semantics and their relation to syntax, pragmatics, and the lexicon.
- Skills: Able to apply semantic analysis to linguistic data, compare competing models, and develop independent analyses.
- Attitude: Demonstrates openness to different linguistic frameworks; critically evaluates arguments; committed to high standards of academic research.
- Responsibility and autonomy: Capable of conducting collaborative semantic research, presenting findings to peers, and contributing to scholarly discourse.