

CGSC3301
Language & Cognitive Science
Fall 2024

Raj Singh
Carleton University

1 General Information

1.1 Class Time and Location

Wednesdays and Fridays 1:05pm-2:25pm, on-line, synchronous.

We will meet on Sept 4, Sept 6, Sept 11, Sept 13, Sept 18, Sept 20, Sept 25, Sept 27, Oct 2, Oct 4, Oct 9, Oct 11, Oct 16, Oct 18, Oct 30, Nov 2, Nov 6, Nov 8, Nov 13, Nov 15, Nov 20, Nov 22, Nov 27, Nov 29, Dec 4.

1.2 Instructor's Contact Information

Instructor Raj Singh

Email raj.singh@carleton.ca

Phone 613-520-2600 x1778

Office 2206A Dunton Tower

Office Hours By appointment (zoom by default)

2 Course Description

The course introduces students to areas where language and context connect in an intrinsic way in helping determine who or what we are talking about. Topics may include anaphora, presupposition, bridging, quantifier domain restriction, implicature, concepts, learning. Relevant material about semantics, pragmatics, memory, thinking, learning, and reasoning will be presented as required.

3 Readings

We will mostly rely on primary readings from the literature as well as lecture notes, but we will make use of some of the technical machinery from Heim & Kratzer's *Semantics in Generative Grammar*.

4 Prerequisites

CGSC2001, third-year standing, and a willingness to learn, cooperate, and share with others.

5 Evaluation

Participation	20%	
Assignment 1	20%	Due Sept 20
Assignment 2	20%	Due Oct 11
Assignment 3	20%	Due Nov 8
Assignment 4	20%	Due Dec 4

5.1 Participation (20%)

Participation is crucial. Like going to the gym, attendance is a big part of it. But you should also consider this to be like your ‘job’. You are expected to show up and to contribute with in-class discussion and questions. Everybody comes to the class with a unique background and you will learn from each other. If you feel anxious about speaking in class, please let me know and we will sort something out.

5.2 Homework assignments (80%)

You will have four homework assignments. You will have a week to do each one, but you will have two weeks to complete Assignment 2 because the week after it is given out will be reading week. The assignments will cover material from the readings and lectures and in-class discussion. You will be allowed to work in groups on these if you wish, but everyone will have to submit their own assignment along with an acknowledgment of who you worked with. The assignments will involve a mix of technical and conceptual questions.

6 Brightspace

This class will make use of Brightspace for slides and handouts. You will also be able to submit assignments there.

7 Student requirements

Students are required to complete the assigned readings before each class.

7.1 Submission Policies

You must submit your work on Brightspace.

7.2 Late assignments

All assignments and papers should be submitted by the deadline. If you cannot submit your assignment in time, contact me before the deadline to make alternate arrangements.

7.3 Policy on collaborative work

Students are allowed to discuss their work with other students. However, each student must write up their papers and assignments individually. In other words, you can get together and discuss the issues and share ideas, but the work you submit must be your own. If a classmate or someone else has provided help and information, that should be acknowledged in your write-up. Clearly cite all sources. Copying is not allowed.

Carleton Statement Regarding Plagiarism: The Senate of the University has labeled plagiarism an instructional offence. For the University’s purposes, plagiarism is “presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own”. Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course’s instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been

plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of “F” for the course. For more information, please go to the following web page: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>.

8 Mental health

As a student you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. For more information, please consult <https://wellness.carleton.ca/>

9 Requests for Academic Accommodation

Carleton is committed to providing academic accessibility for all individuals. You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. The accommodation request processes, including information about the Academic Consideration Policy for Students in Medical and Other Extenuating Circumstances, are outlined on the Academic Accommodations website: students.carleton.ca/course-outline