

Cog-A. Omni-Linguistics: Syllabus

V-NYI, Summer 2022

Up to date as of June 30, 2022

Instructor

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Course description

This course adopts an “omni-linguistic” approach to meaning–form mappings in language and beyond. We will explore how different types of meaning are expressed through various channels in spoken and written communication (words and their parts, gestures, facial expressions, prosody, modifications of typed and handwritten text, emoji, etc.), and how the various bits of meaning thus expressed come together at different levels of representation. We will also discuss non-linguistic systems of meaning–form mappings in humans, such as pictures and resistance training, as well as animal communication.

Course materials

All course materials will be added to the NYI website. Please do not share these materials with anyone outside NYI without the instructor’s permission.

Readings

It’s up to you if/when/how you do the readings, but we’ll be able to have more insightful discussions in class and, in general, have a more interactive experience, if most people do at least some of the “obligatory” readings on a given topic before the class on said topic.

Pass/fail criteria

The main criteria for passing or failing this class are (i) attendance, and (ii) participation in discussion (more on this in class).

Schedule (subject to change)

Date	Topics	Readings
7/2	Intro. Multi-channel communication.	Obligatory: Esipova 2019b, 2021a; further: Esipova 2019a; Schlenker 2018
7/5	Multi-channel communication ctd.	Same
7/7	Multi-channel communication ctd. Pictures.	Obligatory: Patel-Grosz et al. 2022, 4.1, 6.1; Esipova 2021b; further: Abusch 2019; Cohn 2018, 2020
7/9	Pictures ctd. Written communication.	Obligatory: Grosz et al. 2021; further: Cohn et al. 2019; Herring & Ge 2020
7/12	Music and dance. Resistance training.	Obligatory: Patel-Grosz et al. 2022, 6.2–6.4; Esipova 2021c; further: Charnavel 2019; Patel-Grosz et al. 2018; Schlenker 2021
7/14	Animal communication. Wrap-up.	Obligatory: Patel-Grosz et al. 2022, 3; further: Schlenker et al. 2016; Heesen et al. In press

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