Frank Richter:
Computational Semantics

Seminar:	Monday 11ct–13 at the SfS, Seminarraum 1.13 and Wednesday 11ct–13 at the SfS, Seminarraum 1.13 plus individual thesis counseling meetings
Seminar starts:	Wednesday, April 16th, 2008
Office Hours:	Tuesday 11.00 – 12.00

Office No. at SfS	Phone #	Email
2.17	29-78489	fr@sfs.uni-tuebingen.de

- Webpage: `http://www.sfs.uni-tuebingen.de/∼fr/teaching/ss08/cs/`

- Choice of thesis topic: **June 11th**

- Start of thesis writing period: **July 21st**

- End of thesis writing period: **September 1st**

Participation and Grading Policy

Examination regulations of the Neuphilologische Fakultät require that students attend courses regularly. If students do not attend a course meeting on more than two occasions in one semester without proper excuse (e.g. doctor's note), the course instructor has to give them a failing grade.

Please do not put me in a position to have to fail you for this reason. If you cannot come to class, please email me ahead of time, if at all possible.

You are expected to come on time. In some of the class meetings students will give oral presentations (more on this below). It is a matter of common courtesy to not make their work harder by disturbing them by being late. Being late without good reasons will count as not having attended a course meeting.

- B.A. students (15 credits):

  The purpose of this class is your B.A. thesis, and the grade of the thesis class will be based on the thesis alone. However, in preparation of the thesis you are required to give at least one in-class presentation.

- M.A. students (10 credits):

  This course is not primarily designed for M.A. students. However, it is possible for M.A. students (and for students of General Linguistics) to attend this class and get credit.

  Your grade for this course will be based on the following items:

  1. An in-class presentation (*Referat*). Your presentation should be based on either a printed hand-out or a slide presentation. The presentation will count for a total of 40% of your grade: 20% for the quality of the hand-out/slides, and 20% for the quality of the oral presentation.

2. A written term paper or software project. The grade of the paper will count 60% of your final grade.

Reading Assignments

Please read the assigned reading in advance of the class meeting for which it was assigned. I will presuppose that you have read the material when we discuss it in class.

Oral Presentations (Referate)

For your presentations the following two rules are important:

- You should have an appointment with me no later than *one week before* your presentation in order to discuss open questions and the structure and content of your presentation.

- At the beginning of the class meeting one week before your presentation you will have five minutes to tell the other participants about how to prepare for your presentation. You are expected to give a very brief overview of the topic of your talk and to inform the participants what to focus on when they read the paper on which your presentation is based.

Important Dates (Summary)

- There will be an extra session on thesis writing (in early June)

- Choice of thesis topic: **June 11th**

- Start of thesis writing period: **July 21st**

- Office hours: July 29th (Tuesday), August 25th (Monday)

- I will not be available between August 2nd and around August 20th

- End of thesis writing period: **September 1st**

- The thesis results will be available in early October

References

[Blackburn and Bos, 2005] Blackburn, Patrick and Bos, Johan 2005. *Representation and Inference for Natural Language. A First Course in Computational Semantics*. CSLI Publications.

[Blackburn et al., 2001] Blackburn, Patrick, Bos, Johan, Kohlhase, Michael, and De Nivelle, Hans 2001. Inference and computational semantics. In Harry Bunt, R. Muskens, and E. Thijsse (eds), *Computing Meaning Volume II*, 11–28. Kluwer Academic Publishers.

[Covington, 1994] Covington, Michael A. 1994. *Natural Language Processing for Prolog Programmers*. Prentice Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07458.

[Pereira and Shieber, 1987] Pereira, Fernando C. N. and Shieber, Stuart M. 1987. *Prolog and Natural-Language Analysis*. CSLI Publications.

[Sterling and Shapiro, 1994] Sterling, Leon and Shapiro, Ehud 1994. *The Art of Prolog*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: The MIT Press, 2nd edition.