

**Philosophy 137B**  
**Philosophy of Language: Truth and Meaning**  
Fall 2009

Professor Michael Glanzberg  
2283 Social Sciences and Humanities  
Office hours: Mondays 11-12, Wednesdays 12-1.

**Class Meetings**

MWF 10:00-10:50am, Wellman 115

**Prerequisites**

One course in philosophy or linguistics. Some familiarity with formal logic, though not officially required, will be very useful as the course progresses.

**Text**

We will read a small number of papers. All of them are in *The Philosophy of Language* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.) edited by A. P. Martinich, Oxford University Press. But they are widely available, and any version will do.

**Grading**

One midterm (40%) and one final exam (60%).

**Tentative Schedule**

1. Introduction.  
Week 1: September 25.
2. Frege, "On Sense and Nominatum" (other versions translate as "On Sense and Reference"), selections.  
Week 2: September 28, October 30, 2.
3. Frege, "The Thought," selections.  
Week 3: October 5, 7, 9.
4. Tarski, "The Semantic Conception of Truth and the Foundations of Semantics."  
Weeks 4 & 5: October 12, 14, 16 (guest lecturer), 19, 21, 23.
5. Davidson, "Truth and Meaning."  
Weeks 6 & 7: October 26, 28, 30, November 2, 4, 6.  
**MIDTERM October 30.**
6. Grice, "Meaning."  
Week 8: November 9, 13 (NB Veterans Day November 11).
7. Lewis, "Languages and Language."  
Week 9: November 16, 18, 20.
8. Chomsky, "Language and the Problem of Knowledge."  
Week 10: November 23, 25 (NB Thanksgiving November 27).
9. Davidson, "A Nice Derangement of Epitaphs."  
Week 11: November 30, December 2, 4 (very likely we will not get to this reading).

**FINAL EXAM: Thursday, December 10, 3:30pm.**