

Philosophy of Language: Foundations of Meaning

PHIL360 | Prof. Cowling TR 1:30-2:50

This course is an introduction to the foundations of semantic theory and the nature of language. We will familiarize ourselves with the formal and conceptual apparatus of contemporary linguistics and examine the philosophical underpinnings of distinctions between semantics and pragmatics, sense and reference, and literal and non-literal meaning. We will examine a host of puzzling linguistic phenomena like metaphors, idioms, pejoratives, and the nature of questions and answers.

Prerequisite: PHIL200 or consent of instructor.)