

Prosody and Meaning I & II

James German

8 September, 9:00-10:30 & 11:00-12:30

This course serves as an introduction to how prosody is used to communicate various kinds of semantic and pragmatic meaning. Emphasis will be placed on those types of prosodic meaning that interact with word meaning, taking information structure (and especially focus) as a starting point. The first session will focus on basic notions of information structure, and how the relationship between information structure and prosody can be addressed for any given language. The second session will address more advanced notions of information structure, as well as how prosodic meaning can influence the non-pragmatic, “truth-conditional” meaning of an utterance.