

Compact Course: 'Transitive Intensional Verbs' (DEC-ENS)

Place: DEC - ENS

20 rue d'Ulm

75005, Paris

Pavillon Jardin (ground floor)

LSCP's meeting room

Attention change of dates:

December 1, 8, **new date:** 13, January 12 (!), January 19

Time: 16h30-19h30

The topic of this minicourse are the various classes of transitive intensional verbs and their semantic properties. Typical transitive intensional verbs are 'need' and 'look for'. But also 'recognize', 'find', and 'buy' have been identified as intensional transitive verbs of a similar type. More controversial are verbs like 'worship' and 'conceive of', though they arguably also require a semantic analysis distinct from that of extensional verbs. Moreover evaluative verbs and verbs of description exhibit peculiarities that distinguish them from ordinary extensional verbs. In this mini-course we will look at the various linguistic phenomena associated with transitive intensional verbs in the broadest sense and develop different semantic analyses for various types of such verbs that must be distinguished.

Prerequisites: basic knowledge of formal semantics

Program

Session 1 : December 1

- Kinds of transitive intensional verbs
- Criteria for transitive intensional verbs
- The shared objects of verbs of absence, transaction verbs, and epistemic verbs
- [[Handout1](#)]

Reading:

- Moltmann, F (1997): '[Intensional verbs and quantifiers](#)'. *NLS* 5.1., 1-52.
- ----- (2008): '[Intensional Verbs and their Intentional Objects](#)'. *NLS* 16.3., 239-270

Session 2 : December 8

- Continuation : The shared objects of transitive intensional verbs
- Transitive intensional verbs and their nominalizations
- Transitive intensional verbs and the status of have
- [[Handout](#)]

Reading:

- Harves, S. / R. Kayne: '[Having need and needing have](#)'. *Linguistic Inquiry* (to appear).

Session 3 : December 13

- Evidence for clausal complements
- Syntactic differences between clausal complements

Reading:

- den Dikken, M., R. Larson and P. Ludlow (1996) '[Intensional 'Transitive' Verbs and Concealed Complement](#)

[Clauses](#)'. In *Readings in the Philosophy of Language* P. Ludlow (ed.), Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press 1997, 1041–1053.

- Schwarz, F. (2006): '[On NEEDING propositions and LOOKING FOR properties](#)'. In: M. Gibson, J. Howell (eds), *SALT XVI* 259-276, Ithaca, NY: Cornell University.

Session 4 : January 12

Intensional verbs and intentional verbs

Session 5 : January 19

Intensionality effects with 'extensional' transitive verbs

The semantics of verbs of description