Cukier-Goldstein-Goren Center for Mind, Cognition and Language,
School of Philosophy, Linguistics and Science Studies,
Department of Linguistics

THURSDAY INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLOQUIUM

Thursday 14/03/2024
16:15-17:45
Dorit Abusch, Cornell University
Frontal lecture in Webb 103

Implicatures from Text with Pictures

This presentation discusses the semantics of multi-modal narratives of text accompanied by pictures, showing how to combine information from the two media in a possible-worlds semantic framework. This includes indexing across media. The result is a unitary multimodal semantics. There is a systematic phenomenon in a class of children's picturebooks of the language being understated compared to the pictures. To analyze this pragmatically, it is necessary to have separate access to the semantics of the language and the semantics of the images. This is formalized in a straightforward way. Conflict between language and image is analyzed with a variety of quantity implicature. This can result in a contradiction between language and image at the pragmatic level.

Click here to see the colloquium program.