Before and after are not duals, which is to say they differ from one another in asymmetric ways. Before (but not after) can license NPIs; after (but not before) is veridical. Traditionally, these asymmetries have been accounted for by treating the two as encoding different quantifiers (Anscombe, 1964) or by proposing a null operator ‘earliest,’ which provides an external, domain-specific source for the asymmetries. In this class, we explore the immediate issues – the NPI and veridicality asymmetries, the interpretation of before and after sentences – as well as some more general issues in the semantics of aspect and degree, which strongly suggest the semantics of temporal relations are part of a larger pattern of the behavior of interval-denoting plurals, relations between them, and pragmatic considerations of maximal informativity.

schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>wk</th>
<th>date</th>
<th>topic</th>
<th>readings (optional readings italicized)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>September 26</td>
<td>introduction</td>
<td>Anscombe (1964); Heinämäki (1974)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>October 3</td>
<td>pronominal tense &amp; interval semantics</td>
<td>Partee (1984)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>October 17</td>
<td>a first pass</td>
<td>Beaver and Condoravdi (2003)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>October 24</td>
<td>a second pass</td>
<td>Condoravdi (2010)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>October 31</td>
<td>a third pass (HALLOWEEN</td>
<td>Krifka (2010b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>November 7</td>
<td>maximality in degree semantics</td>
<td>Heim (2007) (Beck and Rulmahn, 1999)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>November 28</td>
<td>THANKSGIVING</td>
<td>Krifka (2010a) (Lin, 2016)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>December 5</td>
<td>student presentations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students enrolled in the course for full credit will be asked to write a term paper for the course, due Friday December 13. (Due to my pregnancy, I cannot guarantee grades will be posted on time.) Students should schedule a meeting with me to discuss their topic by Friday November 22, and briefly present their project to the class on Thursday December 5.

additional issues to explore:

- tense embedding: Kubota et al. (2012); Grønn and von Stechow (2013); Sharvit (2014)
- NPIs, god help you: Barker (2018)
- fieldwork on tense and aspect: Cover (2015); Cover and Tonhauser (2015)
- tenseless languages: Tonhauser (2011)
- graded tense: Cable (2013); Mucha (2017)
- aspectual coercion in the experimental literature: Pickering et al. (2006); Townsend (2013); Paczynski et al. (2014)
- the lexical semantics of aspectual coercion: Pustejovsky and Bouillon (1995)


