

LT3215: PRAGMATICS

Effective Term

Semester B 2022/23

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Pragmatics

Subject Code

LT - Linguistics and Translation

Course Number

3215

Academic Unit

Linguistics and Translation (LT)

College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

LT2201 Introduction to Linguistics or LT2229 Fundamental of Linguistics or LT2290 Introduction to Language Studies

Precursors

LT3211 Semantics

Equivalent Courses

CTL3215 Pragmatics

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

Pragmatics investigates the role of context in the interpretation of meaning. Pragmatics is a relatively young discipline in linguistics starting to develop in the 1970s. This course covers many topics in pragmatics such as deixis, speech acts,

conversational implicature, presupposition, conversational analysis, politeness theory, metapragmatics and cultural pragmatics. The student will apply theoretical insights to the design of empirical projects. The ability of launching, conducting and evaluating empirical investigations is crucial in pragmatic research.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

	CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Observe the various pragmatic functions of implicatures, presuppositions, speech acts and deixis	40	x	x	x
2	Use pragmatic principles and methods to analyse real data	30	x	x	x
3	Carry out empirical projects	30	x	x	x

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

TLAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Lecture Theoretical foundations of all learning outcomes are laid out in the lecture. Basic ideas are taught during two hours per week, including: Deixis: - Classify the situational and spatial subtypes of deixis; - Describe the social, strategic (politeness) and ethno-pragmatic subtypes of deixis; Pragmatic properties of utterances: - Identify the speech acts of utterances; - Recognize the hidden presuppositions utterances articulate; - Assess the conversational implicatures utterances generate; Pragmatic projects: - Plan practical steps in the execution of projects; - Apply pragmatic principles in analysis of data - Examine the structure of conversations	1, 2, 3	3 hours
2	In class activities	Exercises presented in tutorials will familiarize the students with the theoretical concepts of the lecture	1, 2, 3
3	Individual Reading	Students will read lecture and tutorial notes and additional literature proposed by the lecturer	1, 2, 3
4	In-class activities and presentations	Through these activities and presentations students will apply the theoretical ideas learned in the lecture to real world linguistic data and to understanding and explaining pragmatic research	1, 2, 3

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks (e.g. Parameter for GenAI use)
1	Article presentation Students will read and present on a research article in pragmatics	1, 2	5	
2	Research project Students pick one topic in the area of pragmatics, make a class presentation, and write a written report.	3	30	
3	Participation Students will participate in the discussion and in-class activities to learn and practice their analytical and application abilities.	1, 2, 3	15	
4	Test 1 Students will be asked to sit in a test in the middle of the course. They will be assessed on their analytical and application abilities.	1, 2, 3	25	
5	Test 2 Students will be asked to sit in a test at the end of the course. They will be assessed on their analytical and application abilities.	1, 2, 3	25	

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Examination (%)

0

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

1. Article presentation

Criterion

Demonstrate through oral presentation the ability to review an academic article.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Excellent understanding of concepts, methodology and findings in the chosen academic article.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Good understanding of concepts, methodology and findings in the chosen academic article.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Adequate understanding of concepts, methodology and findings in the chosen academic article.

Marginal (D)

Weak understanding of concepts, methodology and findings in the chosen academic article.

Failure (F)

Poor understanding of concepts, methodology and findings in the chosen academic article.

Assessment Task

2. Research project

Criterion

Apply concepts and analytical skills on a chosen topic

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Excellent competence in applying concepts and analytical skills on the chosen topic.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Good competence in applying concepts and analytical skills on the chosen topic.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Adequate competence in applying concepts and analytical skills on the chosen topic.

Marginal (D)

Weak competence in applying concepts and analytical skills on the chosen topic.

Failure (F)

Poor competence in applying concepts and analytical skills on the chosen topic.

Assessment Task

3. Participation

Criterion

Critical thinking and problem solving

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Participation in in-class activities will be graded on a complete/incomplete basis

Good (B+, B, B-)

Participation in in-class activities will be graded on a complete/incomplete basis

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Participation in in-class activities will be graded on a complete/incomplete basis

Marginal (D)

Participation in in-class activities will be graded on a complete/incomplete basis

Failure (F)

Participation in in-class activities will be graded on a complete/incomplete basis

Assessment Task

4. Tests

Criterion

Demonstrate command of the subject matter and course content.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Excellent command of the subject matter and course content.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Good command of the subject matter and course content.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Adequate command of the subject matter and course content.

Marginal (D)

Marginal familiarity with the subject matter and course content.

Failure (F)

Poor familiarity with the subject matter and course content.

Part III Other Information**Keyword Syllabus**

Introduction:

Scope and definition of Pragmatics

Deixis:

Person deixis, Time deixis, Place deixis, Discourse deixis, Social deixis, Anaphora, Cataphora, Indexicals

Speech acts (Illocutionary acts):

Declaratives, Interrogatives, Imperatives, Constatives and Performatives

Conversational Structure:

Neo-Griceanism, Relevance theory, Conversational implicature and Pragmatic inference

Cultural Pragmatics:

Politeness, Strategies in Social Interactions, Metapragmatics

Pragmatic methods

Reading List**Compulsory Readings**

Title	
1	Grundy, Peter (2000). Doing Pragmatics. London: Arnold.

Additional Readings

Title	
1	Levinson, Stephen (1983). Pragmatics. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
2	Brown, Penelope and Stephen Levinson (1978, 1987). Politeness: Some universals in language use. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
3	Searle, J. (1979). Expression and Meaning. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
4	Sperber, D. and D. Wilson (1986) Relevance: Communication and Cognition. Blackwell
5	Cutting, J. and K. Fordyce (2020). Pragmatics: A Resource Book for Students .Routledge.