Pragmatics

Technical specs:
Modality of Class: asynchronous lessons with some possibly synchronous discussions
Office Hours: Wednesday 2-3PM (or by appointment)
Office: Hammond Hall 132E (Tel: 817-272-3133)
Email: suwon.yoon@uta.edu
Faculty profile: https://www.uta.edu/profiles/suwon-yoon

Course description
This course is a graduate-level introduction to Pragmatics. It is designed to prepare students for serious research in these areas. Introducing the fundamental goals and techniques of current pragmatic theory and the empirical facts it is based on, we aim to prepare graduate students to pursue an independent research on practical use of human languages. After reviewing the basic tools of current pragmatic theory, the course moves on to the various core topics concerning the meaning and use in English and also from a crosslinguistic perspective.

Student Learning Outcomes
The course will be formally and conceptually challenging, so diligent reading and active participation in discussion is expected. On successful completion of this course, students should be able to:
• navigate journal databases at the UT Arlington library in order to find additional journal articles on pragmatic issues
• identify and explain basic questions investigated in pragmatics in order to situate the core issues of meaning and use of language
• describe and illustrate theoretical issues of pragmatics with the core tools
• produce a novel work based on an independent research on the pragmatic questions regarding the relevant topics, or interface issues with other subfield of linguistics, especially semantics.

Required textbook

Canvas. All supplemental readings, lecture notes and videolinks will be provided in Canvas website: they will be posted under MODULE menu in Canvas.

Teams. Discussions and meetings will take place in Microsoft Teams. You may join via a browser, but it is recommended to download Teams and join with that application. To join a Teams meeting, view these Join a Meeting Instructions.

Course Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 0:</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Syllabus, student survey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 19, 21</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 1:</td>
<td>Defining Semantics vs. Pragmatics</td>
<td>Birner: Ch. 1 (required)</td>
<td>Post research question</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 26, 28</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 2, 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3:</td>
<td>Gricean Implicature</td>
<td>Birner: Ch. 2 (required)</td>
<td>Post research question</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 9, 11</td>
<td></td>
<td>Grice 1975 (required)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Week 4:** Feb. 16, 18  
Cont.  
RT: (Anti-)Honorification: a subtype of expressives  
Culpeper, Bousfield, & Wichmann 2003 (optional)

**Week 5:** Feb. 23, 25  
UTA closed due to severe weather

**Week 6:** Sept. 30  
Mar. 2, 4  
Later Approaches to Implicature  
Birner: Ch. 3 (required)  
Post research question

**Week 7:**  
Mar. 9, 11  
Cont.

**Week 8:**  
Mar. 16, 18  
SPRING BREAK

**Week 9:**  
Mar. 23, 25  
<< Midterm presentations >>

**Week 10:**  
Mar. 30,  
Apr. 1  
Reference  
Birner: Ch. 4 (required)  
Enfield 2003 (optional)  
Post research question

**Week 11:**  
Apr. 6, 8  
Presupposition  
Birner: Ch. 5 (required)  
von Fintel 2004; Karttunen 1973 (optional)  
Post research question

**Week 12:**  
Apr. 13, 15  
Cont.

**Week 13:**  
Apr. 20, 22  
Speech Acts  
Birner: Ch. 6 (required)  
Jucker 2009 (optional)  
Post research question

**Week 14:**  
Apr. 27, 29  
<< Final presentations >>

**Week 15:**  
May 4  
<< Final presentations >>

**Week 16:**  
Final paper due by May 14

“As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. –S. Yoon.”

**Additional Dates of Note:**

**Census Date:** Wednesday, Feb. 3 (last day to add or swap classes)

**Last Date to Drop:** Friday, Apr. 2

**Online course format:**

- Every Tuesday: lecture video for the week will be uploaded, along with lecture slides or handouts; you should watch the lecture and work on exercises in handouts. (asynchronous)
- Every Thursday: discussion/solution of exercises will be posted; you can refer to the solution to compare with your answers, and raise questions.
- If you have any questions, you can either post it at Course Q&A Template under “Discussion” menu in Canvas (asynchronous) or meet with me at my office hour (Wednesday 2-3PM) via Teams (please email me first so that I can send an invite to you in Teams).
- For midterm and final presentations, we will hold Teams meetings. (synchronous for midterm, asynchronous for final presentations)

**Requirements:**
The requirements for the course will include reading and posting a research question (in Canvas, Discussion board), 2 presentations, and a final paper. Each of you will give a presentation of your research topic to the class during the last two weeks of the semester. **Late posting of research question will NOT be accepted. Postponement of presentation/final paper will NOT be given without documented medical or family emergency.** You must notify me before the class/deadline if either of these events occurs. Further, a formal hard copy request for makeup must be submitted along with supporting documents. The decision on the makeup will be made after review of such documents. Makeup will be under the conditions set by the instructor. **Requirement missed for any other reason will result in a score of ZERO.** Grading policy will be given on the first day of class.

- **Research questions and online/offline discussion (20%)**
  Every other week students are required to read the assigned (required or optional) readings and upload 1-2 questions on Canvas “discussion board”. The questions must be uploaded the day before class (by midnight on Monday), which may be discussed in class (if students bring up the issue) and may continue to be discussed online afterwards. Participation in online discussion will positively affect the grade.

- **Presentations (40%)**:
  i. Students will present a proposal of their paper topic on week 9 (synchronous). (20%)
  ii. Students will present their own final project at the end of the semester (asynchronous). (20%)

- **Final project (40%)**:
  In the final paper, you can either apply some of the tools we've learned to a new set of data in any language you are familiar with, and/or discuss some theoretical tension in the set of analyses presented in class. The final paper (10-15 pages, double-spaced) must be entirely individual work. Late submission will NOT be accepted.

**COURSE POLICIES**
1) Students are responsible for checking the course Canvas regularly for the update.
2) **Electronic devises:** Please turn off and keep off all pagers, electronic games, MP3 and CD players, and cell-phones. If you are using a lap-top, please use it only for course related matters—failure to do so will negatively affect your participation grade.

**Institutional Information**
UTA students are encouraged to review the below institutional policies and informational sections and reach out to the specific office with any questions. To view this institutional information, please visit the Institutional Information page (https://resources.uta.edu/provost/course-related-info/institutional-policies.php) which includes the following policies among others:
- Drop Policy
- Disability Accommodations
- Title IX Policy
- Academic Integrity
- Student Feedback Survey
- Final Exam Schedule
Mandatory Face Covering Policy
All students and instructional staff are required to wear facial coverings while they are on campus, inside buildings and classrooms. Students that fail to comply with the facial covering requirement will be asked to leave the class session. If students need masks, they may obtain them at the Central Library, the E.H. Hereford University Center’s front desk or in their department. Students who refuse to wear a facial covering in class will be asked to leave the session by the instructor, and, if the student refuses to leave, they may be reported to UTA’s Office of Student Conduct.

Attendance
At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator of student success. Each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students’ academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section that is asynchronous, I will take the active participation in discussion (i.e. posting research questions and discussion therein) as regular attendance in class. However, while UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients “begin attendance in a course.” UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report must the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Canvas. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.

The IDEAS Center (https://www.uta.edu/ideas/) (2nd Floor of Central Library) offers FREE tutoring and mentoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. Students can drop in or check the schedule of available peer tutors at www.uta.edu/IDEAS, or call (817) 272-6593.

The English Writing Center (411LIBR)
The Writing Center offers FREE tutoring in 15-, 30-, 45-, and 60-minute face-to-face and online sessions to all UTA students on any phase of their UTA coursework. Register and make appointments online at the Writing Center (https://uta.mywconline.com). Classroom visits, workshops, and specialized services for graduate students and faculty are also available. Please see Writing Center: OWL for detailed information on all our programs and services.

The Library’s 2nd floor Academic Plaza (http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza) offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services are available during the library’s hours of operation.

Librarian to Contact
Each academic unit has access to Librarians by Academic Subject that can assist students with research projects, tutorials on plagiarism and citation references as well as support with databases and course reserves.

Emergency Phone Numbers
In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at 817-272-3003 (non-campus phone), 2-3003 (campus phone). You may also dial 911. Non-emergency number 817-272-3381