Pragmatics

Technical specs:

Time: Tue/Thu., 2:00-3:20 PM
Place: TH 119
Office Hours: Wed 2-4 PM (or by appointment)
Office: Hammond Hall 132E
Email: suwon.yoon@uta.edu
Faculty profile: https://www.uta.edu/profiles/suwon-yoon

TA: Ju-Young Lee, Kristen E. Fleckenstein
Email: ju-young.lee@mavs.uta.edu, kristen.fleckenstein@mavs.uta.edu
Office: Trimble Hall 217B (JYL), 217A(KEF)
Office Hours: Thu 3:30-5:00PM (JYL), Tue/Thu 12:30-1:30 pm (KEF)

Course description

This course introduces the fundamental goals and techniques of current pragmatic theory and the empirical facts it is based on. It also has the goal of preparing you to pursue more advanced study of the meaning of human languages and to provide a foundation for your own research. 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

On successful completion of the course, students will learn and evaluate basic theoretical concepts and tools in Pragmatics. Students will analyze natural languages and practice how to make coherent argumentation and empirical justification for pragmatic claims, gaining overall understanding of the theoretical issues in Pragmatics and its application.

Required textbook: (available online stores/available at the Campus Bookstore)
Betty J. Birner, 2012. *Introduction to Pragmatics,* Wiley-Blackwell; 1 edition (September 24, 2012).
→ Lecture notes and other supplemental materials will be provided during the class or on the course website at Blackboard Learn.

Course Schedule:

	Content	**Reading**	**Notes**
Week 1: Jan. 20, 22	Defining Pragmatics	Birner: Ch.1	Weekly HW 1 (due in one week)
Week 2: Jan. 27, 29	Gricean Implicature	Ch. 2	HW 2
Week 3: Feb. 3, 5	Later Approaches to Implicature	Ch. 3	HW 3
Week 4: Feb. 10, 12	Reference	Ch. 4	HW 4
Week 5: Feb. 17, 19	Presupposition	Ch. 5	HW 5
Week 6: Feb. 24, 26	Review		
Week 7: Mar. 3, 5	**Midterm**		(March 10,12: Spring Break)
Week 8: Mar. 17, 19	Speech Acts	Ch. 6	HW 6
Week 9 Mar. 24, 26	Information Structure	Ch. 7	HW 7
Week 10: Mar.31,Apr.2	Inferential Relations	Ch. 8	HW 8

Week 11: Apr. 7, 9	Dynamic Semantics and the Representation of Discourse	Ch. 9	HW 9
Week 12: Apr. 14, 16	Semantics/Pragmatics	Ch. 10	HW 10
Week 13: Apr. 21, 23	Pragmatics in the Real World	Ch. 10	
Week 14: Apr. 28, 30	T.B.A.		
Week 15: May. 5, 7	Review		
Week 16: May. 12	**Final exam**	2-4:30PM	

"*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."*

Course requirements and Grading:
The requirements for the course will include textbook reading (pop quizzes), homeworks, a midterm and a final exam. **Late homework will NOT be accepted**. **No makeup exams** will be given without documented medical or family emergency. You must notify me before the exam 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 exam will be made after review of such documents. Makeups will be under the conditions set by the instructor. **Exams missed for any other reason will result in a score of zero.** Grading policy will be given on the first day of class.

- **Attendance (10%)**
  I have established following attendance policy: students are expected to come to class on time and must **behave in a professional manner** during class. **More than three unexcused absence** will automatically bump **your grade to one lower level.** Only formal support for the reasons of absence will be accepted.

- **Preparation and participation in class (20%)**
  Preparation for class (reading), and active participation in classroom discussion are required. (i) The content of the lecture will be challenging and difficult to follow without textbook reading, hence the preparation may be tested by **pop quizzes** (10%). (ii) After the lecture, there will be **group discussion** of the exercises and then the whole-class discussion (10%).

- **Assignments (30%)**
  The assignments for the course will consist of problems in semantic analysis, with data that challenges or extends the basic assumptions that are covered in class. The assignments are designed to familiarize you with the descriptive or formal aspects of linguistic analysis. The solution to the problems will be open-ended, so your work will be evaluated based on empirical justification for claims, strength of argumentation, and form and clarity. The problem sets will be somewhat challenging. You are strongly encouraged to collaborate with your classmates, and/or consult with me on all of these assignments, but you should submit your own writing. **Late assignment will NOT be accepted.** *Assignments must be typed and handed in at class.*

- **Midterm exam (15%)**

- **Final exam (25%)**

COURSE POLICIES

1) Students are responsible for **checking the course Blackboard** 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.

Librarian to Contact: Jody Bailey (jbailey@uta.edu)

OTHER POLICIES

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance**. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/).

Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Title IX: The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to upholding U.S. Federal Law "Title IX" such that no member of the UT Arlington community shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. For more information, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX.

Academic Integrity: Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

> *I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*
>
> *I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit http://www.uta.edu/sfs.

Final Review Week: A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located [XX]. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

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.