

LING 5347 (001): Pragmatics Spring 2018

Professor:	Laurel Smith Stvan
Faculty Profile:	https://www.uta.edu/mentis/profile/?1558
Class Meetings:	Tues and Thur 3:30 – 4:50 pm in 204 Trimble Hall
Stvan Office Hours:	Tues and Thur 5:00 – 6:00 pm and other times by appointment
Stvan Office:	132-K Hammond Hall
Phone:	(817) 272-9489
Email:	stvan@uta.edu (preferred method of contact!)
TA:	Emily Williams
Williams Office Hours:	Tues 5:00 – 6:00 pm and Thursdays from 12:00-1:00
Williams Office:	121 Hammond Hall and other times by appointment
Email:	emily.williams@mavs.uta.edu

Description of Course Content

In this class we will be studying some of the ways in which the context and form of an utterance interact to affect speaker's intended meaning beyond literal word meaning. Our main topics this term will include reference, deixis, implicature, presupposition, speech acts, and the signaling of information structure through word order.

This class has no prerequisites. For linguistics MA and PhD students in Linguistics, this course is the one of the Meaning and Use core requirements. For students in the MA or Certificate in TESOL the course can count as an elective or as the sociolinguistics/pragmatics credit.

This is a graduate-level course with two objectives:

- to provide practice in analyzing the impact of truth conditions, context, and speaker intention on the interpretation of meaning.
- to provide practice reading and discussing linguistic topics on pragmatics in order to gain insight into both theoretical aspects and practical applications of conveying meaning in communication.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

- identify and explain basic questions investigated in pragmatics in order to situate the

core issues of context-dependent meaning

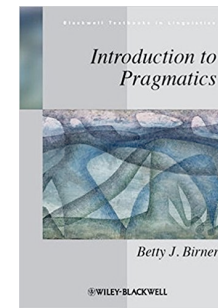
- describe and illustrate how presuppositions can be identified in language
- describe and illustrate how hearers can calculate an indirect speech act and a conversational implicature
- describe ways in which speaker expectations about meaning created through interlocutor interaction could affect cross-cultural conversations and second language instruction
- show that you can find, assess, contribute, and cite verifiable definitions and references in order to build up wiki pages on designated topics in pragmatics

Required Course Materials

We'll be accessing three sets of materials. The first is a required textbook is available at the campus bookstore (400 S. Pecan St--on the corner of Pecan and UTA Boulevard) or through another bookseller of your choice:

1. Birner, Betty J. 2013.
Introduction to Pragmatics
Wiley-Blackwell
(ISBN: 978-1405175838)

Available in paperback or e-book



2. A set of required articles, and copies of the class handouts and slide will be available on Blackboard shortly after class starts: <https://elearn.uta.edu/>
3. You'll need to set up a free account on Wikipedia and do some online training to learn how to contribute to Wikipedia articles on pragmatics. I'll send you instructions on how to set this up in the second week of the course.

(The Birner book will also be available on 3-hour reserve at the UTA Central Library.)

Descriptions of Major Assignments and Examinations

Contributions from the Textbook and Lecture (Total: 105 points)

Class Attendance Total	10
Gricean implicature exercise	15
Reference and deixis exercise	20
Direct and indirect speech act exercise	20
Reflection on teaching pragmatic info	10
Final exam	30

Contributions from Wikipedia Editing (Total: 95 points)

Get started on Wikipedia	5
Evaluate Wikipedia	10
Add to an article	10
Draft your article	20
Respond to your peer review	10
Group in-class presentation	10
Final article	30

Grand Total for all Class Work:	(200 points)
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Grading

The grades for each component will be determined as follows:

A- 90-92 %	B- 80-82 %	C- 70-72	D- 60-62%	F 59 or lower
A 93-96 %	B 83-86 %	C 73-76	D 63-66	
A+ 97-100 %	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69	

Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels.

Course Policies

Class attendance is **required**. You are responsible for the material presented in class lectures and for any handouts passed out in class as well as for any group work done in class; for your own benefit, come to class. But if you must miss a lecture, do the reading and homework, get notes and information from another student, and then make an appointment to talk to me as soon as possible.

Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the day listed in the schedule, and no later. No late assignments will be accepted without instructor approval. Even approved late submissions will receive a reduction in points.

Important Academic and Administrative 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://web.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

Disability Accommodations: UT 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)*, *The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA)*, and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act*. 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 disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the **Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD)**. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting: **The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD)** www.uta.edu/disability or calling 817-272-3364. **Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS)** www.uta.edu/caps/ or calling 817-272-3671.

Title IX: The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For

more information, visit uta.edu/eos. For information regarding Title IX, 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: turn right as you exit the classroom, head toward the glass doors. Exit through the glass doors and take either set of stairs down to the first floor. 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. <https://www.uta.edu/policy/procedure/7-6>

The English Writing Center (411LIBR): Hours are 9 am to 8 pm Mondays-Thursdays, 9 am to 3 pm Fridays and Noon to 5 pm Saturdays and Sundays. Walk In **Quick Hits** sessions during all open hours Mon-Thurs. Register and make appointments online at <http://uta.mywconline.com>. Classroom Visits, Workshops, and advanced services for graduate students and faculty are also available. Please see www.uta.edu/owl for detailed information.

Librarian to Contact: Ms. Jody Bailey jbailey@uta.edu 817-272-7516

Auditors: Department of Linguistics and TESOL faculty, staff, and students currently enrolled in a linguistics/TESOL programs may be able to audit a course (with the permission of the professor). Audited courses cannot be used to satisfy any degree or program requirements/electives, nor will any credit (including retroactive) be granted for audited courses.

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

Tentative Schedule of Assignments

[Last Updated--**Jan. 17, 2018**: *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: Laurel Sivan.*]

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| 1. Tue. Jan. 16
Thu. Jan. 18 | Overview of the class and Organizational stuff
Overview of Pragmatics |
| 2. Tue. Jan. 23
Thu. Jan. 25 | Birner Ch. 1 Defining Pragmatics
Introduction to the Wikipedia project |
| 3. Tue. Jan. 30
Thu. Feb. 1 | Birner Ch. 2: Gricean Implicature
Evaluate Wikipedia |
| 4. Tue. Feb. 6
Thu. Feb. 8 | Add to a Wiki article
Gricean implicature exercise due |
| 5. Tue. Feb. 13
Thu. Feb. 15 | Birner Ch. 4: Reference
Sources and Plagiarism |
| 6. Tue. Feb. 20
Thu. Feb. 22 | Reference and deixis exercise due
Draft your group's Wiki article |
| 7. Tue. Feb. 27
Thu. Mar. 1 | Birner Ch. 5: Presupposition
Attend UTASCILT instead of classes
Write two peer reviews of other group's articles |
| 8. Tue. Mar. 6
Thu. Mar. 8 | Birner Ch. 6: Speech Acts
Respond to your Wiki article peer review |
| Tue. Mar. 13
Thu. Mar. 15 | --Spring Break—No classes--
--Spring Break—No classes-- |

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| 9. Tue. Mar. 20
Thu. Mar. 22 | ACES; Direct & Indirect Speech Act exercise due
Moving your article out of the Sandbox |
| 10. Tue. Mar. 27
Thu. Mar. 29 | Birner Ch. 7 Information Structure
Improving your Wiki article |
| 11. Tue. Apr. 3
Thu. Apr. 5 | Reflection on teaching pragmatic info due
Polish your Wiki article |
| 12. Tue. Apr. 10
Thu. Apr. 12 | Birner Ch. 10 Conclusion
Prep for presentation/Finalize article |
| 13. Tue. Apr. 17
Thu. Apr. 19 | In-class presentations
In class presentations |
| 14. Tue. Apr. 24
Thu. Apr. 26 | In class presentations
TBA |
| 15. Tue. May. 1
Thu. May. 3 | TBA
Review |
| Exam Week
Thur May 10 | In-class Final Exam 2:00- 4:30 p.m. |

Additional Semester Dates to Note

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| Wed. Jan 31 | Census Date (last day to add into a class) |
| Fri. March 30 | Last day to drop a course
(see your advisor by 4 pm) |