

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LING 4347 (001)</b> <b>Pragmatics</b> <b>Fall 2013</b></p>
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**Professor:** Laurel Smith Stvan  
**Meetings:** Tuesday 5:30-8:20 pm in Preston Hall 207  
**Faculty Office:** 125 Hammond Hall  
**Office Hours:** Tuesday and Wednesday, 4-5pm, and other times by appointment  
**Phone:** (817) 272-9489  
**Email:** [stvan@uta.edu](mailto:stvan@uta.edu) (preferred method of contact!)

### **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 our understanding of meaning. Our main topics this term will include reference, deixis, implicature, presupposition, speech acts, and the highlighting of information structure through word order and intonation.

Prerequisite: LING 3311 or permission of the instructor. This is an undergraduate-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 practice reading and discussing linguistic literature on pragmatics in order to gain insight into both theoretical aspects and practical applications of meaning construction in communication.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon successfully completing 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 many of the 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.

### **Required Course Materials**

There are three required items. Two textbooks are 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. Green, Georgia M. 1996. 2nd ed. *Pragmatics and Natural Language Understanding*. Mahwah, N.J: Erlbaum. (ISBN: 0-8058-2166-X).
2. Huang, Yan. *Pragmatics*, 2007. Oxford University Press. (ISBN: 978-19-924368-6.)
3. The third is a set of required articles that will be available on Blackboard shortly after class starts.

[Items (1) and (2) are also available on 2-hour reserve at the UTA Central Library, along with some additional recommended texts by Levinson and Verschueren.]

### **Descriptions of major assignments and examinations**

Course grades will be determined as follows:

1. Attendance / Participation **5%**

Regular class attendance is required. You are responsible for keeping track of the material presented in class lectures, for any handouts distributed in class or via Blackboard, as well as for any group work done in class. As part of your participation, grad students are required to give a brief (10-15 minute) oral presentation to the class on their final paper topic.

Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional three hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for quizzes, etc.

## 2. Homework Assignments (10 X 10% - 10%) **90%**

There will be 10 homework essays during the semester, each worth 10% of the final grade. Each assignment should be 2-3 pages, typed, double spaced. They should contain enough content to show that you understood the readings sufficiently enough to find some real-life instance or application of the assigned topic. I will grade on the following elements -- in descending order of importance: content (having the right information), clarity and originality of prose (showing that you've digested the material), and form (correct spelling and grammar). Late assignments will be accepted only if a student has contacted me and received permission **in advance**. There are no make-up assignments in this class. However, undergraduate class members can exclude the lowest one of their homework assignments for the class.

## 3. Vocabulary Quiz **5 %**

There will be an in-class vocabulary quiz in the second to last week of regular classes. You will need to identify names and define terms from the entire course.

**There will be no final exam.**

### **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 PRIOR approval. Even approved late submissions will receive a reduction in points.

### Important Academic and Administrative Policies

**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 a 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.

**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](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**Academic Integrity:** All students enrolled in this course 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.*

Instructors 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.

Please be advised that departmental policy requires instructors to formally file charges with the Office of Student Conduct, following procedures laid out for faculty there (<http://www.uta.edu/studentaffairs/conduct/faculty.html>), as well as notify the department chair of the filing of the charges.

**Student Support Services Available 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](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).

**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/ses/fao>). **(Note: Students enrolled in graduate courses may not repeat a class to "replace" a grade).**

A student dropping his/her last (only) course cannot withdraw as above. Rather, s/he must go in person to the UTA Registrar's Office (Davis Hall, First Floor) and complete a request to resign from the university.

**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 to the left as you exit this classroom; then take the stairs down to the ground 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 handicapped individuals.

**Auditors:** With instructor permission, 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.

# Ling. 4347/5347 -- Pragmatics Fall 2013

[Last Updated: **Aug 21, 2013**: *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 Stvan.*]

<b>Readings to have prepared for class</b>			<b>Tasks or events to be aware of</b> <b>[G=Grad student]</b> <b>[U=Undergrad]</b>
1.	Tue. Aug. 27	We'll discuss what pragmatics is. Huang Ch. 1 Introduction	
2.	Tue. Sept. 3	Green Ch. 1: What is Pragmatics Green Ch. 2 pp. 17-25: Indexicals and Anaphora	<b>G/U HW #1 Due</b>
3.	Tue. Sept. 10	Fillmore (1975). Santa Cruz Lectures on Deixis, pp. 38-49 Huang Ch. 5: Deixis	
4.	Tue. Sept. 17	Green Ch. 2 pp. 25-35: Anaphora Meet with Jody Bailey in the UTA Central Library	<b>G/U HW #2 Due (Deixis)</b>
5.	Tue. Sept. 24	Clark and Marshall. (1981) Definite Reference and Mutual Knowledge Green Ch. 3 pp. 37-61: Reference and Indeterminacy	<b>G/U HW #3 Due (Library Tasks)</b>
6.	Tue. Oct 1	Huang Ch. 2: Implicature Green, Ch. 5: Implicature	
7.	Tue. Oct. 8	Grice (1967). Logic and Conversation Stvan (1993). Activity Implicatures	
8.	Tue. Oct. 15	Huang Ch. 4: SpeechActs	<b>G/U HW #4 Due (Implicature)</b>
9.	Tue. Oct. 22	Searle (1975). Indirect Speech Acts Goddard (1998): Speech Act Verbs AND Olshtain and Cohen (1991): Teaching Speech Act Behavior to Non-native Speakers	

10.	Tue. Oct 29	Green, Presupposition, pp. 72-88 Huang Ch. 3: Presupposition	<b>G/U HW #5 Due (Speech Acts)</b>
11.	Tue. Nov. 5	Simons (2011): On the Conversational Basis of Some Presuppositions Word Order. Green Ch. 6: Pragmatics and Syntax Ward and Birner (2001): Discourse and Information Structure	
12.	Tue. Nov. 12	Grads meet with me today or tomorrow to discuss progress on your paper Scheduled meetings only, no meeting of the full class	<b>G HW #6 Due (RQ &amp; Outline)</b> <b>U HW#6 Due</b>
13.	Tue. Nov. 19	Prosody: Eisenberg (2002). Teaching Machines to Hear; Ladd (1975). Stylized Intonation; AND Ward and Hirschberg (1985). Implicating Uncertainty	<b>G/U HW #7 Due</b>
14.	Tue. Nov 26	Kaspar (1997). Can Pragmatic Competence be Taught? Feedback Surveys and Vocabulary Quiz	<b>U HW #8 Due</b> <b>G/U In-class Quiz</b>
15.	Tue. Dec 3	No readings, we'll hear about your paper topics	<b>Grad presentations</b> <b>U HW #9 Due (Contrast with #6)</b>
<b>EXAM WEEK:</b>			
	Tues. Dec. 10	No meeting during exam week	<b>U HW #10 Due (S&amp;R)</b> <b>Grad student term papers due</b> <b>by 8:15 pm</b>

#### Additional Semester Dates to Note

<b>Mon. Sept 9</b>	Census Date (last day to add into a class)
<b>Wed. Oct 30</b>	Last day to drop a course