

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>PRAGMÀTICA DE L'ANGLÈS</b>
<b>Code:</b>	<b>28489</b>
<b>Credits:</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Semester:</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Groups:</b>	<b>1</b>
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### **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT**

This is an introductory course to the study of English language pragmatics which takes full account of the socio-cultural, interpersonal and spatio-temporal embedding of situated linguistic productions. The course focuses on the in-depth examination of a few approaches that have been highly influential in the development of the field. In the first part, the emphasis falls on the analysis of individual utterances, whereas in the second part a more discursive approach to language use is taken. In this part, longish pieces of real-life data from authentic social contexts are analysed and discussed in class.

### **OBJECTIVES**

- Introduce students to a new framework for understanding language use.
- Familiarize students with key concepts, approaches and authors within the field of linguistic pragmatics.
- Get students to reflect on their own and others' linguistic practices and to examine them critically.
- Initiate students into the practice of doing research on language use.

### **SYLLABUS**

1. What is pragmatics? Definitions, core concepts and sitting within linguistics
2. Talk as social action: Speech Act Theory
3. The interpersonal dimension of language use: Politeness Theory
4. The pragmatics of small-scale interaction: Conversation Analysis
5. Macro-social processes in language use: Critical approaches to language use
  - i. Power and social inequality
  - ii. Ideology and discourse
6. Approaches to international and intercultural communication

### **ASSESSMENT**

As this is a highly practical course, regular class attendance is compulsory. Theoretical explanations on each topic by the lecturer will be supplemented by a number of practical exercises to be corrected in class. Students will be expected to do the assigned exercises

regularly as well as read the background materials in order to participate actively in classroom discussion. After each main topic, students will be given an assignment in which they will have to apply the concepts presented in class to the analysis of a piece of language data.

At the end of the course, students will be required to submit an original research paper which involves data collection and analysis drawing on one of the theoretical frameworks presented. A choice of topics

and types of data will be presented. The expected format of the paper will be that of an academic piece of work.

**The breakdown of the final grade will be as follows:**

Final exam	50%
Course project	30%
Class participation, home assignments & integrated tutorial work	20%

**TUTORIALS**

Round about mid-April, students will be given the topics to work on for their final projects. At the beginning of May, they will have to submit an outline of the paper and a data extract via email. Feedback will be provided to each individual group.

**MATERIALS**

*English Pragmatics Reading Pack*. Photocopy Service, Facultat de Filosofia i Lletres, UAB.

**BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Blommaert, Jan (2005) *Discourse*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Gumperz, John J. (1982) *Discourse Strategies*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Hutchby, Ian, and Robin Wooffitt (1998) *Conversation Analysis: Principles, practices and applications*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

Mey, Jacob L. (1993) *Pragmatics. An Introduction*. Oxford: Blackwell

Thomas, Jenny (1995) *Meaning in Interaction. An Introduction to Pragmatics*. London: Longman.

Verschueren, Jef (1999) *Understanding Pragmatics*. London: Arnold.