

**APPLIED LINGUISTICS
(PRAGMATICS AND DISCOURSE)**

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| Course number | ENGL 246 |
| Credits | 3 |
| Faculty: | Dr. Ulrike Pözl |
| Email: | up00@aub.edu.lb |
| Class times | 8:00-9:15 Tuesday/Thursday |
| Class room | Nicely Building 320 |
| Office hours: | 11:30-12:30 Tuesday/Thursday and by appointment |

Course description:

This course is designed as a concise introduction to the study of pragmatics and discourse analysis. Topics include: data collection, discourse analysis, deixis, speech acts, presupposition, pragmatic inference, politeness, and intercultural pragmatics.

Required Reading:

Cutting, Joan (2008) *Pragmatics and Discourse. A resource book for students*. 2nd edition. Routledge.

Grundy, Peter (2008) *Doing Pragmatics*. 3rd edition. Hodder Education.

Teaching/Learning strategies:

This course is based on a variety of strategies involving both professor and students. Lectures will serve as a preparation for student activities which involve group work and class discussions. Towards the end of the course student projects (based on field work) will be presented in class to complement the themes presented by the professor.

Assignments:

Each book chapter should ideally be read before it is discussed in class since this facilitates activities/exercises and class discussion. Other assignments (e.g. exercises, further reading, etc.) will be announced in class.

TOPICAL OUTLINE

| WEEK | SESSIONS | TOPICS DISCUSSED |
|-------------|-----------------|--|
| Week 1 | February | 16 Course Introduction and overview |
| | | 18 How to collect data: challenges and methods Grundy CH 12: pp 249-254 |
| Week 2 | | 23 Transcribing data – introducing different methods Grundy CH 12: pp 255-260; handout |
| | | 25 Analyzing discourse I Cutting A3: pp 22- 33; B3: pp 83-90 |
| Week 3 | March | 2 Analyzing discourse II Grundy CH 10: pp 211-227 |
| | | 4 Relevant terms and themes in Pragmatics Cutting A1: pp 4-13; B1: pp 76-79; Grundy CH 1: pp 1-21 START FIELD WORK (=COLLECT DATA!) |
| Week 4 | | 9 Deixis Grundy CH 2: pp 23-47 |
| | | 11 Presupposition Grundy CH 3: pp 48-70 |
| Week 5 | | 16 Implicature Cutting A4: pp 33-41; B4: pp 87-90; Grundy CH 5: pp 92-109 |
| | | 18 Relevance Cutting A4: pp 41-42; Grundy CH 6: pp 133-154 |
| Week 6 | | 23 Speech acts I Cutting A2: pp 13-21; B2: pp 80-83 |
| | | 25 Speech acts II Grundy CH 4: pp 71-91 |
| Week 7 | | 30 Speech acts III - handout and student data |
| Week 8 | | 1 Activities and revision |
| | | 6 MID TERM EXAM |
| Week 9 | April | 8 Discussing student work-in-progress (field work) |
| | | 13 Pragmatic inference I Grundy CH 8: pp 178-185 |
| Week 10 | | 15 Politeness I Cutting A5: pp 43-52; B5: pp 90-93 |
| | | 20 Politeness II Grundy CH 9: pp 186-210 |
| Week 11 | | 22 English as a lingua franca - handout |
| | | 27 Intercultural pragmatics I Cutting A7: pp 65-74; B7: pp 101-103 |
| Week 12 | | 29 Intercultural pragmatics II Grundy CH 11: pp 228-248 |
| | | 4 Intercultural pragmatics III - handout DEADLINE FOR HANDING IN RESEARCH PAPER |
| Week 13 | May | 6 <i>Presentation of field projects</i> |
| | | 11 <i>Presentation of field projects</i> |
| Week 14 | | 13 <i>Presentation of field projects</i> |
| | | 18 <i>Presentation of field projects</i> |
| Week 15 | | 20 <i>Presentation of field projects</i> |
| | | 25 <i>Presentation of field projects</i> |
| Week 16 | June | 27 Activities and revision |
| | | TBA FINAL EXAM |

This syllabus is subject to change!

Research paper:

Students are expected to write a research paper (individually) which comprises 8-10 pages. They have to conduct a field study which involves recording a 10-15 minutes conversation in English (as a lingua franca) on campus or off campus. When recording participants, students should behave ethically (ask their permission beforehand). Participants are people – not objects! The data has to be transcribed following one of the systems discussed in class. In analyzing and discussing their data, students will focus on 1-3 of the following topics (some might not be applicable):

1. Discourse (e.g. interruptions, pauses, laughter, adjacency pairs, preferred/dispreferred responses)
2. Deixis
3. Relevance
4. Presupposition
5. Implicature
6. Speech acts
7. Politeness
8. Intercultural aspects

The research paper has to be handed in on May 4th! Late work will not be accepted. Students can consult the professor on their research paper any time before the deadline! ☺

Student presentation:

Students will present their research in class using a power point format. Presentation time is 30 minutes. Doing a presentation is the perfect opportunity to practice rhetorical skills, relevant IT skills and a sound understanding of the topics discussed. No need to be nervous.☺ Students will be expected to do:

1. a power point presentation on their research
2. a handout (outline) including a transcription of the part of the recording they are going to discuss
3. an audio presentation of a sample of the conversation they have recorded
4. an activity or discussion topic for the fellow students (e.g. a sample you had problems transcribing, challenges you faced, new terms that have to be coined – let the group propose solutions)

Attendance:

Attendance will be taken and the AUB attendance policy applies (see source below). Students are expected to attend all classes! In case of absence, it is the student's responsibility to make up course work and to get information about any announcements made. Students who miss more than one/fifth of the sessions in the first 10 weeks will be dropped from this course. They will subsequently receive a grade of "W".

(source: http://www.aub.edu.lb/fas/fas_home/student_resources/Pages/rules_and_regulations_highlights.aspx#attendance)

Grading policy:

Following the continuous education system the grade will be split into 4 different categories:

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| Presentation | 25% |
| Research paper | 25% |
| Mid term | 25% |
| Final | 25% |

Grading system:

The following grading system is used.

| Range | Performance Designation | Letter Grade | Grade Points |
|--------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 90-100 | Outstanding | A | 4.0 |
| 85-89 | Excellent | B+ | 3.5 |
| 80-84 | Very good | B | 3.0 |
| 75-79 | Good | C+ | 2.5 |
| 70-74 | Fair | C | 2.0 |
| 60-69 | Weak | D | 1.0 |
| Below 60 | Fail | F | 0.0 |

Academic Honesty:

Students are expected to follow the academic honesty policy in their academic conduct throughout the entire course. The most prominent cases of academic dishonesty are: cheating during exams, letting other students do one's course work, or plagiarism.

Cheating during an exam will result in the grade of "F". Group work, which is only done by one group participant, will result in 0 points for the other/s.

Plagiarism: (source: *AUB Undergraduate Catalogue 2009-2010*, p 50)

Students who fail to credit properly ideas or materials taken from another commit plagiarism. Putting your name on a piece of work-any part of which is not yours – constitutes plagiarism, unless that piece is clearly marked and the work from which you have borrowed is fully identified. Plagiarism is a violation of the University's academic regulations and is subject to disciplinary action.