

ET322-15 Intercultural Pragmatics

26/27

Department

Applied Linguistics

Level

Undergraduate Level 3

Module leader

Duncan Lees

Credit value

15

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

How does miscommunication work? Are the rules of politeness universal? Why is it sometimes difficult to know what is appropriate in a different language? In this module you build on your earlier study of pragmatics by focusing on concepts related to intercultural pragmatics. You have the opportunity to analyse and reflect critically on pragmatic issues arising from language use in different intercultural and multilingual contexts. You will have the opportunity to work with real life data and increase your understanding of the affective power of language and issues of appropriateness in language use.

Module aims

The module aims to introduce students to concepts related to intercultural pragmatics and develop their ability to analyse and reflect critically on pragmatic issues arising from language use in cross cultural contexts.

This module will contribute primarily to the achievement of Course Aims #2, #3, #7 and #9.

2. Give students an in-depth appreciation of the linguistic, historic and global complexity of the English Language
3. Enable students to analyse language in general and the English language in particular at every level from the word to its place in society at large.

7. Enable students to develop knowledge and understanding of the nature of language and how it is used in communication between people from different linguistic and cultural backgrounds.
9. Enable students to undertake an in-depth study of issues relating to English language and linguistics.

In addition, through the proposed assessments it will also contribute to the Course Aims #4, #8 and #10:

1. Develop students' ability to write, speak and communicate visually in the appropriate English for the context.
2. Prepare students for future employment, and for further study or training, by developing intellectual acuity, flexibility and independence, and by providing opportunity for the development of transferable skills.
3. Enable students to develop the ability to learn independently and to gain intellectual breadth and flexibility

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

- The emergence of pragmatics
- The Semantic/Pragmatic interface
- Cooperation and meaning-making
- Speech acts across languages and cultures
- Conversational routines and culture
- Communication style
- Politeness theories
- Pragmatics and rapport management
- Metapragmatics and interpersonal evaluation
- Pragmatics and intercultural competence

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to: Engage critically with current issues in Intercultural Pragmatics. Demonstrate profound understanding and skills in analysing how different social and cultural contexts affect the nature of language and meaning, and sensitivity to the affective power of language and appropriateness in language use. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the different approaches for the study of Intercultural Pragmatics. Design and carry out independent research in Pragmatics.

Indicative reading list

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

Research element

The major assessment component for this module consists of a research project. For this, the students will develop their own research questions and identify a suitable methodology to address these. Throughout students will engage critically with empirical research articles and methodologies to prepare them for this task.

Interdisciplinary

This module draws mainly on the fields of pragmatics and intercultural communication, but also touches on social psychology and anthropology.

International

This module deals with cross- and intercultural research on communication. Students will engage with culture specific speech acts as well as with communication occurring in international settings. Students will be encouraged to draw on their own linguistics and social knowledge from both contexts and active learning and intercultural reflection amongst a highly international cohort of students are an important focus of the class.

Subject specific skills

Carry out analyses of cross-linguistic features and contexts, and authentic discourse, using both quantitative and qualitative methods;

Understand and explain key concepts, models and research findings in Pragmatics;

Demonstrate responsiveness to the central role of language in the creation of meaning and a sensitivity to the affective power of language;

Analyse research data on interpersonal pragmatics using relevant concepts and frameworks.

Transferable skills

Work effectively with others in group tasks;

Plan and manage time in projects;

Use a range of tools and resources effectively in the preparation of course work;

Critically reflect on meaning making in different professional and everyday contexts;

Critically evaluate key concepts, models and research findings associated with interpersonal pragmatics.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	9 sessions of 2 hours (12%)
Seminars	9 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Private study	123 hours (82%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

Reading subject materials

Homework tasks

Assignments

Revision

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A1

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
2500 word research project	70%		Yes (extension)
Reassessment component is the same			
Assessment component			
Group Project	30%		Yes (extension)
Reassessment component is the same			

Feedback on assessment

Written feedback on the assignment will be provided on the Centre's standard feedback sheets, which conform to Faculty regulations. This will include both summary and detailed feedback.

Where appropriate, additional feedback may be provided via personal meetings with the tutor.

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 3 of UPSA-C802 Undergraduate Psychology with Linguistics

This module is Core optional for:

- Year 3 of UETA-Q1T6 Undergraduate Linguistics with Arabic
- Year 3 of ULNA-R9QB Undergraduate Modern Languages with Linguistics (3 year)
- Year 4 of UPSA-C805 Undergraduate Psychology with Linguistics (with Intercolated Year)

This module is Optional for:

- Year 4 of ULNA-R1Q3 Undergraduate French and Linguistics
- Year 3 of UETA-X3Q5 Undergraduate Language, Culture and Communication
- Year 4 of UETA-X3Q8 Undergraduate Language, Culture and Communication (with Intercolated Year)
- Year 4 of UETA-Q1A9 Undergraduate Linguistics with Arabic (with Intercolated Year)
- Year 3 of UETA-Q1T1 Undergraduate Linguistics with Chinese
- Year 4 of UETA-Q1A7 Undergraduate Linguistics with Chinese (with Intercolated Year)
- Year 3 of UETA-Q1R1 Undergraduate Linguistics with French
- UETA-Q1A1 Undergraduate Linguistics with French (with Intercolated Year)
 - Year 3 of Q1A1 Linguistics with French (with Intercolated Year)
 - Year 4 of Q1A1 Linguistics with French (with Intercolated Year)
- Year 3 of UETA-Q1R2 Undergraduate Linguistics with German
- Year 4 of UETA-Q1A2 Undergraduate Linguistics with German (with Intercolated Year)
- Year 3 of UETA-Q1R3 Undergraduate Linguistics with Italian
- Year 3 of UETA-Q1T2 Undergraduate Linguistics with Japanese
- UETA-Q1A8 Undergraduate Linguistics with Japanese (with Intercolated Year)
 - Year 3 of Q1A8 Linguistics with Japanese (with Intercolated Year)
 - Year 4 of Q1A8 Linguistics with Japanese (with Intercolated Year)
- Year 3 of UETA-Q1R7 Undergraduate Linguistics with Russian
- Year 4 of UETA-Q1A6 Undergraduate Linguistics with Russian (with Intercolated Year)
- Year 3 of UETA-Q1R4 Undergraduate Linguistics with Spanish
- UETA-Q1A4 Undergraduate Linguistics with Spanish (with Intercolated Year)
 - Year 3 of Q1A4 Linguistics with Spanish (with Intercolated Year)
 - Year 4 of Q1A4 Linguistics with Spanish (with Intercolated Year)
- Year 3 of UETA-Q310 in English Language and Linguistics
- Year 4 of UETA-Q311 in English Language and Linguistics (with Intercolated year)

This module is Core option list A for:

- Year 4 of ULNA-R2Q2 Undergraduate German Studies with Linguistics
- Year 4 of ULNA-R9Q2 Undergraduate Modern Languages with Linguistics

This module is Core option list B for:

- Year 4 of ULNA-R9Q1 Undergraduate Modern Languages and Linguistics

This module is Core option list C for:

- Year 4 of ULNA-R1Q2 Undergraduate French Studies with Linguistics
- Year 4 of ULNA-R4Q1 Undergraduate Hispanic Studies and Linguistics

This module is Option list A for:

- Year 4 of ULNA-R9Q1 Undergraduate Modern Languages and Linguistics

This module is Option list C for:

- Year 3 of ULNA-R1Q4 Undergraduate French and Linguistics (3 year)
- Year 3 of ULNA-R9Q4 Undergraduate Modern Languages and Linguistics (3 Year)

This module is Option list D for:

- Year 4 of ULNA-R2Q3 Undergraduate German and Linguistics