



APPL7110

Advanced Topics in Pragmatics and Intercultural Communication

Session 1, Fully online/virtual 2020

Dept of Linguistics

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MRes

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit explores linguistic pragmatics, with a focus on intercultural communication and prepares students to conduct research in pragmatics. The unit equips participants with the tools for analysis of how meaning is constructed in context through spoken and written language. The content includes speech act theory; politeness and face; the co-operative principle and implicature; relevance theory; cultural scripts; and metaphor. There is an emphasis on how communication operates in different cultural contexts and on accessing and interpreting current research. Communication in social and institutional contexts, language in the media, and practical implications for learning and teaching and interpreting and translating are explored.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates>

Learning Outcomes

ULO1: 1 Identify examples of successful and unsuccessful cross-cultural communication and use pragmatic theories to explain the reasons.

ULO2: 2 Analyse examples of authentic discourse using speech act theory, politeness theory and theories of implicature.

ULO3: 3 Make judgements about the types of analysis that are most suitable for

researching particular types of discourse.

ULO4: 4 Evaluate current research in pragmatics in an area of personal or professional interest.

ULO5: 5. Plan research in an area of personal or professional interest.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<u>Text analysis</u>	40%	No	TBC
<u>Research planning</u>	60%	No	TBC

Text analysis

Assessment Type ¹: Case study/analysis

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **TBC**

Weighting: **40%**

Analysis of transcript, plus commentary.

You will be given a transcribed spoken text to analyse, applying what you have learnt about the elements of context, implicature, speech act theory and politeness theory.

The assignment will be assessed in relation to the following criteria

Accuracy of identification of the features of context that must be understood in order to understand the speakers' meanings in the text. Accuracy of analysis using the tools from each of the three areas of pragmatics covered in the course. Statement and justification of conclusions drawn: clarity of argument and relationship to results of analysis.

Word limit, 2,500 words

On successful completion you will be able to:

- 1 Identify examples of successful and unsuccessful cross-cultural communication and use pragmatic theories to explain the reasons.
- 2 Analyse examples of authentic discourse using speech act theory, politeness theory and theories of implicature.
- 3 Make judgements about the types of analysis that are most suitable for researching particular types of discourse.

Research planning

Assessment Type ¹: Plan

Indicative Time on Task ²: 50 hours

Due: **TBC**

Weighting: **60%**

RESEARCH PLANNING

Decide on area of pragmatics and a context in which you might like to undertake conduct research.

Some suggested theoretical areas are:

Politeness and face, Implicature and/or relevance theory, Discourse pragmatics, Metaphor, Critical discourse analysis

Using appropriate databases and library resources, build up an annotated bibliography of relevant recent publications in your area of interest, keeping your broad research question in mind. You will then use these to refine and focus your research question and propose a suitable research methodology.

The review will have the following sections:

1. Propose a broad question
2. Review and critique the literature in this area.
3. Create an annotated bibliography of 10 key sources.
4. Narrow the question down and be specific about the methodology choices and reasons.

The assignment will be assessed in relation to the your demonstrated ability to:

identify the initial area of research and broad question identify and evaluating recent relevant work. provide a synthesis as well as a summary of the work, showing how the work is interrelated show insight and awareness of different approaches, findings and arguments. identify a gap in the existing research propose a more specific research question that could be investigated. write clearly and concisely in academic style. provide a reference list citing all and only those references cited in the body of your essay; use APA referencing style; observe the word limits.

Word limit 3000 words

On successful completion you will be able to:

- 3 Make judgements about the types of analysis that are most suitable for researching particular types of discourse.
- 4 Evaluate current research in pragmatics in an area of personal or professional interest.
- 5. Plan research in an area of personal or professional interest.

¹ If you need guidance or support to understand or complete this type of assessment, please contact the Learning Skills Team

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment

task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

TBC

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central>). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#) (**Note:** *The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.*)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit the [Student Policy Gateway](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway) (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central>).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Enquiry Service

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Equity Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.