

COURSE DETAIL

PRAGMATICS

Country

Japan

Host Institution

Keio University

Program(s)

Keio University

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Linguistics

UCEAP Course Number

140

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

PRAGMATICS

UCEAP Transcript Title

PRAGMATICS

UCEAP Quarter Units

3.00

UCEAP Semester Units

2.00

Course Description

This is a survey course introducing students to the field of pragmatics. There are no prerequisites except for curiosity about how we communicate using words. Pragmatics is the study of how we use language to make and interpret meaning beyond the literal meaning inherent to the words we use. For instance, "You can swim" can mean that "you're allowed to swim," that "you have the ability to swim" or that "swimming is one way for you to get to some destination." For any given utterance of this, we infer the intended meaning based on the meaning of the words, our common world knowledge, the context, and speaker and hearer intentions. An aim of pragmatics is to give an explicit, systemic account of this process.

The first 10 class meetings will introduce 9 representative areas of inquiry in pragmatics research. Students will gain an understanding of fundamental linguistics terminology and acquire the skills to make explicit analyses of language in use. Although the examples discussed in the textbook are mostly from English, students will be encouraged to apply the concepts to their native language during class discussions. The 11th class meeting will review a real research paper in pragmatics chosen based on the class members' interests.

Additionally, students will be required to write a paper about a pragmatics theme of their choice, using data from Japanese or some other language, of between 1000-2000 words. In the last 3 classes, students will present an outline of the research themes they have chosen to write about in their term papers.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

N/A

Host Institution Course Title

PRAGMATICS

Host Institution Campus

Keio University

Host Institution Faculty**Host Institution Degree****Host Institution Department**

Humanities and Social Science

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