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
ADVANCED STUDIES IN LINGUISTICS 17: INTRODUCTION TO PRAGMATICS

Host Institution Course Details
https://gslbs.keio.jp/pub-syllabus/detail?ttblyr=2023&entno=02881&lang=en

Host Institution Campus
Keio University

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Humanities and Social Science

Course Last Reviewed
2022-2023

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