



Course Syllabus

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
TESL-532	Sociocultural Perspectives in TESOL	10
Prerequisites	Department	Semester
TESL-500 TESL-590 TESL-510	Languages and Literature	Fall
Type of Course	Field	Language of Instruction
Elective	TESOL	English
Level of Course	Lecturer	Year of Study
2 nd Cycle	Dr Maria Economidou-Kogetsidis	1 st / 2 nd
Mode of Delivery	Work Placement	Corequisites
Face to face	N/A	None

Course Objectives:

The main objectives of the course are to:

- introduce students to the keys issues in relation to culture and second/foreign language learners' pragmatic performance;
- help students understand how culture and cultural assumptions and expectations affect communicative styles;
- develop knowledge and ability to recognise some frequent causes of intercultural miscommunication (pragmatic failure);
- familiarise students with the study of linguistic politeness and with important issues in theory and methodology of intercultural and interlanguage pragmatics.
- investigate how pragmatic ability can be learned/taught in foreign language contexts.
- to guide teacher students in the analysis of non-native language speakers' pragmatic deviations from the target language;
- teach teacher students how to raise their learners' pragmatic awareness and how to help them use English appropriately in a given sociocultural context.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Use key terminology (including: 'culture', 'communication', 'intercultural communication', 'interlanguage politeness', 'cross-cultural politeness') in order to position TESOL as an area of intercultural practice as well as a type of language education;
2. Understand the role of sociocultural context in second language learning;
3. Analyse and evaluate the pragmatic performance of second language learners;
4. Develop their learners' awareness in regards to the socioculturally appropriate use of language;
5. Develop their learners' ability to use language appropriately in a given sociocultural context;
6. Critically discuss the important issues in theory and methodology of intercultural and interlanguage pragmatics,
7. Critically discuss and analyse linguistic politeness from a cross-cultural and intercultural point of view.

Course Content:

- Cross-cultural communication and pragmatic failure;
- Culture, Directness and Speech Acts;
- Defining and understanding pragmatic competence and failure
- Politeness across cultures – Some case studies
- Requests as politeness phenomena: A cross-cultural overview
- Interlanguage pragmatic development and pragmatic development activities;
- Understanding and analysing pragmatic deviations in intercultural communication; Analysing real data;
- Investigating how pragmatic ability can be learned/taught in foreign language contexts;
- Pragmatic awareness-raising tasks.
- The pragmatics of English as a Lingua Franca – Developing pragmatic competence in ELF.

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Lectures, class discussions, practical activities, data analysis.

Assessment Methods:

Assignment, Participation, Final exam

Required Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Teaching and Learning Pragmatics: Where Language and Culture Meet	Ishihara N. I. and Cohen A. D.	Pearson Education ESL.	2010	978-1408204573
Sociocultural Theory and L2 Instructional Pragmatics	Van Compernelle R.A.	Multilingual Matters	2014	9781783091393
Investigating Pragmatics in Foreign Language Learning Teaching and Testing	Alcon-Soler E. and Martinez-Flor A	Multilingual Matters.	2008	978-1847690845

Recommended Textbooks / Readings:

Additional book(s)/reading material that would support the course (but not a requirement).

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Cross-cultural Pragmatics, The Semantics of Human Interaction	Wierzbicka A.	Mouton de Gruyter.	2003	978-3110177695
Pragmatics in Language Teaching	Rose K. and Kasper R.	Cambridge University Press.	2001	978-0521008587
Pragmatic Competence and	Martinez Flor A., Uso Juan E., and	Publications de la	2009	978-8480214162

Foreign Language Teaching	Fernandez Guerra A.	Universitat Jaume I		
Selected course readings (pdf)	Various	Available on Moodle		