



Course Specification

(Bachelor)

Course Title: **Semantics and Pragmatics**

Course Code: **321 Eng-3**

Program: **BA in Translation**

Department: **Translation**

College: **Languages and Translation**

Institution: **College of Languages and Translation**

Version: **2024**

Last Revision Date: **15/4/2026**

Table of Contents

A. General information about the course:	3
B. Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs), Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods	4
C. Course Content	5
D. Students Assessment Activities	6
E. Learning Resources and Facilities	6
F. Assessment of Course Quality	7
G. Specification Approval	8



A. General information about the course:

1. Course Identification

1. Credit hours: (03)

2. Course type

- A. ☐ University ☐ College ☒ Department ☐ Track ☐ Others
- B. ☒ Required ☐ Elective

3. Level/year at which this course is offered: (6th/3rd)

4. Course general Description:

This course is designed to guide students through the exploration of meaning in language, focusing on both semantics and pragmatics. It will cover a spectrum of topics, from the semantics of individual words to the pragmatics of sentences and context-dependent utterances. Students will be introduced to key concepts and theoretical frameworks within these fields, including concept theories, truth conditions, Grice's conversational implicatures, speech act theory, and politeness theory. Through hands-on analysis of actual language data, students will examine how meaning is communicated and comprehended at the intersection of semantics and pragmatics

5. Pre-requirements for this course (if any):

233 TRA-3

6. Co-requisites for this course (if any):

None

7. Course Main Objective(s):

In this course, the students explore the nature and scope of semantics and pragmatics and their place within linguistics. Its main objective is to enable students to examine meaning from a variety of perspectives. This includes how meaning is encoded in words and sentences, and how native speakers interpret language. It also aims to develop in the students an understanding of the relationship between language and meaning on word, sentence, and utterance level, how grammar and syntax contribute to meaning, how words and utterances encode a variety of meanings, and how language users achieve their goals in their interaction with others.

2. Teaching mode (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom		
2	E-learning		
3	Hybrid - Traditional classroom - E-learning	45	100%
4	Distance learning		

3. Contact Hours (based on the academic semester)

No	Activity	Contact Hours
1.	Lectures	45
2.	Laboratory/Studio	
3.	Field	
4.	Tutorial	
5.	Others (specify)	
Total		45

B. Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs), Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of PLOs aligned with program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	Knowledge and understanding			
1.1	Demonstrate an informed understanding of concepts and terminology used to account for the way meaning is conveyed.	K1	1. Lectures 2. Class discussion 3. Presentations	Tests, presentations, quizzes, assignments
1.2	Demonstrate knowledge of significant theories that focus on semantic	K1	1. Lectures 2. Class discussion 3. Presentations	Tests, presentations, quizzes, assignments





Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of PLOs aligned with program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
	and pragmatic meaning			
...				
2.0	Skills			
2.1	Analyze language material regarding semantic and pragmatic issues	S1	1. Lectures 2. Class discussion 3. Presentations	Tests, presentations, quizzes, assignments
2.2	Apply theoretical linguistic knowledge of semantics and pragmatics to everyday language situations.	S1	1. Lectures 2. Class discussion 3. Presentations	Tests, presentations, quizzes, assignments
...				
3.0	Values, autonomy, and responsibility			
3.1	Bear responsibility for self-study and self-improvement.	V1	self-learning strategies	Observation Cards
3.2	Show self-confidence during the activities and tasks assigned.	V2	self-learning strategies	Observation Cards

C. Course Content

No	List of Topics	Contact Hours
1.	Overview of semantics and pragmatics Key differences and intersections Historical development of the fields	3
2.	Lexical Semantics Word meaning and sense relations Semantic fields and lexical relations Polysemy and homonymy	3
3.	Reference and Sense Definite and indefinite reference Sense vs. reference Anaphora and deixis	3
4.	Theories of Meaning Formal semantics Cognitive semantics	3





5.	Introduction to Pragmatics Context and Pragmatics Context and meaning	3
6.	Speech act theory Types of speech acts Direct and indirect speech acts Felicity conditions	6
7.	Grice's Maxims and Conversational Implicature: Introduction to the Cooperative Principle. Conversation maxims: Quantity, Quality, Relation, and Manner.	6
8.	Politeness and Interaction Politeness theory Face-threatening acts	6
9.	Conversational Analysis	6
10	Presupposition and Implicature Types of presupposition Presupposition triggers Conventional vs. conversational implicatures	6
Total		45

D. Students Assessment Activities

No	Assessment Activities *	Assessment timing (in week no)	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1.	Mid-term	7	30
2.	Quizzes, assignments	11	20
3.	Final	16	50
...			

*Assessment Activities (i.e., Written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.).

E. Learning Resources and Facilities

1. References and Learning Resources

Essential References	1. Birner, B. (2012). Introduction to Pragmatics. Malden: Wiley-Blackwell. 2. Grundy, P. (2000) (2nd ed.). Doing Pragmatics. London: Arnold Publishing. 3. Horn, L. & Ward, G. (2005). The Handbook of Pragmatics. Oxford: Blackwell.
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	- Kearns, K. (2011). <i>Semantics</i>. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan (second edition). - Saeed, J. (2003). <i>Semantics</i>. Oxford: Blackwell. - Riemer, N. (2010). <i>Introducing Semantics</i>. Cambridge: CUP. - Yule, G. (1996). <i>Pragmatics</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
Supportive References	- Leech, G. (1981). <i>Semantics: (2nd Edn.)</i> Harmondsworth: Penguin Books. - Kreidler, C. (1998). <i>Introducing English Semantics</i>. London: Routledge - Palmer, F. (1982). <i>Semantics. (2nd Edn.)</i>. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
Electronic Materials	https://pressbooks.pub/morethanwords/chapter/chapter-7-semantics-and-pragmatics/ https://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/Semantics vs pragmatics https://fac.ksu.edu.sa/sites/default/files/1403178628.0842a_glossary_of_semantics_and_pragmatics.pdf https://www.cairn.info/revue-langages-2016-1-page-15.htm https://edisciplinas.usp.br/mod/resource/view.php?id=463441
Other Learning Materials	All learning material is uploaded on the blackboard system in the form of PowerPoint presentations, echo lectures & also electronic versions of available textbooks/references.

2. Required Facilities and equipment

Items	Resources
facilities (Classrooms, laboratories, exhibition rooms, simulation rooms, etc.)	Lecture rooms. Internet access
Technology equipment (projector, smart board, software)	Data show Computer
Other equipment (depending on the nature of the specialty)	

F. Assessment of Course Quality

Assessment Areas/Issues	Assessor	Assessment Methods
Effectiveness of teaching	Students	Indirect
Effectiveness of Students' assessment	Faculty Program Leaders Peer Reviewer	Direct Direct
Quality of learning resources	Students	Indirect



Assessment Areas/Issues	Assessor	Assessment Methods
The extent to which CLOs have been achieved	Faculty Program Leaders Peer Reviewer	Direct
Other		

Assessors (Students, Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewer, Others (specify))

Assessment Methods (Direct, Indirect)

G. Specification Approval

COUNCIL /COMMITTEE	TRANSLATION DEPT. COUNCIL
REFERENCE NO.	17/2026
DATE	18/4/2026

