Subject Code	ENGL4009
Subject Title	Meaning in Professional Interaction
Credit Value	3
Level	4
Pre-requisite / Co-requisite/ Exclusion	None
Objectives	The subject aims to develop students' critical understanding of the form, meaning and use of language and the principles involved in the interpretation of written and spoken texts; their knowledge and skills to analyse and discuss the ways of describing meaning at word, clause and text levels and apply to appropriate frameworks for describing and discussing pragmatic phenomena, especially in professional communication; and their ability to identify and reflect on the contextual influences which affect English language in use.

Intended Learning Outcomes	Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:
	
	Category A: Professional/academic knowledge and skills
	
	  a. Understand and apply the concepts of pragmatics to the critical analysis of the effectiveness and appropriacy of spoken and written English in professional contexts and to then reflect and generalise from the findings;
	  b. critically evaluate and justify the suitability of pragmatic theories and frameworks in analysing, interpreting and discussing professional interaction;
	  c. synthesise and effectively apply pragmatic approaches to the analysis of new (or unseen) professional interaction;
	
	Category B: Attributes for all-roundedness
	
	  d. exercise judgment and develop intellectual curiosity;
	  e. engage with English professional interaction in a more considered and responsible way; and
	  f. employ a range of strategies for learning autonomously and collaboratively.

Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus	1. Descriptive approaches to meaning 2. Deixis 3. Speech acts and speech events 4. The co-operative principle and relevance theory 5. Conversational implicature 6. Indirectness 7. Politeness phenomena

Teaching/ Learning Methodology	In addition to interactive lectures and seminars, additional reading and online learning takes the learner deeper into the concepts, ideas and application of pragmatics in professional interaction.

Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes	Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)					
			a	b	c	d	e	F
	1. In-class tests	30%	✓	✓	✓	✓		
	2. Oral presentation	30%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	3. Written paper	40%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Total	100 %						

All assignments are designed to assess students' critical understanding of theoretical concepts and frameworks and the ability to apply these to data samples and, at the same time, to reflect on their own language use. They provide students with tasks that require the evaluation, synthesis and application of knowledge of pragmatics to the critical analysis, interpretation and discussion of spoken and written professional interaction. All of the data studied in the subject are authentic and most are drawn from professional contexts in Hong Kong.

Student Study Effort Expected	Class contact:	
	▪ Lectures	39 Hrs.
	▪ Seminars	0 Hrs.
	Other student study effort:	
	▪ Private study	58 Hrs.
	▪ Take-home assignments	29 Hrs.
	Total student study effort	126 Hrs.

Reading List and References	**Recommended reading** Brown, P. and Levinson, S. (1987). *Politeness: Some Universals in Language Usage.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Grundy, P. (2008). *Doing Pragmatics*. (3rd ed.). London: Edward Arnold.

Thomas, J. (1995). *Meaning in Interaction*. London: Longman.

Yule, G. (1996). *Pragmatics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Further reading

Austin, J. L. (1962). *How to Do Things with Words*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Culpeper, J. (2011). *Impoliteness*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Grice, H. P. (1975). Logic and conversation. In P. Cole, & J. L. Morgan, (Eds.), *Syntax and Semantics III: Speech Acts*. (pp. 44-58). New York: Academic Press.

Kasper, G., & Rose, K.S. (2002). *Pragmatic Development in a Second Language*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Levinson, S. (1983). *Pragmatics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Mey, J. (2001). *Pragmatics: An Introduction*. (2nd ed.). Oxford; Cambridge, Mass.: Blackwell.

Searle, J. R. (1969). *Speech Acts*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Searle, J. R. (1975). Indirect speech acts. In P. Cole and J. L. Morgan (eds.), *Syntax and Semantics Vol. 3: Speech Acts.* New York: Academic Press, 59-82.

Wharton, T. (2009). *Pragmatics and Non-verbal Communication*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Revised as of August 2017