HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE

1. **Course Title**
   Pragmatics in Language Learning and Teaching

2. **Course Code**
   LANG 7630

3. **No. of Units**
   3 units

4. **Offering Department**
   MA in Language Studies Programme

5. **Prerequisite**
   Nil

6. **Medium of Instruction**
   English

7. **Aims & Objectives**
   The aims of the course are to enable students to study and analyze how language users find socially appropriate language for the contexts they encounter and what the rules of language use are; to raise their pragmatic awareness; and to explore ways to learn and teach pragmatic competence in English language classrooms, with particular reference to the Hong Kong context.

8. **Course content**
   (1) Theoretical framework
   - What is pragmatics?
   - Principles of pragmatics: Speech act theory, cooperative principle, politeness principle etc.
   (2) Cross-cultural pragmatics
   - Introducing cross-cultural pragmatics (e.g., requests, refusals, compliments) in Chinese/Cantonese and English

(3) Interlanguage pragmatics
- Acquisition, learner use and transfer
(4) Methodology to study pragmatics
- Discourse completion tests, role plays, comprehension exercises, conversations and interviews
(5) Pedagogical issues
- Learning and teaching pragmatic competence (with particular reference to Hong Kong English Language Education Curriculum for primary and secondary schools)

9. Course Intended Learning outcomes (CILOs)

CILO	By the end of the course, students should be able to:
CILO 1	Accurately and critically review published research studies on sociopragmatics.
CILO 2	Explain how language is used and how meaning in language is interpreted appropriately in accordance with context, power, and social relationship for interpersonal and cross-cultural communication
CILO 3	Evaluate the use and development of semantic formulae and linguistic devices in well-represented speech acts such as apologies, requests, refusals, compliments and complaints in interlanguage and cross-cultural pragmatics
CILO 4	Apply the rules of language use to classroom learning and teaching

10. Teaching & Learning Activities (TLAs)

CILO No.	TLAs
CILO 1	- Detailed literature review of a study on sociopragmatics
CILO 2	- Lectures, in-class presentations and discussion to analyse how meaning is exchanged interpreted
CILO 3	- In-class analysis and discussion of semantic formulae
CILO 4	- Lectures, in-class discussion and presentations to apply the rules to classroom contexts

11. Assessment Methods (AMs)

Type of Assessment	Weighting	CILOs to be addressed	Description of Assessment Tasks
Assignment 1	20%	1	This Assignment will test students ability to carefully read, summarize and critique literature within the area of sociopragmatics. They will do a literature review of a published research paper, giving an accurate, detailed summary of the study it describes, plus offer a critique of the methodology used and explain the study's limitations.
Assignment 2	40%	2 and 3	Assignment will assess the students' knowledge of interlanguage and/or cross-cultural pragmatics. They have to choose a speech act and a method to collect some real interlanguage or cross-cultural data, discuss and analyze the performance of L2 learners, focusing on the semantic formulae of the speech act
Assignment 3	40%	4	This assignment requires students to describe how a speech act is taught in a textbook, critique the ways it is taught based on L2 acquisition theories and suggest ways to improve them