

**M.A. Reading List**  
**Pragmatics**  
(Updated September 2024)  
Questions? Contact Professor Félix-Brasdefer ([cfelixbr@iu.edu](mailto:cfelixbr@iu.edu))

**Topics:**

Scope of pragmatics (defining pragmatics), speech act theory, deixis/reference, conversational implicature, theories of meaning, presupposition, information structure, politeness/impoliteness, the pragmatics-semantics interface, relevance Theory.

**General Reference**

(Scope of pragmatics, definitions, topics of pragmatics)

**BOOKS**

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Chapters: 1, 3, 4, 5, 10, 18 [speech act theory]. 24, 27, 28, 29

Birner, B. (2013). *Introduction to Pragmatics*. (IUB Online resource)

Birner, B. J. (2021). *Pragmatics: A Slim Guide*. Oxford: OUP. (Chapters 1, 2, 4, 9) (IUB Online)  
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- Searle, J. R. (1969). *Speech Acts*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Searle, J. R. (2010). *Making the Social World: The Structure of Human Civilization*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Thomas, J. (1995). *Meaning in Interaction. An Introduction to Pragmatics*. New York: Longman.
- Verschueren, J. (1999). *Understanding Pragmatics*. Arnold: Aucland.
- Yule, G. (1996). *Pragmatics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press
- Watts, R. (2003). *Politeness*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Wierzbicka, A. (2003). *Cross-Cultural Pragmatics: The Semantics of Human Interaction*. New York: Mouton de Gruyter. (Chapters 1, 2, 3, 5, 6)
- Wierzbicka, A. (2006). *English: Meaning and Culture*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (Chapters 7, 8)
- Wilson, D. & Sperber, D. (2012). *Meaning and Relevance*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

## Speech Act Theory

- Birner, B. (2013). *Introduction to Pragmatics*. (Ch 6, speech acts) (IUB Online resource)
- Caffi, C. (1999). On mitigation. *Journal of Pragmatics* 31, 881-909.
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- Félix-Brasdefer, J. C. (2014). Speech act sequences. In K. Schneider & A. Barron (Eds.), *Handbook of pragmatics of discourse* (Vol. 3, pp. 323-352). Germany: Mouton de Gruyter.
- Félix-Brasdefer, J.C. (2019) Speech acts in interaction: Negotiating joint action in a second language. In N. Taguchi (Ed.), *The Routledge Handbook of Second Language Pragmatics* (pp. 17–30) London: Routledge
- García, C. & Placencia, M. E. (2011). *Estudios de variación pragmática*. Buenos Aires: Dunken.
- Huang, Y. (2014). Speech acts. *Pragmatics* (2nd ed., pp. 118-168). New York: Oxford University Press (Ch 4, speech acts)
- Koike, D. A., & Félix-Brasdefer, J. C. (2021). *The Routledge Handbook of Spanish Pragmatics: foundations and interfaces*. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge. (Chapter 2)
- Jucker, A. (2008). Speech act research between armchair, field and laboratory: The case of compliments. *Journal of Pragmatics*, 41(8), 1611–1635.
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- Levinson, S. C. (1983). *Pragmatics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (Ch 5, speech acts)
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- Rosaldo, M. Z. (1982). The things we do with words: Illogot speech acts and speech act theory in philosophy. *Language in society*, 11(2), 203-237.
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## Deixis

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- Félix-Brasdefer, J. C. (2015). Forms of address and politeness in service encounters. In J. C. Félix-Brasdefer, *The Language of Service Encounters: A Pragmatic-Discursive Approach* (pp. 204-226). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
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## Theories of Meaning: Implicature, Explicature, and more

- Birner, B. (2013). *Introduction to Pragmatics*. (Chapters 2 & 3) (IUB Online resource)
- Blackwell, S. (2012). Semántica y pragmática. In de los Heros, S. & Niño-Murcia, M. (eds.), *Fundamentos y modelos del estudio pragmático y sociopragmático del español*. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press. (Chapter 1)
- Félix-Brasdefer, J. C. (2019). *Pragmática del español: contexto, uso y variación*. Oxford/New York: Routledge Press. (Ch 4)
- Grice, P. H. (1975). Language and conversation. In P. Cole & J. Morgan (eds.), *Syntax and Semantics 3: Speech Acts* (pp. 41-58). New York: Academic Press.
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- Kent, B. (2010). Impliciture vs. explicature. What is the difference? In B. Soria & E. Romero (eds.), *Explicit Communication: Robyn Carston's Pragmatics* (pp. 126-137). UK: Palgrave Macmillan.
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- Levinson, S. C. (1983). *Pragmatics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (Ch 3, Conversational implicature)
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## Information Structure

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- Lambrecht, K. (1996). *Information structure and sentence form: topic, focus, and the mental representations of discourse referents*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (Caps. 4-5).
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## Politeness and Impoliteness

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