

German 8600

Spring 2016

# FROM PRAGMATIC COMPETENCE TO INTERACTIONAL COMPETENCE IN A SECOND LANGUAGE

T 1:00-3:30 Location *tba*

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This course may be counted towards the  
Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Second Language Studies

One important aspect of learning a second language is the ability to participate in social interactions in various contexts through the use of linguistic and other semiotic resources. Therefore, language learners need to develop interactional competence in conjunction with other components such as pragmatic and communicative competencies. The seminar offers an introduction to the fields of Second Language Pragmatics and Interactional Competence. L2 pragmatics refers to the study of how learners come to know how-to-say-what-to-whom-when (Bardovi-Harlig, 2013). Whereas, studies on interactional competence in a second language focus on not only what a L2 speakers *knows* (linguistic and pragmatic knowledge), but also the ability to participate and engage in social interactions (Kramsch 1986; Kasper 2006; Young, 2008).

The seminar will examine and discuss theories, research methods, and findings on L2 pragmatics and interactional competence.

We explore themes such as:

- Relationship of pragmatic and grammatical development
- Effects of instruction on L2 interactional competence
- Interactional competence development in study abroad context
- Computer-mediated communication and interactional competence development
- Research design in the investigation of L2 pragmatics and interactional competence
- Assessment of L2 pragmatics and interactional competence

If you have any questions about the course and how it might fit with your research interests, please contact the instructor.

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