

- Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines
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### Experimental pragmatics (2LN2320)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
<b>Pilier principal M A - sciences du langage et de la communication</b>	<b>Cours: 2 ph</b>	Voir ci-dessous	5
<b>Pilier secondaire M A - sciences du langage et de la communication</b>	<b>Cours: 2 ph</b>	Voir ci-dessous	5

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

#### Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Automne

#### Equipe enseignante

Prof. Diana Mazzarella, [diana.mazzarella@unine.ch](mailto:diana.mazzarella@unine.ch)

#### Contenu

People often speak loosely ("This is the worst class I have ever attended"), metaphorically ("This course is torture!") or ironically ("Inspiring class today!"). They presuppose information ("I know you fell asleep during the lecture") or implicate it ("Will you come next week?" "I have better things to do").

How do hearers infer the intended message when this is not directly related or fully determined by the structural aspects of the utterance? Experimental pragmatics investigates the nature and underlying cognition of these pragmatic inferences by using methods borrowed from psycholinguistics and experimental psychology.

In this course, we will explore some fundamental forms of pragmatic data – developmental investigations and adult processing data – and the methods employed to collect them, including offline methods, as well as methods that measure reactions at the millisecond level (EEG), follow what participants are looking at in real-time (eye-tracking) or capture their brain activity (fMRI, grip-force). We will discuss a variety of empirical findings and discover how they can contribute to our understanding of human cognition and communication.

#### Forme de l'évaluation

Oral exam (30 minutes + 15 preparation time without student notes).

The oral examination can be taken in English or French.

The preparation time is abolished in case the exam session is moved online due to the sanitary situation.

#### Documentation

Textbook: Noveck, I. (2018) *Experimental Pragmatics. The Making of a Cognitive Science*. Cambridge University Press (selected chapters)

Selected journal articles made available on Moodle.

#### Pré-requis

The language of this course is English. Students will be assigned readings in English. For this reason, a good understanding of spoken and written English is a pre-requirement. However, students may ask questions and contribute to group discussions in French.

Students who are interested in taking this class, but are concerned about its language requirement are encouraged to reach out to Prof. Mazzarella during the first week of term to discuss their situation. Additional readings in French can be made available upon request.

#### Forme de l'enseignement

Lectures and group discussions

#### Objectifs d'apprentissage

Au terme de la formation l'étudiant-e doit être capable de :

- Deduct testable hypotheses from pragmatic theories
- Describe different experimental methods used in pragmatics research
- Interpret the relevance of experimental data to pragmatic theories

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- Analyse experimental designs

**Compétences transférables**

- Recognise well-conducted experimental research
- Apply a data-driven perspective to the analysis of a given phenomenon
- Interpret data