

**Máster en Lingüística Inglesa: Nuevas aplicaciones y Comunicación  
Internacional (MLINACI)**

**LENGUA Y SIGNIFICADO: SEMÁNTICA Y PRAGMÁTICA DEL INGLÉS  
MEANING IN LANGUAGE: SEMANTICS AND PRAGMATICS IN ENGLISH**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

**(i) Objectives:** At the end of the course, you should have:

1. Acquired a general knowledge of the main approaches to the study of Semantics and Pragmatics.
2. Acquired a general understanding of the basic concepts and main issues involved in the semantic and pragmatic analysis of sentences/utterances and text and talk.
3. Developed the ability to carry out semantic and pragmatic analyses of samples of sentences/utterances and text and talk in English.
4. Become more effective in your reading and developed you critical and analytic skills.

**(ii) Course Content**

1. Introduction: Semantics and Pragmatics
  - 1.1. Meaning, Thought and Reality. Denotation, Sense and Reference.
  - 1.2. Expression meaning, Utterance meaning, Communicative meaning.
  - 1.3. Descriptive, Social and Expressive meaning.
2. Lexical semantics and Sentence semantics
  - 2.1. Meaning and Conceptual Content. Construal and other cognitive operations.
  - 2.2. Categories and Prototypes. Category extension. Polysemy and homonymy. Semantic relations.
  - 2.3. Conceptual metaphor and metonymy. Image schemas.
  - 2.4. Situation types. Event Schemas and Sentence patterns.
3. Reference and Presupposition.
  - 3.1. Referentiality. Identifiability.
  - 3.2. Deixis. Deictic categories.
  - 3.3. Semantic and pragmatic presupposition.
4. Speech Act Theory and Conversational Logic
  - 4.1. Direct and Indirect Speech Acts.
  - 4.2. Types of Implicature.
  - 4.3. The Principle of Relevance. Explicatures and implicatures.
5. The Pragmatics of Interaction.
  - 5.1. Context, Power and Distance.
  - 5.2. Politeness and Face.
  - 5.3. The pragmatics of cross-cultural interaction.

**(iii) Methodology**

This course combines presentation of new terms, concepts and other material with discussion and analysis of a series of samples of language. Students are required to make presentations and discuss readings, carry out analysis of examples, and write a term paper.

**Bibliography**

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- Leech, G.N. (1983) *Principles of Pragmatics*. London: Longman.

- Levinson, S.C. (1983) *Pragmatics*. Cambridge : Cambridge University Press.
- Löbner, S. (2002) *Understanding Semantics*. London: Arnold .
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- Saeed, J. (1997) *Semantics*. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Sperber, D. and D. Wilson (1986) *Relevance: Communication and Cognition*. Oxford: Basil Blackwell.
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- Verschueren, J. (1999) *Understanding Pragmatics*. London: Edward Arnold.
- Wierzbicka, A. (1991) *Cross-Cultural Pragmatics*. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.