Do your students know how to be appropriate?
Addressing pragmatics in your language instruction

Even with perfect grammar, learners can offend a conversational partner or trigger misunderstanding without using the second language appropriately in the social-cultural context. This workshop focuses on the pragmatics of a second language and addresses possible ways to highlight appropriate language use in the classroom. The participants of the workshop will:

1) Identify cross-cultural differences in performing speech acts.
2) Reflect their current instructional practices with a focus on pragmatic appropriateness.
3) Become familiar with the scope of research and current pedagogical principles in this area.
4) Explore ways to teach and assess pragmatic ability in their instructional contexts.

DAYS AND TIMES

1-credit option
(TESL.560.N02): Friday - Sunday, June 25 – June 27, 9:00 am to 5:30 pm.

3-credit option
(TESL.560.N01): Friday - Sunday, June 25 - June 27, 9:00 am to 5:30 pm; debriefing & presentation sessions on Friday, July 16 & Sunday, July 18.

Breakfast and lunch will be provided June 25–27 and July 16. There is a $100 material fee for the course. On-campus housing is available if desired, with both single and double occupancy options.

Featuring Workshop Leaders:

Noriko Ishihara, Hosei University, Tokyo
Dr. Ishihara’s work in pragmatics centers on instructional pragmatics, in which she attempts to bridge research in interlanguage pragmatics and classroom practice to integrate culture into language instruction.

Noel Houck, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Dr. Houck’s research focuses on Japanese-English discourse resulting in a book with Susan Gass on Interlanguage Refusals.

Heidi Vellenga, Indiana University, Bloomington
Dr. Vellenga research interests include instructed interlanguage pragmatics, teacher training, education & development, language program administration and materials development.

Please contact the TESOL office at (202) 885-2582 or tesol@american.edu for more information or to register for the 1-credit or the 3-credit option.