

# INTRODUCTION TO PRAGMATICS

Meeting 1

# DEFINITIONS AND BACKGROUND

- Pragmatics is the study of speaker meaning; it deals more with the interpretation of what people mean by their utterances than what the utterances actually mean by themselves.
- The interpretation involves what people mean in a particular context and how the context influences what is said. Therefore, Pragmatics is also the study of contextual meaning.

# DEFINITIONS AND BACKGROUND

- Pragmatics is the study of how more gets communicated than is said. This refers to the investigation of what is unsaid.
- Pragmatics is the study of the expression of relative distance. This raises the idea that what determines the choice between the said and the unsaid depends on the notion of distance.

# SYNTAX, SEMANTICS, AND PRAGMATICS

- Syntax is the study of the relationship between linguistic forms, how they are arranged in sequence, and which sequences are well formed.
- Semantics is the study of the relationships between linguistic forms and entities in the world; how words literally connect to things.
- Pragmatics is the only study who allows humans to investigate and analyze people's intended meanings, their assumptions, their purposes, or goals, and the language functions, and the intended actions that they are performing when they speak.