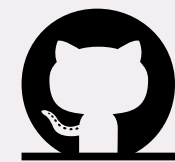


Applied Linguistics

LG 451/456 — Semester 2, 2021 (Jan-May 2022)

CLASS 7: LANGUAGE IN INTERACTION

Sakol Suethanapornkul



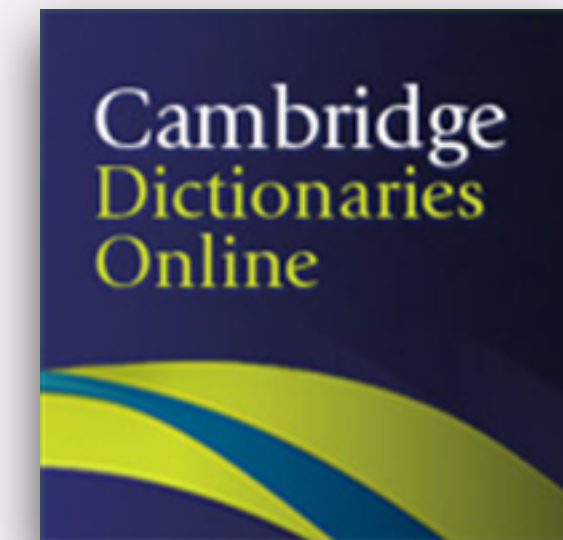
Outline: Week 7

- Recap: Quantitative research
- Language in interaction
 - Setting the scene: Pragmatics
- Reading facilitation
- Installment 1: Final project
- Looking ahead: Week 9

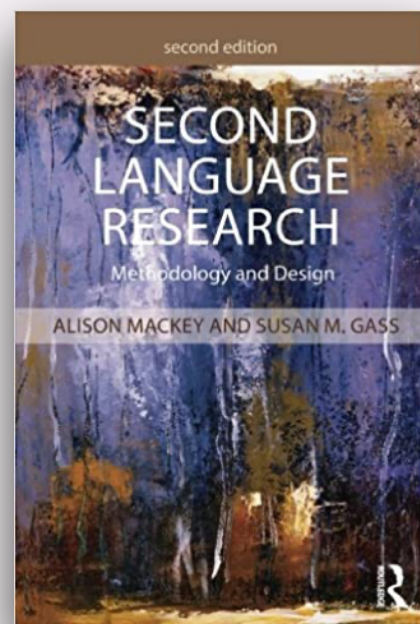
Recap: Quantitative research

What is research?

Research is a detailed study of a subject, especially in order to *discover (new) information* or *reach a (new) understanding*



Cambridge Dictionary



“In its most basic and simplest form, research is a way of finding out answers to questions

Mackey and Gass (2015, p. 1)

Quantitative research approach

An approach used to explore or determine the relationship between variables

- correlation or cause-effect
- **deductive** (theory verification)
- objective measurement of variables (numbers, statistical analyses)
- **generalizability** (extension of findings from study conducted on a sample to the target population)

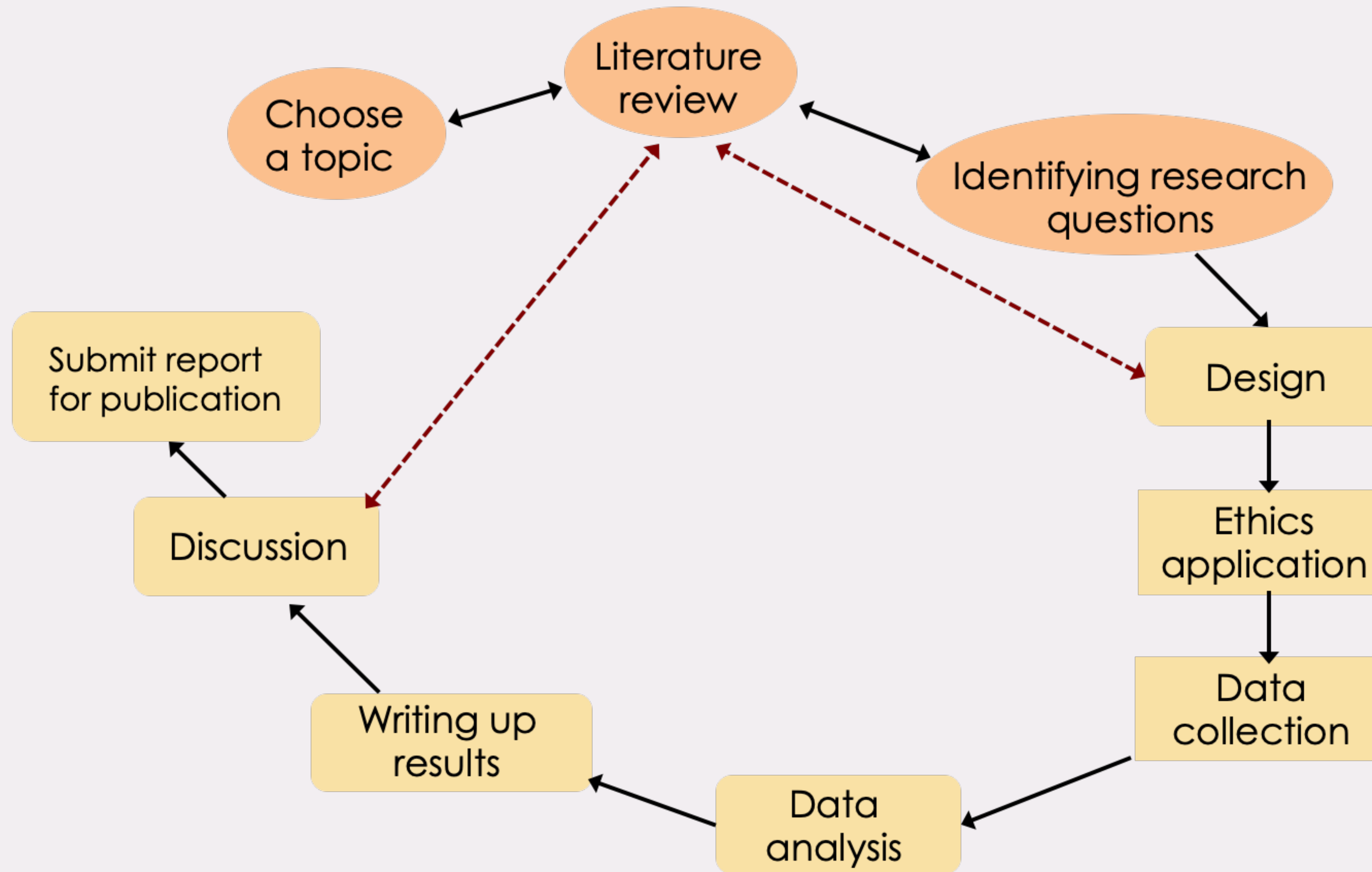
Variable

- a characteristic that differs from group to group or from person to person
- language proficiency, vocabulary knowledge

Deductive

- I start with a theory
- I have a hypothesis based on theory
- I seek evidence to confirm or reject hypothesis

A typical quantitative research process



Language in interaction

Setting the scene...

Up to this point, we have focused largely on **language in development**

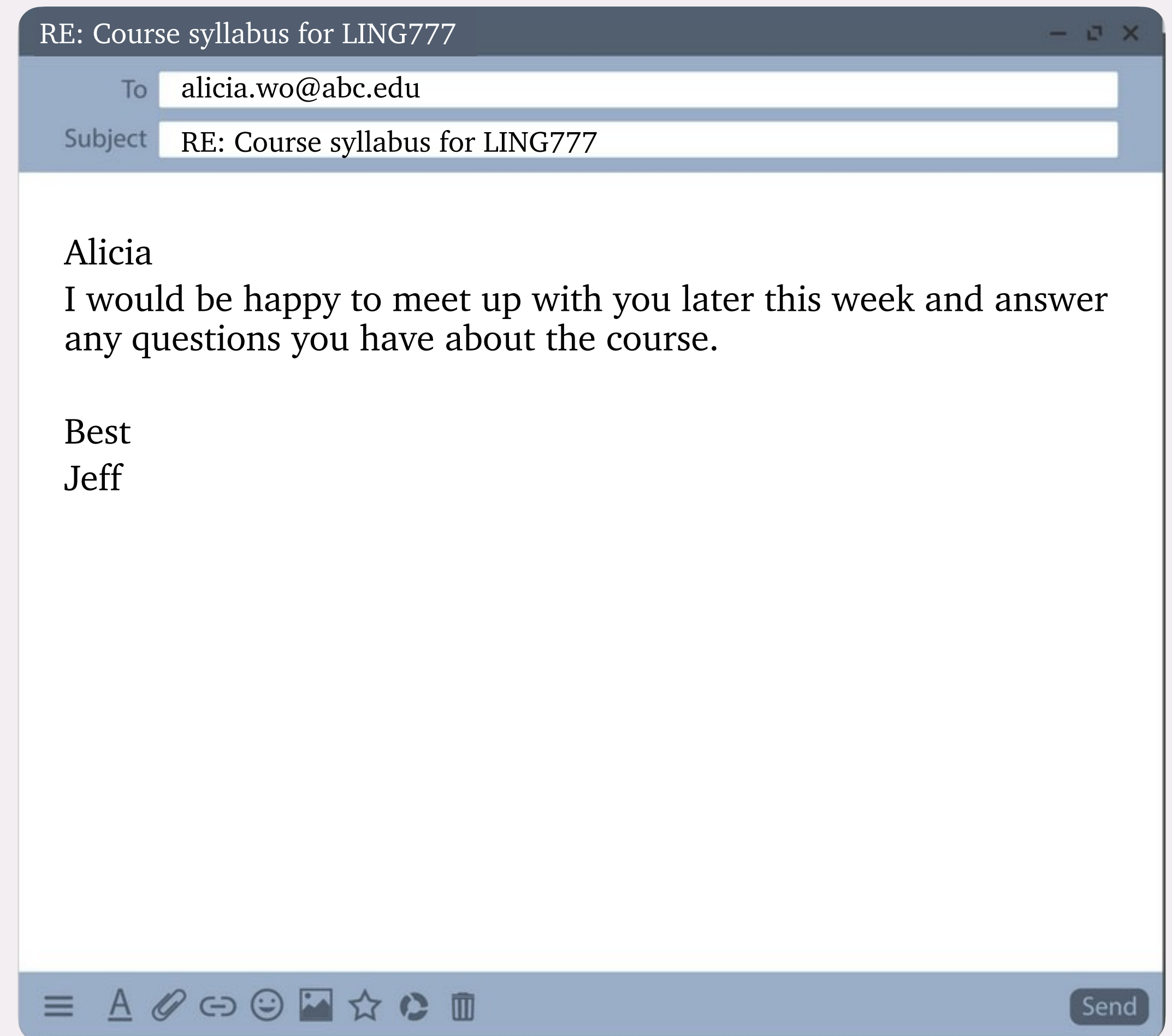
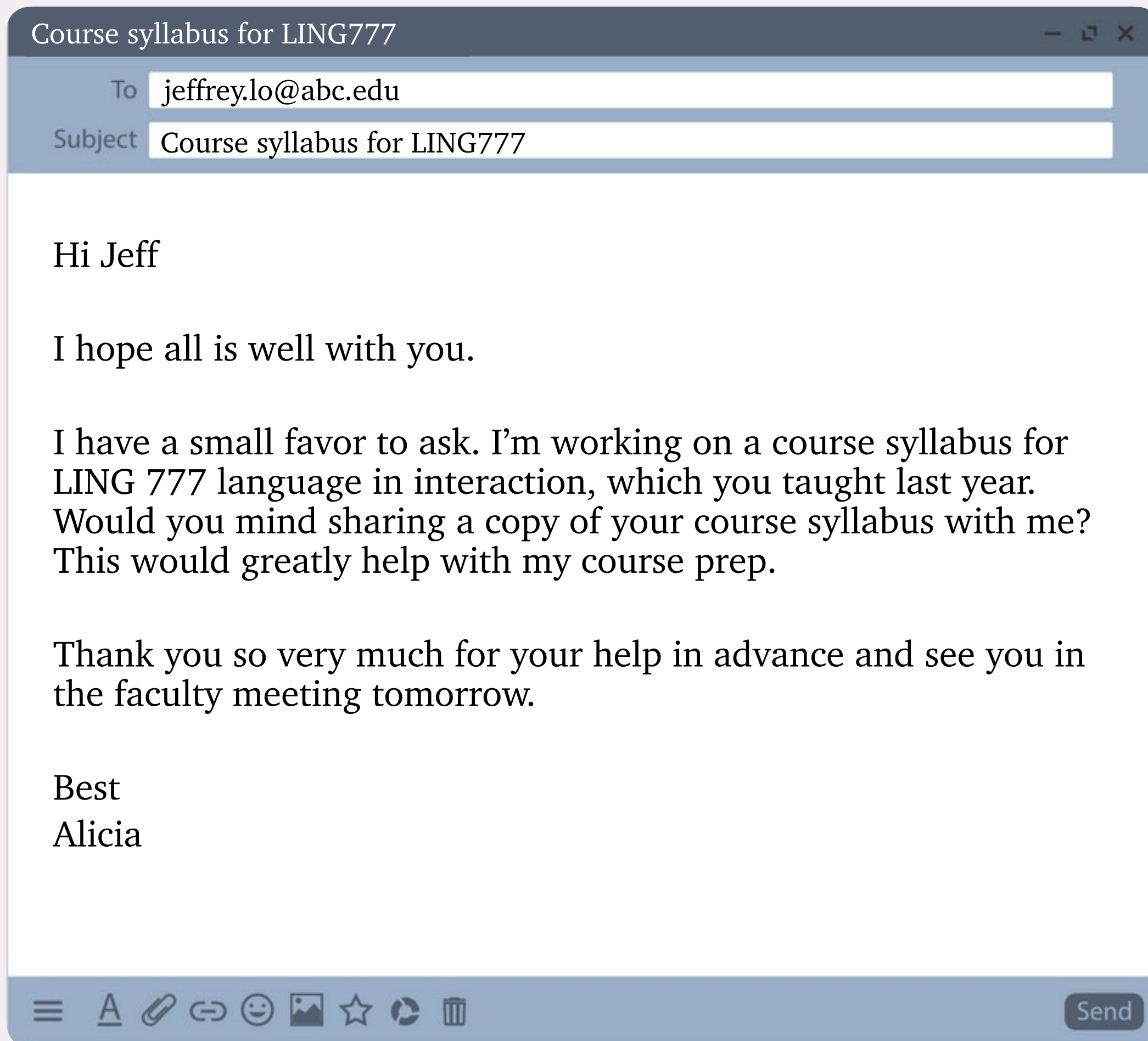
- *SLA, bilingualism, language attrition*
- How do we learn a language? How can we lose a language?



Applied linguists also care a lot about **language in interaction**

- *Interaction (pragmatics), study abroad, intercultural communication*

Setting the scene...



Pragmatics

Pragmatics is concerned with the interrelationship between language form, (communicated) messages, and language users

- *How do people communicate more than what the words/phrases of their utterances might mean by themselves, and how do people make these interpretations?*
- *Why do people choose to say and/or interpret something in one way rather than another?*
- *How do people's perceptions of contextual factors (e.g., interlocutors, relationships, circumstances) influence the process of producing and interpreting language?*

Pragmatics

Approaches to pragmatics recognize that:

- human communication exploits a code (a natural language)
 - encoding-decoding process → sender-receiver
- human communicative behavior relies heavily on people's capacity to engage in reasoning about each others' intentions
 - Man 1: Do you like this pair of shoes?
 - Man 2: I think it's just too expensive.

Pragmatics: The lay of the land

Speech acts: Language is action

- we 'do' things with language



John Searle



John Austin

Conversational implicature: Expressing implied meanings

- Gricean Maxims; Cooperative Principle



Paul Grice

Politeness and indirectness

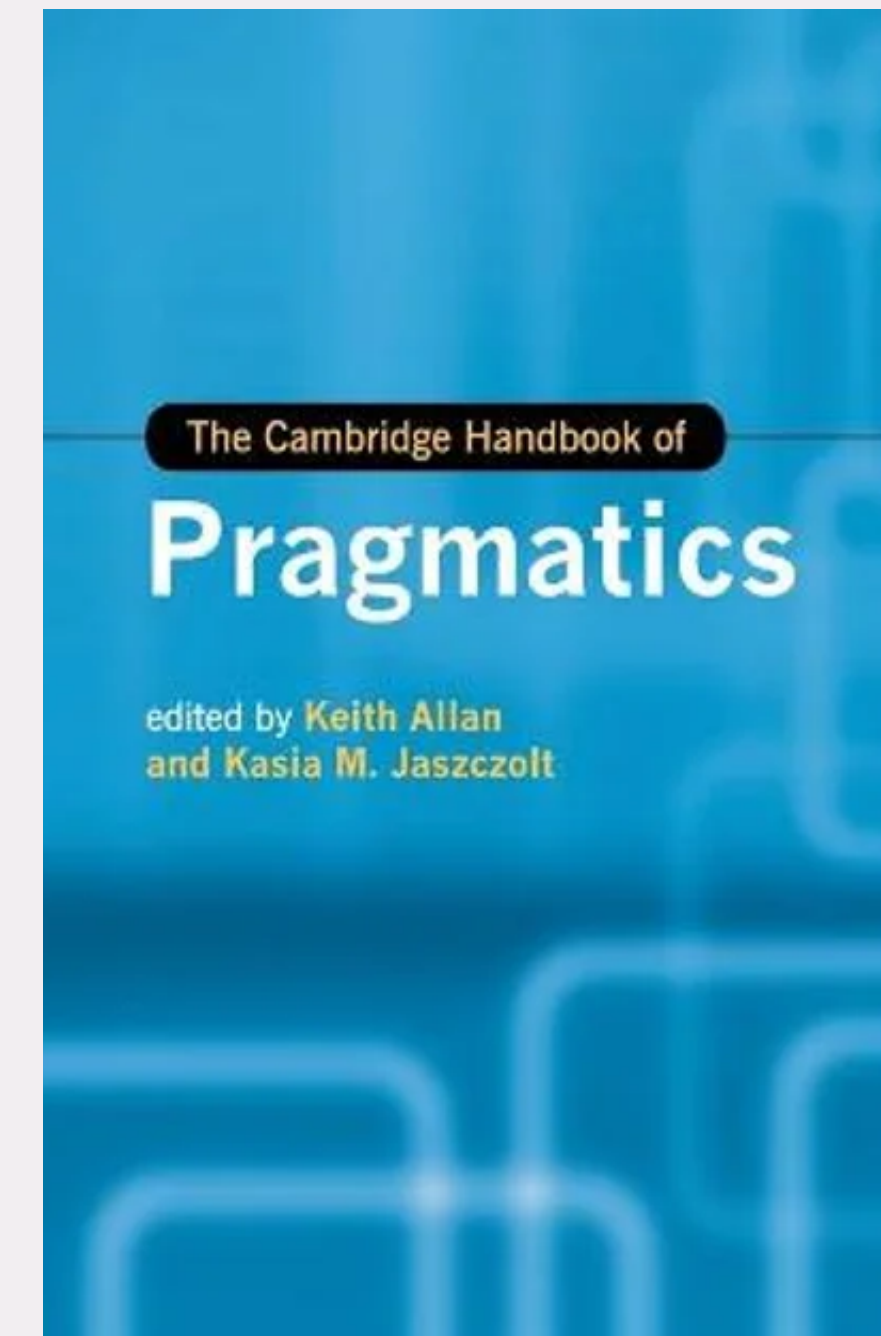
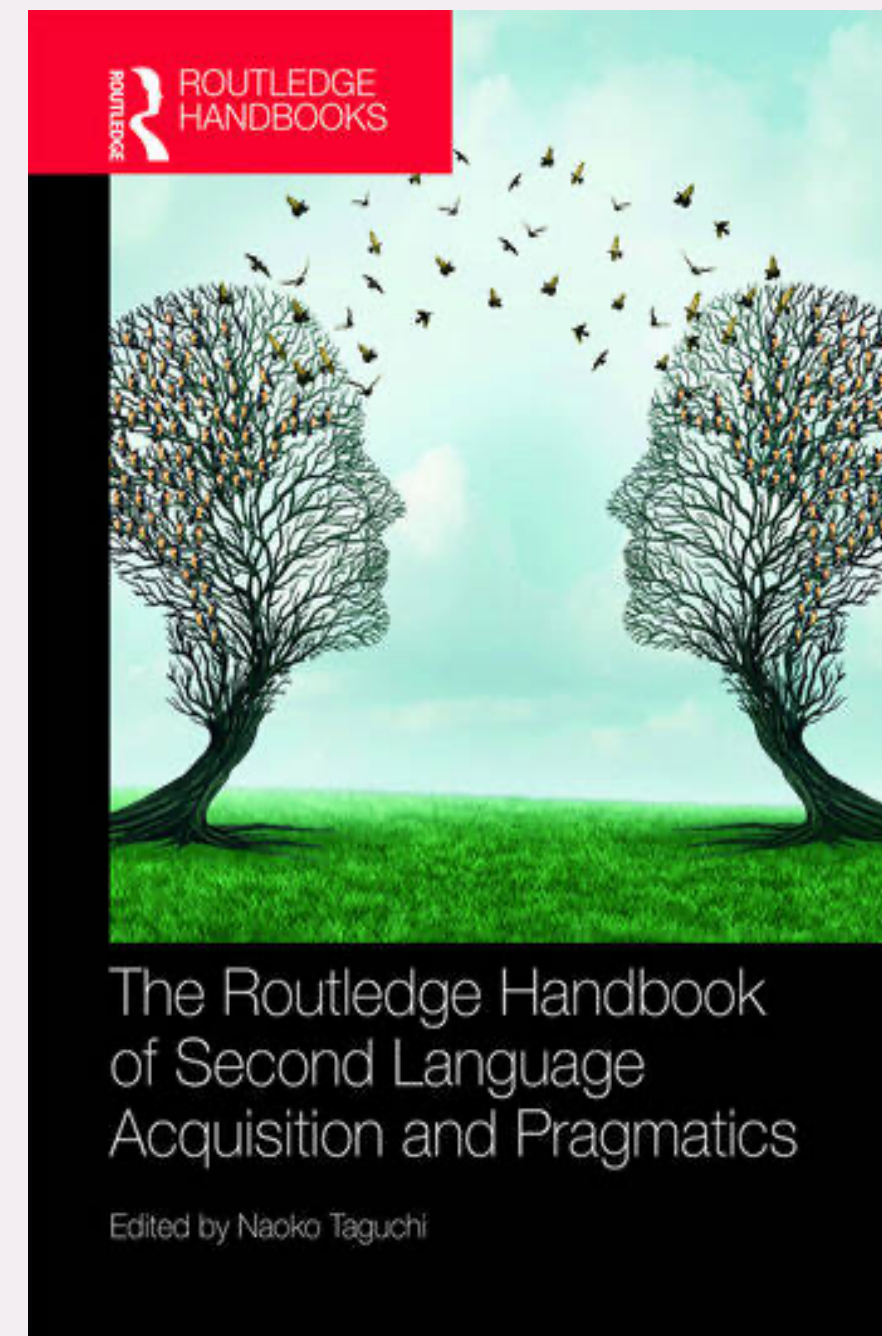
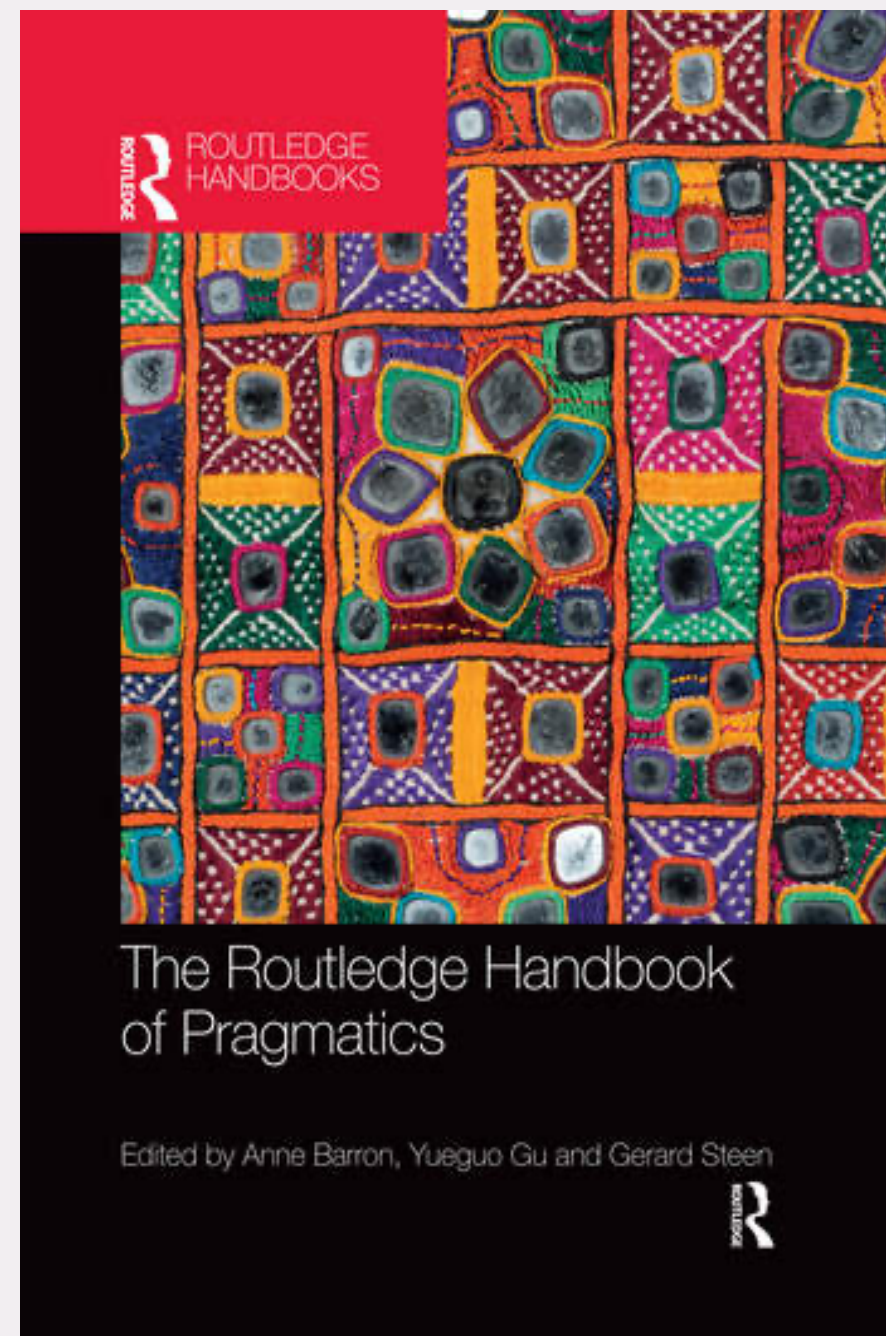
- Face theory

Pragmatics in AL

Major focus: Pragmatics in language instruction

- Cross-cultural pragmatics: Speech acts across cultures/languages
- Interlanguage pragmatics: L2 development of pragmatic conventions
- Value of language instruction
 - Is it better to teach pragmatics?
 - Are textbooks/materials rich in pragmatic information?
 - How do we strike a balance between pragmatic convention and learner identity?

Pragmatics in AL: Resources



...and many many more!

Project: 1st Installment

Installment 1: A rough sketch

- Identify relevant articles from **reputable international journals**
 - 4 references per group member
- Provide a two-paragraph background that situates your references
 - what topic?
 - what problem or research question?
 - in which context?
- Give your project a provisional title

Installment 1: Update?

- Have you identified all the relevant articles through Google Scholar? (You may not read all of them yet and that's fine.)
- Does each of you have 4+ references? Are all of them from reputable international journals? (not Thai journals, please)
- Have you identified your research topic?
- What is the context of your research? Have you provided two-paragraph summary?
- Have you come up with preliminary RQs? What are they?

After the mid-term week...

- Topic: Study abroad
 - Guest lecture by Dr. Brandon Tullock (Assistant Professor at University of South Florida)

