



Teaching and Learning L2 Pragmatics for Intercultural Understanding: What Does it All Mean?

Lecturer: **Dr. Troy McConachy**(University of New South Wales)
Date/Time: **Saturday, March 21, 2026 / 11:00-12:30 (Japan time)**

【Abstract】

This talk offers a critical reflection on intercultural learning in foreign language education, focusing on the teaching and learning of L2 pragmatics. It critiques key assumptions underlying norm-based approaches to L2 pragmatics and argues for a shift toward emotional regulation and the management of interpersonal evaluations. The talk introduces a pedagogical attempt to address politeness with pre-service and in-service teachers, aiming to foster understanding of the embodied nature of (im)politeness and other interpersonal evaluations triggered by perceived pragmatic norm violations. This approach involved introducing concepts from meta-pragmatics and moral psychology that foreground the role of emotion in negative interpersonal judgments, combined with tasks designed to help teachers reflect on the role of (moral) emotions in their own evaluations. The talk situates this attempt within its curricular context, reflects on teachers' responses and challenges encountered, and considers implications for future efforts to promote intercultural understanding through L2 pragmatics.

【Lecturer's bio】

Dr. Troy McConachy is Senior Lecturer in the School of Education at the University of New South Wales, Australia. He previously held teaching and research positions in Japan and the UK, and has published widely on language education and intercultural communication, with a particular focus on meta-pragmatic awareness in intercultural learning. Troy is Founding Editor and Editor-in-Chief of the international journal *Intercultural Communication Education* (Castledown) and co-editor of the series *Elements in Intercultural Communication* (Cambridge UP). He has also co-edited a number of academic volumes, including *Teaching and learning second language pragmatics for intercultural understanding* (Routledge) and *Intercultural learning in language education and beyond: Evolving concepts, perspectives and practices* (Multilingual Matters).



The lecture will be held online in English.

Please register by March 15 to receive the Zoom link for the talk.

Sponsor: JACET SLA-SIG / Co-sponsor: English Learning Center, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies