The Cambridge Handbook of Pragmatics adopts a broad definition of pragmatics, presenting the main orientations in pragmatic research worldwide, incorporating seminal research as well as cutting-edge state-of-the-art solutions. In addition to the well-established post-Gricean philosophical accounts of intention and inference in communication, it includes lexical pragmatics, historical pragmatics, sociopragmatics, the pragmatics of utterance processing, and empirical approaches in pragmatic research. Against these perspectives, there is a section on applications of pragmatics to various types of expressions and phenomena which are of particular importance. The Cambridge Handbook of Pragmatics aims to offer unbiased and accessible introductions that present the many different points of view to be found in the current literature.

CHP comprises:

Introduction: Pragmatic objects and pragmatic methods

Section I Problems and Theories
This section introduces the reader to the main problems of pragmatic analysis and offers different points of view on the study of conversation, context, intentions, inference, and speaker-hearer interaction. It deliberately avoids headings such as ‘Paul Grice’, ‘Post-Gricean pragmatics’, or ‘Speech Act Theory’, interweaving instead introductions to various seminal approaches in the presentation of the pragmatic problem. The objective is to present the problems from different points of view, leaving the judgment and choice of framework open to the reader.

Chapter 0 Research paradigms in pragmatics
Chapter 1 Inferring and implying
Chapter 2 Speaker intentions and intentionality
Chapter 3 Implicit vs explicit content
Chapter 4 Context and content: Pragmatics in Two-Dimensional Semantics
Chapter 5 Contextualism: Some varieties
Chapter 6 The psychology of utterance processing
Chapter 7 Beyond assertions: Doing things with words
Chapter 8 Pragmatics in dynamic approaches to meaning
Chapter 9 Pragmatism, discursive practices, and artificial intelligence
Chapter 10 Pragmatics in the lexicon
Chapter 11 Conversational interaction
Chapter 12 Empirical methods in pragmatics from different points of view

Section II Phenomena and Applications
In this section we offer a sample of applications of pragmatic approaches such as the analysis of the use of sentential connectives, negation, pragmatic binding and presupposition, referring (in intensional and extensional contexts), temporal and spatial reference, metaphor, irony, and stylistic effects.

Chapter 13 Referring in discourse
Chapter 14 Propositional attitudes: pragmatic solutions
Chapter 15 Anaphora, pragmatic binding, and pragmatic presupposition
Chapter 16 The pragmatics of negation
Chapter 17 Connectives
Chapter 18 Spatial reference in discourse
Section III Interfaces and the Delimitation of Pragmatics
Arguably the most important interfaces that pragmatics enters into are those with syntax, semantics, sociolinguistics, historical linguistics, phonetics, and anthropology. They are all introduced and discussed in this section.

Chapter 23 Pragmatics in the history of linguistic thought
Chapter 24 Semantics without pragmatics?
Chapter 25 The syntax/pragmatics interface
Chapter 26 Pragmatics and language change
Chapter 27 Pragmatics and prosody
Chapter 28 Pragmatics and information structure
Chapter 29 Sociopragmatics and cross-cultural studies
Chapter 30 Politeness and pragmatics