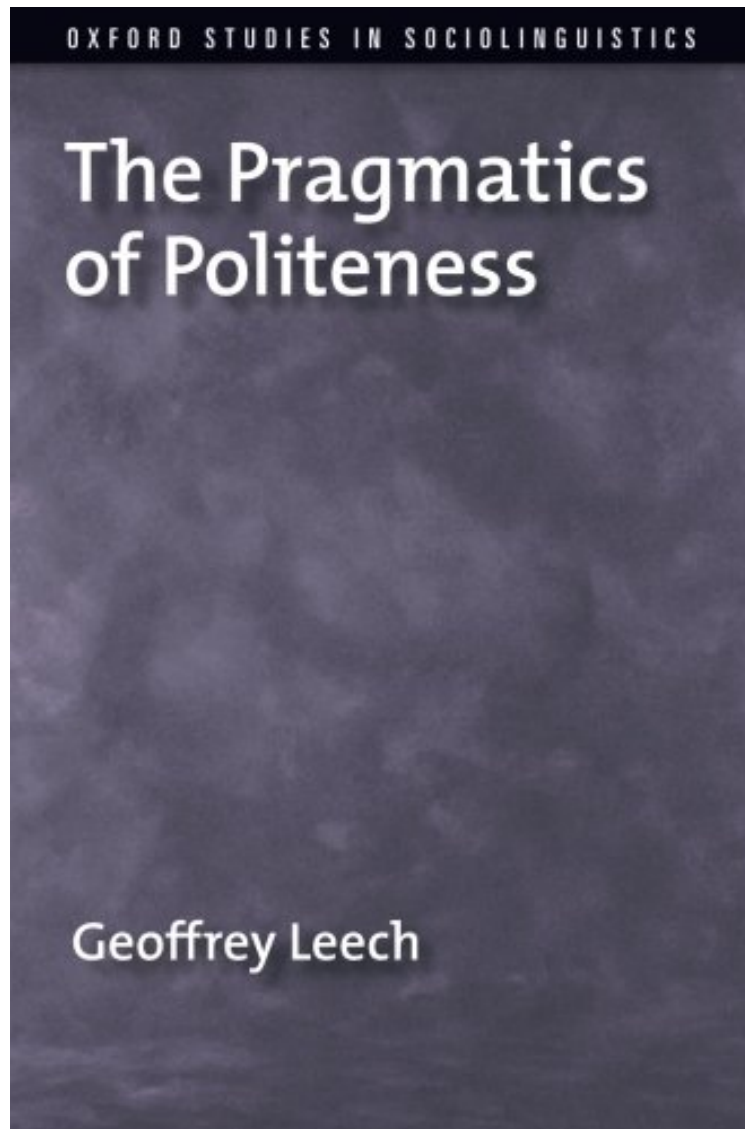


(Mobile ebook) The Pragmatics of Politeness (Oxford Studies in Sociolinguistics)

The Pragmatics of Politeness (Oxford Studies in Sociolinguistics)

Geoffrey Leech

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Geoffrey Leech : The Pragmatics of Politeness (Oxford Studies in Sociolinguistics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Pragmatics of Politeness (Oxford Studies in Sociolinguistics):

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This readable book presents a new general theoretical understanding of politeness. It offers an account of a wide range of politeness phenomena in English, illustrated by hundreds of examples of actual language use taken largely from authentic British and American sources. Building on his earlier pioneering work on politeness, Geoffrey Leech takes a pragmatic approach that is based on the controversial notion that politeness is communicative altruism. Leech's 1983 book, *Principles of Pragmatics*, introduced the now widely-accepted distinction between pragmalinguistic and sociopragmatic aspects of politeness; this book returns to the pragmalinguistic side, somewhat neglected in recent work. Drawing on neo-Gricean thinking, Leech rejects the prevalent view that it is impossible to apply the terms 'polite' or 'impolite' to linguistic phenomena. Leech covers all major speech acts that are either positively or negatively associated with politeness, such as requests, apologies, compliments, offers, criticisms, good wishes, condolences, congratulations, agreement, and disagreement. Additional chapters deal with impoliteness and the related phenomena of irony ("mock politeness") and banter ("mock impoliteness"), and with the role of politeness in the learning of English as a second language. A final chapter takes a fascinating look at more than a thousand years of history of politeness in the English language.

Geoffrey Leech's *Pragmatics of Politeness* (2014) manages to successfully evaluate the explanatory power of the theory of politeness and provide a robust framework that generates a better understanding of it. * Dr habil. Silvia Florea, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu *About the Author Geoffrey Leech is Emeritus Professor of English Linguistics at Lancaster University, where he has been a faculty member for over 40 years. He has published many books and articles in the fields of English grammar, stylistics, pragmatics, semantics, and corpus linguistics. He was elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 1987.