

SUBJECT:	FONÈTICA I FONOLOGIA ANGLESES I		
Code:	28453		
Credits:	6 (OB) (4,5 + 1,5 tutorials)		
Semester:	1		
Groups:	1	2	3
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT

The main aim of this course is to provide an introduction to the principles of general phonetic description and taxonomy from an articulatory point of view. A description of the sounds of English will be provided and students will practice hearing and producing the linguistically relevant differences in English. The students will acquire a working knowledge of phonological and phonetic transcription. The principles of phonological analysis will be presented.

The students are introduced to the principles of articulatory description by means of class presentations by the teacher, together with the comments in class of readings done by the students at home. All this is complemented by extensive exercising throughout the semester. Students will practise transcription and reading during the whole course, both in class, in tutorials and at home.

OBJECTIVES

Students will be able 1) to describe the production of speech sounds; 2) to classify and describe English sounds articulatorily; 3) to do phonological and phonetic transcription; 4) to carry out phonological analysis, and 5) to read words and phrases in transcription.

SYLLABUS

1. The communication process. Psychological phase: encoding and decoding. Physiological phase: sound production and perception. Acoustic phase: the transmission of sound.
2. Phonetics and phonology
 - a. Articulatory, acoustic and auditory phonetics.
 - b. Phonology. The function of sounds.
 - c. Transcription systems. Phonetic and phonological transcription. English RP. The phonological system of RP.
3. Articulatory phonetics: sound production
 - a. Description and working of the organs intervening in sound production.
 - i. The respiratory process. Airstream mechanisms. Pulmonic, glottalic and velaric sounds.
 - ii. The phonatory process. Phonation types. Modal, breathy and creaky voice.
 - iii. The articulatory process. Articulatory description and classification of speech sounds. Seven-term and three-term descriptions.
 - b. Consonants: stricture or manner of articulation, place of articulation, voicing.
 - c. Vowels. Stricture: open/close. Place: front/back. Lip rounding.

- d. The dichotomy between consonantal and vocalic speech sounds. Phonetic and functional criteria.
- e. Other consonantal and vocalic aspects.
- 4. Auditory classification of vowels: the Cardinal Vowel System. Primary and secondary cardinal vowels.
- 5. The sounds of English. Allophonic variation in English consonants and vowels.
 - a. The English consonants. Articulatory characterization of English consonants. Allophonic variants.
 - i. Plosives: VOT, voicing and aspiration, types of release.
 - ii. Fricatives. Affricates. Nasals. Laterals. Approximants.
 - iii. Synchronization of articulators.
 - b. The English vowels.
 - i. Phonetic classification of English vowels and diphthongs by quality and quantity.
 - ii. Phonological classification of English vowels by i) distributional properties: tense-lax; ii) morphophonemic alternation.
 - c. Differences between phonemic systems: realizational, distributional, systemic and selectional.
- 6. Phonology
 - a. Different theories of the phoneme
 - b. American structuralism. Discovery procedures.

ASSESSMENT

The course will be evaluated as follows:

- Final written and oral exam (70%).
 - In the written exam students will be required to answer questions which involve defining concepts, describing and classifying sounds and phonetic and phonological transcription.
 - In the final oral exam students will be required to recognize and correctly pronounce phonetic symbols and English words in phonological transcription.
- Both final exams need to be passed: failing either will involve a final “Fail”.
- Homework, assignments, participation in class and tutorial sessions (30%).

TUTORIALS

Students will be required to attend tutorial sessions in small groups. The sessions will be devoted to the assessment of individual progress, the revision of homework assignments and individual practice in producing and reading IPA transcriptions.

BIBLIOGRAPHY / MATERIALS

Course material will be provided during the course (most of it through the “Campus Virtual”), including a select list of textbooks and pronouncing dictionaries. The following are the two textbooks for the course:

- Finch, D. F. and Ortiz Lira, H. 1982. *A Course in English Phonetics for Spanish Speakers*. London: Heinemann.
- O’Connor, J.D. 1980. *Better English Pronunciation*. Cambridge: CUP.
- Roach, P. 1983. *English Phonetics and Phonology*. Cambridge: CUP.

OTHER COMMENTS

NOTE: The level of English will be taken into account when correcting exams and in the final assessment.