



The University of Jordan

Accreditation & Quality Assurance Center

COURSE Syllabus

1	Course title	Special Subject in the English Language
2	Course number	2201482
3	Credit hours (theory, practical)	Three hours (theory)
	Contact hours (theory, practical)	Three hours (theory)
4	Prerequisites/corequisites	English Linguistics
5	Program title	English Language and Literature
6	Program code	2201
7	Awarding institution	The University of Jordan
8	Faculty	Faculty of Foreign Languages
9	Department	The Department of English Language and Literature
10	Level of course	Third Year
11	Year of study and semester (s)	Starting Third Year - Second Semester
12	Final Qualification	Bachelor's Degree in English Language and Literature
13	Other department (s) involved in teaching the course	-----
14	Language of Instruction	English
15	Date of production/revision	October 2015

16. Course Coordinator:

Office numbers, office hours, phone numbers, and email addresses should be listed.

Dr. Raya Kalaldehy
88-Mon-Wed (11-12:30)-00962-6-5355000-ext.: 24673-kalalder@tcd.ie

17. Other instructors:

Office numbers, office hours, phone numbers, and email addresses should be listed.

18. Course Description:

The content of this course varies from one instructor to another. It is actually determined by the research interest of the instructor according to his area of specialization. The course usually provides an in-depth investigation of a certain linguistic topic that has not been thoroughly covered in the language courses offered in the study plan. Students may be required to make presentations and write term papers in this course.

19. Course aims and outcomes:**A- Aims:**

This course is in Experimental Phonetics. The aim of the course is to consolidate and broaden theoretical knowledge in general phonetics and phonology (with a focus on the English language) and to develop practical skills in the field of description and classification of speech sounds. The course will provide students with hands-on experience in methods of experimental phonetic research, including audio recording, speech database construction, recording and interpreting speech air flow and pressure and the design of perception tests. Additionally, the course will offer training in writing up experimental results for publication.

B- Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs): Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to ...

1. Transcribe English text phonetically.
2. Identify and classify the main types of speech sounds on the basis of, spectrograms of recorded speech signals displayed by a software for speech analysis
3. Have knowledge of and be able to effectively apply standard tools and methods used in the field of experimental phonetics
4. Know and will be able to explain relation between articulatory features of speech sounds and their spectrographic representation and be aware of differences between speech production and perception
5. Be able to align and label speech files containing recorded utterances on the basis of their visual spectrogram and audio representation
6. Have knowledge and skills necessary to carry out measurements of segmental and suprasegmental features of speech and to extract acoustic parameters (vowel formants and F0 interpolations) in order to create database for experiment.
7. Know how to design and carry out a phonetic experiment.
8. Be able to create a simple recording data according to specific phonetic-acoustic criteria and to carry out recordings based on the data.
9. Know how to plan and carry out a perception test.
10. Have the knowledge of and be able to make use of basic statistical methods (T-test, ANOVA, and linear/multiple regression) in order to test experimental hypotheses.
11. Have the knowledge and skills necessary to represent experimental results (in forms of graphs, tables etc.)
12. Know the specialist terminology of the subject domains in English be aware of the main contemporary challenges for experimental phonetics (as regards linguistic, social and cultural factors).

20. Topic Outline and Schedule:

Topic	Week	Instructor	Achieved ILOs	Evaluation Methods	Reference
Phonetics and a scientific study of speech: objectives, methods and applications	1	Raya Kalaldehy	1	Quiz	
Description of articulatory and acoustic features of vowels and consonants	2		1+2	Quiz	
Grapheme-to-phoneme conversion: theory and practice.	3		2	Quiz	
Speech production and perception.	4		1+2	Quiz	
Introduction to speech analysis tools	5		3	Quiz	

Visual representation of speech sounds: spectrograms	6		4	Pilot Experiment	
Segmentation (phonetic alignment) of continuous speech using audio and visual (spectrographic) representation	7		5	Pilot Experiment	
Acoustic measurements of distinctive features of speech segments	8		6	Pilot Experiment	
Measurements of suprasegmental features	9		6	Pilot Experiment	
Designing and planning of a phonetic experiment. Formulating experimental hypotheses	10		7	Pilot Experiment	
Creation/selection of recording data and realization of recordings	11		8	Project 1	
Annotation of speech recordings for use in the phonetic experiment.	12		5	Project 1	
Extraction of speech parameters and creation of a database	13		6+7+8	Project 1	
Testing experimental hypotheses: selection and application of basic statistical methods	14		10+9	Project 2	
Presentation of the experimental results: preparation of the report	15		11+12	Project 2	

21. Teaching Methods and Assignments:

Development of ILOs is promoted through the following **teaching and learning methods**:

Quiz: 10%

Pilot Experiment: 10%

Midterm Examination (Project 1): 30%

Final Examination (Project 2): 50%

22. Evaluation Methods and Course Requirements:

Opportunities to demonstrate achievement of the ILOs are provided through the following assessment methods and requirements:

Students will be first introduced to the basic concepts of experimental research and will be given a Quiz to assess their information in this field. Next, students will be trained on how to design an experiment in terms of choosing the research question(s) and accordingly the research data and tools. From their experience of conducting the pilot study, students will carry on with the same research by narrowing the research question(s) and amending the data set to produce Project 1. In the last stage, students will learn how to employ the acoustic software they have learnt and the statistical tests to produce Project 2, a more developed (publishable) version of Project 1.

23. Course Policies:

A- Attendance policies:

Students are expected to be in class on time. The University allows students to be absent up to **SEVEN times (Sun-Tue-Thu) and FIVE times (Mon-Wed)**. These times include those with an excuse. Students exceeding this limit will not be allowed to sit for the final exam. The only excuse that would remove absence from a students' record is in case of a conflict with another course (a scheduled written exam).

B- Absences from exams and handing in assignments on time:

In case of absence in exams because of sickness, only reports issued directly from a public clinic or hospital will be accepted. Medical reports from private practiced doctors or private hospitals will not be accepted even if they are stamped by the university's clinic. Reports should be produced within a week after the exam. **No exceptions.**

C- Health and safety procedures:

D- Honesty policy regarding cheating, plagiarism, misbehavior:

Cheating, plagiarism, and misbehavior will not be tolerated in class or during examinations and will be dealt with according to the university's regulations.

E- Grading policy:

20%: class work/quiz(es)/participation

30%: Midterm Examination

50%: Final Examination

F- Available university services that support achievement in the course:

The University's main Library and the Humanities Library

24. Required equipment:

Special laboratory equipped with a computer for each individual student.

Data show projector, speakers, and internet connection.

25. References:

A- Required book (s), assigned reading and audio-visuals:

- Ladefoged, P. 1996. Elements of acoustic phonetics. 2nd Ed. Oliver and Boyd, Edinburgh and London
- Ladefoged, P. 2012. Vowels and Consonants. 3rd Ed. An introduction to the sounds of languages. Blackwell Publishers
- Carr, P. 2013. *English phonetics and phonology: an introduction*. 2nd Ed. UK: Oxford. Blackwell publishing Ltd.
- Boersma, Paul & Weenink, David (2015). Praat: doing phonetics by computer [Computer program]. Version 5.4.22, retrieved 8 October 2015 from <http://www.praat.org/>
- International Phonetic Association. 1991. *Handbook of the international phonetic association*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

- Ladefoged, P. 1993. *A course in phonetics*, 3rded. New York: Hartcourt Brace College Publishers.
- Roach, P. 2010. *English phonetics and phonology: a practical course*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Wells, J. C. 1982. *Accents of English*. rpt. 1996 Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

B- Recommended books, materials, and media:

- <http://www.bmc.med.utoronto.ca/anatomia/intro.swf>
- <http://www.phonetics.ucla.edu/course/contents.html>
- <http://www.phonetics.ucla.edu/vowels/contents.html>
- <http://international.okanagan.bc.ca/pronunciation/>
- <http://www.tedpower.co.uk/phono.html>
- paulmeier.com/ipa/charts.html
- <http://dictionary.reference.com/>

26. Additional information:

The course of Experimental Phonetics should cannot take more 30 students in each class.
Additional course material can be found on the e-learning (Moodle) course account.

Name of Course Coordinator: -----Signature: ----- Date: -----

Head of curriculum committee/Department: ----- Signature: -----

Head of Department: ----- Signature: -----

Head of curriculum committee/Faculty: ----- Signature: -----

Dean: ----- -Signature: -----

Copy to:

Head of Department
Assistant Dean for Quality Assurance
Course File