

Phonology

Autumn 2017

Code

BBN-ANG-242/1

Time and place

Thu 15:30–17:00, R327

Value, type

3-credit seminar

Host

Dept of English Linguistics (DELG)

Instructor

Péter Óri

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Course description

This course will discuss the phonetic properties of the sound segments of current Standard Southern British English as well as their function in the language. We will be practicing phonemic transcription, using the CUBE system. Special emphasis will be placed on letter-to-sound rules so that the spelling of English words will become a more reliable guide in guessing their pronunciation. This is designed to be a practical course with a lot of exercises for students to gain an in-depth knowledge of the material. Therefore, everybody will be encouraged to actively participate in the class work and required to regularly do their home assignments.

Course material

The syllabus, the course materials and the home assignments will be made available at <http://seas3.elte.hu/coursematerial/OriPeter/index.html>.

Recommended books

Besides the materials uploaded to the course web page, the following textbook is recommended for the course:

- Nádasy, Ádám (2006) *Background to English Pronunciation (Phonetics, Phonology, Spelling)*. Budapest: Nemzeti Tankönyvkiadó.

Many of the exercises will be taken from

- Nádasy, Ádám (2003) *Practice Book in English Phonetics and Phonology*. Budapest: Nemzeti Tankönyvkiadó.

Assessment

Assessment will be based on a midterm test (30%), an end-term test (40%) and three major home assignments (3×10%), modified by in-class participation.

Grading policy:

0–49.99% → 1; 50–59.99% → 2; 60–74.99% → 3; 75–84.99% → 4; 85–100% → 5

Attendance

Regular attendance is necessary; a maximum of three absences can be tolerated.

Syllabus

	Introduction
14 Sep	1 Phonetics vs. phonology; IPA symbols and the CUBE system; short vowels in SSBE
21 Sep	2 Diphthongs in SSBE; articulation of vowels; phonetics of SSBE vowels; vowel contrasts: /a/ vs. /ɛ/, /əw/ vs. /o:/
28 Sep	3 Distribution of /r/; long vowels in SSBE
5 Oct	Due date of home assignment 1: 9 Oct 4 Vowel categories and R-influence; vowel contrasts: /ʌ/ vs. /ɔ/ vs. /ɑ:/
12 Oct	5 Letter-to-sound rules; graphic positions
19 Oct	6 Shortening rules and lengthening environments
26 Oct	MIDTERM TEST 7 Stress; vowels in unstressed syllables; weak forms of function words
2 Nov	<i>No class (autumn break)</i>
9 Nov	Due date of home assignment 2 8 Articulation and categorization of consonants; phonotactics: nasal+plosive clusters and geminates
16 Nov	9 n and ŋ ; allophonic rules and alternations: aspiration, L-darkening and flapping
23 Nov	10 Morpho-phonological alternations: allomorphs of -s and -ed; palatalization, velar softening and spirantization
30 Nov	Due date of home assignment 3: 4 Dec 11 Discovery-type exercises
7 Dec	Revision
14 Dec	END-TERM TEST