

Course description

Descriptif du cours

Department: English

Instructor (s): Prof. Nadia Bouchhioua

Academic year: 2021-2022

Level: M1 linguistics

Course title: Phonetics-phonology

Course outline:

I. Phonetics: Some basic concepts

1. Defining phonetics

1.1. Articulatory phonetics

1.2. The vocal tract and speech organs

1.3. Types of air stream mechanisms

1.4. Phonetic transcription

1.5. The Inventory of English Sounds

1.5.1. English consonants

- ✓ State of the glottis
- ✓ Place of articulation
- ✓ Manner of articulation

1.5.2. English vowels

- ✓ Tongue height
- ✓ Tongue advancement
- ✓ Lip rounding
- ✓ Tenseness

II. The English syllable and phonotactic constraints:

- ✓ The need for the syllable
- ✓ Function of the syllable
- ✓ English syllabic structure
- ✓ Constraints on the English syllable

- ✓ Syllabic weight
- ✓ Sonority and syllabification

III. Acoustic phonetics and suprasegmental features:

- ✓ Stress and accent
- ✓ Intonation, rhythm, and their functions
- ✓ The phonetic correlates of stress and accent:
 - ✓ duration
 - ✓ pitch (F0)
 - ✓ loudness (Intensity)
- ✓ The prosodic typology of different languages: stress-timed and syllable timed languages.

IV. Phonology

1. Defining phonology

1.1. Phonemic and phonetic forms

1.2. Phonemes and allophones: different views of the phoneme, setting underlying forms

1.3. Minimal pairs

2. Sound distribution:

- ✓ Complementary distribution
- ✓ Overlapping distribution
- ✓ Free variation

3. Distinctive Features (The SPE system: A generative approach)

4. Natural classes

5. Phonological processes and rules of different speech sounds:

- Phonological processes and rules of English vowels and consonants
- Rule ordering and abstraction
- Abstract underlying representations
- Surface concrete representations
- Rule ordering types (feeding vs. bleeding rule orders)
- Vowel truncation

6. Assimilation as major phonological process, its nature, types and intricacies.

7. Minor phonological processes:

- Deletion
- Insertion
- Metathesis
- Co-articulation
- Flapping

Course objectives:

This course aims to provide Masters Students with a solid grounding of the sound system of English as well as some other languages. It is intended to provide them with the theoretical and practical background necessary to understand and analyse phonology. It provides a comprehensive introduction to phonetic and phonological theory and terminology and includes development of skill in sound identification and discrimination.

These future teachers/researchers need a well-grounded perception of the phonetics and phonology of English and should be respectably solvent in both segmental and suprasegmental features of this language.

Method of evaluation:

Students are assessed through written tests that comprise different tasks (phonetic and phonological problem sets, theoretical questions, etc...) that measure the students' assimilation of the course and its content. They also get a mark for the small-scale project as part of continuous assessment.

References:

Carr, P., & Montreuil, J. P. (2013). *Phonology*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Davenport, M., & Hannahs, S. J. (2013). *Introducing phonetics and phonology*. Routledge.

Gussenhoven, C., & Jacobs, H. (2017). *Understanding phonology*. Routledge.

Katamaba, F. (1989). *An introduction to phonology*. New York: Longman.

Ladefoged, P. (1993). *A course in phonetics*. Third edition. New York: Harcourt Brace College publishers.

Laver, J. (1994). *Principles of phonetics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Roach, P. (2010). *Phonetics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press

Watson, J. C. (2002). *The phonology and morphology of Arabic*. Oxford University Press on Demand.

Yallop, C., & Fletcher, J. (2007). *An introduction to phonetics and phonology*. (Blackwell Textbooks in Linguistics), 3rd edition. Oxford: Blackwell

Zsiga, E. C. (2012). *The sounds of language: An introduction to phonetics and phonology*. John Wiley & Sons.