

<b>Subject Code</b>	ENGL5008
<b>Subject Title</b>	Introduction to the Sound System of English
<b>Credit Value</b>	3
<b>Level</b>	5
<b>Pre- /Co-requisite / Exclusion</b>	Exclusion: ENGL5001, ENGL5002 and ENGL5009
<b>Objectives</b>	This is a course to introduce the sound system of English to students who have no background knowledge in phonetics or phonology. In this course, the basic concepts in phonetics with reference to the production of English sounds are introduced. Students will learn about the physiological aspects of human speech sounds, with emphasis on English sounds, and how linguists characterize and study them. The differences between English and other sound systems (such as Cantonese and Mandarin) are also highlighted for further understanding of how these differences may lead to special features in the spoken English produced by learners of English.
<b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>	Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. understand the principles of the IPA symbols and be able to use them,</li> <li>b. characterize their own pronunciation as well as that of others, and</li> <li>c. identify features relevant to the learning of English sounds.</li> </ul>
<b>Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is phonetics?</li> <li>• Sounds and spelling and the use of IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet)</li> <li>• What is phonics?</li> <li>• Production and description of English consonants: obstruents</li> <li>• Production and description of English consonants: sonorants</li> <li>• Production and description of English vowels: monophthongs</li> <li>• Production and description of English vowels: diphthongs and triphthongs</li> <li>• Some basic concepts in stress and intonation</li> <li>• Variations in pronunciations: phonetic variations</li> <li>• Variations in pronunciations: regional variations</li> <li>• Some features of spoken English in Hong Kong</li> </ul>
<b>Teaching / Learning Methodology</b>	Interactive lecture-seminars will help learners explore the concepts used in the description and analysis of the English sounds. In the lecture-seminars, learners will have the opportunity to practice the use of the IPA symbols, to describe and characterize English speech sounds, to discuss issues arising from the application of the basic concepts of phonetics in their own everyday spoken English as well as the analysis of other learners' spoken English.

Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes	Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed					
			a	b	c			
	1. An in-class open book quiz	30%	✓	✓	✓			
	2. A mini project analyzing some authentic English speech	70%	✓	✓	✓			
	Total	100%						
<p>(1) The in-class quiz will enable learners to use and apply the concepts learned in the subject in a practical sense.</p> <p>(2) The mini-project will enable students to further integrate the skills and concepts in the analysis of authentic data.</p>								
Student Study Effort Required	Class contact:							
	▪ Lecture-seminar		39 Hrs.					
	Other student study effort:							
	▪ Exercise preparation		31 Hrs.					
	▪ Reading materials		42 Hrs.					
	Total student study effort		112 Hrs.					
Reading List and References	<p><b>Required text</b> Collins, Beverley and Mees, Inger M. 2013. <i>Practical Phonetics and Phonology: A resource book for students.</i> (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition). London &amp; New York: Routledge.</p> <p><b>Highly recommended texts</b> Roach, Peter. 2009. <i>English Phonetics and Phonology</i> (4<sup>th</sup> Edition). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Jenkins, Jennifer. 2000. <i>The Phonology of English as an International Language.</i> Oxford: Oxford University Press. Knight, Rachael-Anne. 2012. <i>Phonetics: A Coursebook.</i> Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Nilsen, Don L.F. and Alleen Pace Nilsen. 2012. <i>Pronunciation Contrasts in English</i> (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition). Long Grove, IL: Waveland Press Inc.</p>							

### ***Further reading on Teaching Pronunciation***

- Avery, Peter and Susan Ehrlich. 1992. *Teaching American English Pronunciation*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Celce-Murcia, Marianne, Donna M. Brinton and Janet M. Goodwin. 1996. *Teaching Pronunciation: A Reference for Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.
- Hancock, Mark. 1995. *Pronunciation Games*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.
- Lane, Linda. 2010. *Tips for Teaching Pronunciation: A Practical Approach*. NY: Pearson Longman.

### ***Selected References on Hong Kong English***

- Deterding, D., Wong, J., and Kirkpatrick, A. 2008. The pronunciation of Hong Kong English. *English World Wide* 29(2): 148-175.
- Hung, T. 2000. Towards a phonology of Hong Kong English. *World Englishes* 19(3): 337-356.
- Setter, Jane, Wong, Cathy S.P. and Chan, Brian H.S. 2010. *Hong Kong English*. Edinburgh, UK: Edinburgh University Press.

### **Useful Websites**

- International Phonetic Association  
<http://www.langsci.ucl.ac.uk/ipa/>
- Phonetic Flash  
<http://www.phon.ucl.ac.uk/home/johnm/flash/flashin.htm>
- English sounds with animated demonstration at  
<http://www.uiowa.edu/~acadtech/phonetics/english/frameset.html>
- The OUP website with English sound demonstration  
  
[http://www.oup.com/elt/global/products/englishfile/beginner/c\\_pronunciation/](http://www.oup.com/elt/global/products/englishfile/beginner/c_pronunciation/)  
<http://www.oupchina.com.hk/dict/phonetic/home.html>
- HKPU ELC Pronunciation page  
  
<http://elc.polyu.edu.hk/cill/pronunci.aspx>
- Sounds of English  
<http://www.soundsofenglish.org/>
- Eric Armstrong's voice and speech source  
<http://www.yorku.ca/earmstro/ipa/index.html>