<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Subject Code</strong></th>
<th>ENGL5009</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subject Title</strong></td>
<td>Aspects of the Sound System of English</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Credit Value</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Level</strong></td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Pre-/Co-requisite / Exclusion</strong></td>
<td>Exclusion: ENGL5001, ENGL5002 and ENGL5008</td>
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**Objectives**

This is a course mainly for students who are in the English Language Teaching profession or will join the ELT profession. In this course, students will be investigating how English sounds function in the English language system. Students will first be trained to differentiate the speech sounds that are phonetically and phonologically relevant in the sound system of English. Based on the understanding of the production and perception of speech sounds as well as the skills to describe them, students will then proceed to learn about major concepts in phonology and the organization of sound systems. Special reference will be made to the phonological systems of English, Cantonese and Mandarin and the phonetic and phonological features that are relevant to the teaching and learning of the English sound system.

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:

a. analyse and characterize their own pronunciation as well as that of others,
b. describe the major phonological features in a language system,
c. understand the interaction of sounds within a sound system and across languages, and
d. apply the relevance of these concepts in the teaching and learning of English.

**Subject Synopsis/Indicative Syllabus**

- What is phonetics?
- What is phonology?
- Production of consonants and vowels
- The syllable, phonotactics, stress and intonation
- Phonological analysis: phoneme and allophones
- Phonological alternations, processes and rules
- Differences between the English and Chinese (Cantonese and Mandarin) sound systems
- Features of English spoken in Hong Kong and in China
- Major varieties of English in the world
**Teaching / Learning Methodology**

Interactive lecture-seminars will help learners explore the concepts used in the description and analysis of the English sound system. In the lecture-seminars, learners will have the opportunity to analyze speech samples, discuss issues arising from the application of these concepts in their own everyday spoken English as well as the analysis of other learners’ spoken English.

**Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific assessment methods/tasks</th>
<th>% weighting</th>
<th>Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. An in-class open book quiz</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>✓ ✓ ✓ ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Seminar presentation on selected journal articles</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>✓ ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. An in-class written assessment</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>✓ ✓ ✓ ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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</table>

1. The in-class quiz will enable learners to use and apply the concepts learned in the subject in a practical sense.
2. The seminar presentation on journal articles will encourage learners to academic publications to keep themselves aware of the latest development in the field.
3. The in-class written assessment will enable students to further integrate the skills and concepts in the analysis of some authentic data provided as well to reflect critically on some of the required reading materials.

**Student Study Effort Required**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Class contact:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture-seminar</td>
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Other student study effort:

| Exercise preparation                     | 31 Hrs.  |
| Reading materials                        | 42 Hrs.  |

Total student study effort 112 Hrs.
Required reading

Selected parts from the following texts:

Highly recommended text
**Recommended Texts on Teaching English Pronunciation**


**Selected References on Hong Kong and Chinese English**


**Useful Websites**

- International Phonetic Association
  [http://www.langsci.ucl.ac.uk/ipa/](http://www.langsci.ucl.ac.uk/ipa/)
- Phonetic Flash
  [http://www.phon.ucl.ac.uk/home/johnm/flash/flashin.htm](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](http://www.uiowa.edu/~acadtech/phonetics/english/frameset.html)
- The OUP website with English sound demonstration
- HKPU ELC Pronunciation page
- Sounds of English
  - [http://www.soundsofenglish.org/](http://www.soundsofenglish.org/)
- Eric Armstrong’s voice and speech source
  - [http://www.yorku.ca/earmstro/ipa/index.html](http://www.yorku.ca/earmstro/ipa/index.html)

Revised by Cathy S.P. Wong (May 2014)