Use of languages

Principal working language: **english (eng)**

Some groups entirely in English: **Yes**

Some groups entirely in Catalan: **No**

Some groups entirely in Spanish: **No**

**Contact**

Name: Juli Cebrián Puyuelo
Email: Juli.Cebrian@uab.cat

**Teachers**

Nuria Gavalda Ferre

**Prerequisites**

C1 level (advanced) del Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, Teaching, Assessment.

Students are discouraged from enrolling in this subject if they have not passed the first year Usos Bàsics course.

**Objectives and Contextualisation**

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT**

The main aim of this course is to provide an introduction to the principles of general phonetic description and taxonomy from an articulatory point of view. A description of the sounds of English will be provided and students will practice hearing and producing the linguistically relevant differences in English. Students will acquire working knowledge of phonological and phonetic transcription. The principles of phonological analysis will be presented. Students are introduced to the principles of articulatory description by means of class presentations by the teacher, together with the comments in class of readings done by the students at home. All this is complemented by extensive exercising throughout the semester. Students will practice transcription and reading during the whole course, both in class, in tutorials and at home.

**Specific objectives.**
Students will be able

1) to describe and to explain the production of speech sounds;

2) to classify and describe English sounds articulatorily;

3) to do phonological and phonetic transcription, and read words and phrases in transcription;

4) to carry out contrastive analysis and phonological analysis, and

5) to detect and assess areas of English pronunciation that of particular difficulty for native speakers of Catalan and Spanish, and to attempt to perceive and produce English sounds accurately.

Skills

**English Studies**
- Describe synchronously the main grammar units, constructions and phenomena of the English language.
- Utilising new technologies in order to capture and organise information in English and other languages, and applying it to the personal continued training and to the problem-solving in the professional or research activity.
- Working in an autonomous and responsible way in a professional or research environment in English or other languages, in order to accomplish the previously set objectives.

**English and Catalan**
- Describe synchronously the main grammar units, constructions and phenomena of the English language.

**English and Classics**
- Describe synchronously the main grammar units, constructions and phenomena of the English language.

**English and Spanish**
- Describe synchronously the main grammar units, constructions and phenomena of the English language.

**English and French**
- Describe synchronously the main grammar units, constructions and phenomena of the English language.

Learning outcomes

1. Applying the acquired scientific and work planning methodologies to the research in English.
2. Applying the information in English that is available on the Internet, in databases, etc. to the work and/or research environments.
3. Applying the theoretical and practical aspects of the articulatory phonetics and processes involved in the production of speech.
4. Defining in detail the inventory of consonantal and vocalic phonemes in English and its most common allophonic realisations, as well as the principles of the organisation and combination of sounds in possible sequences.
5. Identifying the main difficulty areas in English pronunciation according to the mother tongue of the student, and work on the most problematic aspects.
6. Locating and organising relevant information in English that is available on the Internet, in databases, etc.
7. Perceiving and producing the vocalic and consonant contrasts of English, as well as the accent, rhythmic, and intonation patterns.
**Content**

**SYLLABUS**

UNIT 1. Introduction to phonetics, phonology, transcription and the main standard varieties of English.

UNIT 2. Production of speech sounds, articulatory description and classification.


UNIT 5. English phonotactics and syllable structure.

UNIT 6. Contrastive analysis of phonological systems of different languages or different varieties of one language.

**Methodology**

Autonomous activities

- Study, test preparation and homework

Directed activities

- Lectures and practical classes

Supervised activities

- Completion of assignments

**Activities**

<table>
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
<th>Learning outcomes</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Type: Directed</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lectures and practical classes</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>3, 4, 5, 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Type: Supervised</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
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<td>1, 3, 2, 5, 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Type: Autonomous</td>
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<tr>
<td>Study, test preparation and homework</td>
<td>37.5</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>3, 4, 5, 6</td>
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**Evaluation**

**ASSESSMENT**

All the subjects in this degree follow continuous assessment.

Method of assessment:
Two written tests (25% and 30%) and a final oral exam (20%)
Assignments (15%)
Homework and participation (10%)

Note:

All the assignments and tests are COMPULSORY. A final mark of "No avaluable" can only be obtained if the student has completed a maximum of one exam and one assignment or two assignments. Therefore, the completion of two exams, or one exam and two assignments excludes the possibility of obtaining the "No avaluable".

- The pass mark for all exams and assignments is 5/10. Students must complete all assignments and must pass the two written exams and the oral exam to pass the course.
- The students' command of English will be taken into account when marking all exercises and for the final mark.
- Reassessment conditions: Only students who have failed at most the oral exam and ONE written test can take the re-assessment exams. If both written exams are failed, the subject will be failed and students will not have the possibility to retake the exams. The maximum mark that can be obtained at reassessment is a PASS (5/10) (unless reassessment is the result of a missed test due to a justified and documented absence). The reassessment dates are assigned by the university and will not be changed to suit individual students' needs.
- Missed tests/assignments can only be retaken if the student provides documented justification of their absence.

IMPORTANT: Partial or total plagiarizing will immediately result in a FAIL (0) for the plagiarized exercise (first-year subjects) or the WHOLE SUBJECT (second-, third- and fourth-year subjects). PLAGIARISM consists of copying text from unacknowledged sources -whether this is part of a sentence or a whole text- with the intention of passing it off as the student's own production. It includes cutting and pasting from internet sources, presented unmodified in the student's own text. Plagiarizing is a SERIOUS OFFENCE. Students must respect authors' intellectual property, always identifying the sources they may use; they must also be responsible for the originality and authenticity of their own texts.

Evaluation activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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<th>ECTS</th>
<th>Learning outcomes</th>
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<td>Oral exam</td>
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Bibliography

Main readings:

Recommended bibliography


Online resources on English phonetics, pronunciation and transcription

- The sounds of Spanish and English http://www.uiowa.edu/~acadtech/phonetics/
- IPA homepage http://www.langsci.ucl.ac.uk/ipa/index.html
- University College of London tutorials http://www.phon.ucl.ac.uk/resource/index.html
- Fonètica articulatòria http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/~danhall/phonetics/sammy.html
- Ladefoged: online course http://phonetics.ucla.edu/course/contents.html
- Peter Roach's online material http://www.cambridge.org/elt/peterroach/resources.htm
- Els sons del català http://www.ub.edu/sonscatala/#.html
- http://www.unc.edu/~jlsmith/pht-url.html
- http://davidbrett.uniss.it/phonology/page%20with%20frames2.htm
- http://englishaccentcoach.com/
- www.onestopenglish.com/section_flash.asp?catid=60030
- http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/grammar/pron/
- http://www.manythings.org/e/pronunciation.html
- http://www.shiporsheep.com/
- http://international.ouc.bc.ca/pronunciation/