

Phonetics and Phonology

Phonetics

Module Description

The aim of this introductory course to articulatory phonetics is to enable students to describe, transcribe and produce the sounds of human speech. They will become familiar with the symbols of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) and the sounds they represent and gain an understanding of how the sounds that occur in human speech are produced. The emphasis is on the accurate description of familiar sounds which occur in languages that the students are familiar with. This is complemented by exposure to unfamiliar sounds. Key contents includes the vocal tract, facial diagrams, places and manner of articulation, consonant and vowel charts, phonation, airstream mechanisms, co-articulation, prosodic features and phonetic transcription.

Objectives

1. To get an overview of the speech sounds of the world
2. To learn how to represent the speech sounds of languages relevant in regional context with IPA symbols
3. To be familiar with the vocal tract and gain an understanding how speech sounds are produced
4. To be able to describe consonants and vowels
5. To learn to produce unknown speech sounds

References

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- Lingualinks*. 2003. (Software Programme). Dallas: SIL International
- Pike, Eunice V. 1963. *Dictation exercises in phonetics*. Santa Ana: SIL
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Phonology

Module Description

In this introduction to phonology the students are made aware of their subconscious phonological knowledge and are equipped to describe the sound patterns of their language in scientific terms. The aim is that the students produce a phonological sketch as group work, which details the phonological facts that are relevant for decisions regarding the orthography. As such, this course is a bridge between phonetics and the development of an orthography. Key contents includes phones, phonemes and allophones, comparing phonetics and phonology, syllables, phonological processes, distinctive features and natural classes, prosodic phonology and morphophonemics.

Objectives

1. To make students aware of their subconscious phonological knowledge of own language
2. To understand the difference between phonetics and phonology
3. To identify and describe the phoneme inventory of own language
4. To identify and describe the syllabic structure of own language
5. To recognise common phonological processes and describe those occurring in own language
6. To identify relevant distinctive features and natural classes in own language
7. To recognize prosodic elements like stress, tone and intonation in own language and formulate open questions
8. To collate the main phonological facts that are relevant for decisions regarding the orthography

References

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- Spencer, Andrew 1996. *Phonology: Theory and Description*. Oxford: Blackwell
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Hours

Phonetics and Phonology is taught over 35 hours and requires 65 hours of self-directed study.