

LING-L 306: PHONETICS

LECTURES: Tuesday/Thursday 11:15 – 12:30 PM in Sycamore 003

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Office Hours: Tuesday 1:00 – 2:30; Wednesday 2:30 – 4:00; by appointment

Course Overview: This course provides a basic introduction to the study of phonetics. Topics addressed include the anatomy and physiology of the speech production apparatus, the production and transcription of speech sounds, basic acoustics, computerized methods for speech analysis, acoustic characteristics of sounds, and phenomena such as stress and intonation.

1. Course objectives

In this course, you will learn about:

- The physiology of the vocal tract: what our articulators are and how we use them to create speech sounds
- Phonetic transcription: apply a set of symbols (IPA) to transcribe the sounds of any language; what is the difference between a broad and narrow transcription
- Sounds not encountered in English, such as clicks and ejectives
- Basic speech acoustics: frequency, duration, and amplitude
- The relation between articulation and acoustics: what are the acoustic consequences of a specific articulation
- Suprasegmentals: stress, tone, and intonation
- Conducting an independent acoustic study in which you record a speaker and analyze her/his vowels

2. Textbook

Reetz, H., and Jongman, A. (2009). *Phonetics: transcription, production, acoustics, and perception*. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell.

- This book is available in the campus bookstore and at various on-line vendors.

3. Website

All course materials and grades will be posted on Oncourse, which you can access at <https://oncourse.iu.edu/portal>. You will log in with your IU online ID and passphrase, and then select this course. PowerPoint lectures and other relevant documents will be posted here.

4. Course requirements

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| • Homework assignments and quizzes | 20% |
| • Exams in class | 60% |
| • Final Project (Due Dec. 19) | 20% |

All students are required to attend class. Exams and quizzes will be taken in class; quizzes will not take up the entire period. Homework, when assigned, will be due at the beginning of class. Except in the case of documented medical or family emergencies, late assignments will be accepted and graded at the instructor's sole discretion. It is the student's responsibility to get

notes, handouts, and other information from any missed classes. Make-up exams/quizzes are possible only if you provide documentation of family/medical emergencies or if you have received advance approval to take a make-up test/quiz.

5. Lab component

PRAAT (Boersma & Weenink) is the speech analysis package you will be using for your project. It is freeware which runs on both PCs and Macs, and it can be downloaded from <http://www.fon.hum.uva.nl/praat/>. You will learn how to use PRAAT during an in-class lab session, and all details relevant for your final project will be discussed well ahead of the due date. **You must turn in a copy of your audio files with your Final Project report.** I will arrange for online submission through Oncourse (details forthcoming). **Please** save your audio files in .wav format before submission. We will discuss how to do this during our lab session.

6. **Disability Services for Students:** Students who require any type of accommodation should contact the Office of Disability Services for Students (DSS) as soon as possible. They are an excellent resource, and you can learn more about them at <http://studentaffairs.iub.edu/dss/>. If you require special accommodations, please tell me immediately.

7. Academic Misconduct

Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated. **Plagiarism includes copying off of handouts, class notes, the textbook, and other students. You may never use someone else's words verbatim, unless they are set off in quotation marks and properly attributed. Please state answers in your own words!** The consequences for plagiarism and cheating will be determined at the instructor's discretion.

8. Important Dates to remember:

- **Friday, August 30:** Courses dropped by this day will not show on your transcript or grade reports.
- **Mid-September:** Faculty submit attendance verification.
- **Mid-September:** Faculty submit Early Evaluation grades for all freshmen, University Division sophomores, and all students in General Education Common Ground Courses.

9. **Tentative course outline:** Lectures will follow the outline below. This outline may be updated as we go along.

Week/Day/Date			Topic	Reading
1	T	August 27	Syllabus and Introduction	
	R	August 29	Articulatory Phonetics	Chapter 2
2	T	September 3	Articulatory Phonetics	Chapter 2
	R	September 5	The International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)	Chapter 4
3	T	September 10	QUIZ 1 – VOCAL TRACT ANATOMY IPA and Transcription	Chap. 3, 4
	R	September 12	IPA and Transcription	Chap. 3, 4
4	T	September 17	IPA and Transcription/Exam Review	Chapter 3

	R	September 19	EXAM 1 – ARTICULATORY PHONETICS & IPA • Pass/fail option deadline is MONDAY, SEPT. 23	
5	T	September 24	Sounds of the World's Languages	Chapter 4
	R	September 26	Vocal Tract Physiology	Chapter 5
6	T	October 1	Vocal Tract Physiology	Chapter 5
	R	October 3	Airstream Mechanisms, Phonation	Chapter 6
7	T	October 8	QUIZ 2 – VTP, LARYNX VOT, Acoustic Phonetics	
	R	October 10	Acoustic Phonetics: Basic Acoustics	Chapter 7
8	T	October 15	Acoustic Phonetics: Spectrograms, Acoustics of vowels	Chap. 7, 8
	R	October 17	Source Filter Theory	Chapter 9
Friday, Oct. 18: FALL BREAK – NO CLASS				
9	T	October 22	Acoustics and Music: Dr. Gabriel Lubell, Jacobs School of Music • Last day to drop/withdraw from a class w/ automatic W is WEDNESDAY, OCT 23	
	R	October 24	Source Filter Theory (SFT)/Exam 2 Review	Chapter 9
10	T	October 29	EXAM 2 – VTP, AIRSTREAM MECH.S, ACOUSTICS, SFT	
	R	October 31	Phonetic Typology	
11	T	November 5	Speech Analysis/PRAAT intro/Final project overview	Chapter 8
	R	November 7	LAB – PRAAT practice • Today's class meets in Ballantine Hall Room 115.	
12	T	November 12	Suprasegmentals	Chapter 11
	R	November 14	Suprasegmentals	Chapter 11
13	T	November 19	Suprasegmentals	Chapter 11
	R	November 21	Allophones - Narrow Transcription of English	
14	Sunday Nov. 24 – Sunday Dec. 1: THANKSGIVING BREAK – NO CLASS			
15	T	December 3	Exam 3 Review	
	R	December 5	EXAM 3: SFT/SUPRASEGMENTALS	
16	T	December 10	QUIZ 3 – LIVE TRANSCRIPTION (unknown lang.) A native speaker of an unknown language will visit class, and we'll practice our listening skills. <i>You are not expected to do a perfect job</i> – rather, the point is to get some real-world transcription practice, to have fun, and to give it your best shot.	
	R	December 12	Acoustic Characteristics of Speech Sounds	Chapter 10
Final Project Due by 2:30 PM on Thursday, December 19				