

- Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines
- www.unine.ch/lettres

English Phonetics and Phonology (2AN1007)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
Pilier B A - langue et littérature anglaises	Cours: 1 ph TP: 1 ph	Voir ci-dessous	3

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Automne

Equipe enseignante

Dr. Steve Oswald

Contenu

This course is an inquiry into the phonological system of the English language (and its sounds). Throughout the semester, we will be concerned with the specific sounds of English and the way these sounds are organised to produce acceptable sequences.

Three areas of interest will be explored in this study:

- Phonetic analysis: a significant part of the course will be devoted to the study of English sounds, ranging from insights into their production (how they are articulated in the vocal tract, from the lungs to the lips) to considerations about their possible combinations
- Phonological analysis: part of the course will consider typical linguistic phenomena of English (plural formation, past tense formation, etc.) from a phonological perspective to make explicit different constraints pertaining to the English language
- IPA transcriptions: the third, more practical, dimension of the course will consist in learning how to transcribe the English language in International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)

As we explore these three areas, different varieties of English will be comparatively examined and insights on pronunciation and the relationship between spelling and spoken English will be provided.

Note: Students must submit their own, original work. They may not engage in unauthorized collaboration or make use of ChatGPT or other AI composition software.

Forme de l'évaluation

1h45 written test (pen and paper) on the last day of the course. Neither notes nor books or printed material are allowed.

In the case of remote teaching, the exam will be administered via Webex.

Modalités de rattrapage

The resit (1h45 written test (pen and paper)) will take place before or during the first week of classes in February 2027.

In the case of remote teaching, the exam will be administered via Webex.

Documentation

General reference:

- Collins, B., & Mees, I. M. (2013). Practical Phonetics and Phonology: A Resource Book for Students. Routledge.

Bibliographical references will be given on Moodle, session after session.

Pré-requis

None

Forme de l'enseignement

Face-to-face teaching, with the possibility of switching to online teaching depending on sanitary circumstances.

The course consists of a one-hour lecture and a one-hour workshop. While all students attend the lecture together, they are split in two groups for the workshop. Details will be announced in the first session of the semester.

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Objectifs d'apprentissage

Au terme de la formation l'étudiant-e doit être capable de :

- Define the way English sounds are produced in the vocal tract
- Illustrate phonological phenomena with relevant examples
- Enumerate the sounds of the English language
- Identify key phonetic differences between different varieties of English
- Explain phonological rules

Compétences transférables

- Discuss complex issues
- Communicate in a second language
- Carry out analytical tasks autonomously
- Develop intellectual rigour and curiosity