

ELG357 Phonetics

Level: 3

Credit Units: 5 Credit Units

Language: ENGLISH

Presentation Pattern: EVERY JAN

Synopsis:

ELG357 Phonetics looks at the study of sound in human languages. Students will be introduced to the critical aspects of phonetics, namely, speech production, speech analysis, and speech variation under different social conditions. Additionally, the course looks at the relation between phonetics and phonology, and the application of phonetics to language analysis. Key topics in the course include articulatory phonetics, acoustic phonetics, auditory/perceptual phonetics and sociophonetics. Through this course, students will better appreciate the study of phonetics in language studies, and will be equipped with a functional knowledge of phonetics for speech analysis and description.

Topics:

- The Vocal Tract
- Basics of Articulation
- Consonants and Vowels
- Phonology: Abstraction, Contrast, Predictability
- Phonotactics and Alternations
- Anatomy, Physiology and Gestural Coordination
- The Physics of Sound
- Waveforms, Spectra, Spectrograms

Textbooks:

Elizabeth C. Zsiga: *The Sounds of Language: An Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology* 2013 Wiley-Blackwell
ISBN-13: 9781405191036-AA

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Learning Outcome:

- Explain the processes of speech articulation, speech acoustics and phonetic variation in speech production and perception
- Discuss the relation between phonetics and phonology
- Differentiate the branches of phonetics and how they complement one another
- Apply phonetic transcription to language data
- Analyse speech samples using acoustic techniques
- Examine social considerations driving phonetic variation

Assessment Strategies:

| Continuous Assessment Component | Weightage (%) |
|--|----------------------|
| TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT | 20 |
| TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT | 30 |
| Sub-Total | 50 |

| Examinable Component | Weightage (%) |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Written Exam | 50 |
| Sub-Total | 50 |

Weightage Total **100**