

SYLLABUS

Time**Place**

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How should we address each other?

- At UCLA, my students call me “Kie” [카이], which is my given name/first name/personal name. But I know that’s not typical in Korean universities.
- I propose that when we’re speaking English, you call me “Kie”. If we’re speaking Korean, you can call me 선생님 or 교수님.
- I also propose that when we’re speaking English, I call you 희진, 학수, etc. How should I address you if we’re speaking Korean?

What to expect

- You’ll learn about how speech sounds are produced by the body and what their acoustic properties are.
- You will use free acoustic software to analyze sounds.
- We will focus in depth on English speech sounds, with comparison to Korean.
- You will practice producing these sounds, and transcribing them using the International Phonetic Association alphabet (IPA).
- Class sessions will include lecture/discussion and practice in transcription, production, and acoustics.
- You will carry out an individual project, analyzing your English pronunciation at the beginning and end of the course.
- In most linguistics courses, the emphasis is on abstract concepts and problem-solving skills, with very little memorization. By contrast, in this course there are some abstract concepts, but the emphasis is on concrete production and perception skills, with unavoidable memorization.

Course goals/Why take this course?

For linguistics and language students, this course provides a foundation for studying the sound side of linguistics (phonetics and phonology).

The individual project is good practice in collecting and analyzing data, and explaining it in writing.

Knowledge of general phonetics is also extremely useful in the fields of...

- *language learning*: improving your pronunciation
- *language teaching*: helping your students attain good pronunciation
- *acting and singing*: mastering the pronunciation of different languages/dialects/accents. IPA notation is sometimes used in those fields (e.g., traditional European opera training).
- *speech technology*: you can’t teach computers to talk or listen unless you know basic phonetics; same goes for engineers in telephonic and other audio technology (e.g., what frequencies are most important?)
- *speech therapy*: speech therapists study phonetics, for treating children, brain-injured adults, laryngectomy patients, or singers and others with injured voices; a course like this is usually a prerequisite for graduate programs that train you to be a clinician.
- *general knowledge*: people love to talk about accents and pronunciation, but rarely have the tools to do so systematically; this course will give you those tools. Also, pronunciations in Wikipedia and most non-US dictionaries are given in IPA.

Requirements

- Homework assignments 35%
- Project (see separate handout) 33%
 - “before” recording 2%
- Quizzes 30%

Textbook: Rogers, Henry (2000). *The Sounds of Language: an introduction to phonetics*. Pearson Education.

Course outline (we will adjust it if necessary...)

<i>Week</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>topics</i>	<i>reading</i>	<i>quizzes</i>	<i>homework/project</i>
1	June 23	Introduction. Basic speech acoustics	chapter 1		
	June 24	Basic speech acoustics, continued	chapter 7		
2	June 27	More-advanced speech acoustics	chapter 8	quiz	Project “before” recording is due
	June 28	Acoustics of vowels	chapter 9		
	June 30	Basic transcription Vowels and glides	chapter 2 chapter 4	quiz	Homework #1 is due: vowel plots
	July 1	Place of articulation	chapter 3 chapter 10		
3	July 4	Place of articulation, continued Manner of articulation	chapter 11	quiz	Homework #2 is due: vowel transcription and production
	July 5	Manner of articulation, continued			
	July 7	Phonation, voicing, and aspiration	chapter 12	quiz	Homework #3 is due: consonant transcription and production
	July 8	Perceptual categories	<i>none</i>		
4	July 11	Review/catch up Transcription practice	<i>none</i>	quiz	Homework #4 is due: full transcription and production
	July 12	Stress	chapter 5 chapter 14		
	July 14	Intonation		quiz	Homework #5 is due: more full transcription and production
	July 15	Intonation, continued			
5	July 18	Fine details of English	chapter 6	quiz	Project is due