Phonology, Dialects and Discourse

6 creds., 1st semester

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Aims and Objectives

To re-acquaint students with a basic theoretical knowledge of English Phonetics and Phonology.

To introduce students to the rich variety of English dialects from a phonological perspective. To master the best techniques for the use of the aforementioned disciplines in the linguistic analysis of the literary representation of vernacular varieties, the interpretation of writers' comments on character's linguistic traits, etc.

Course Program

1. What is Phonetics? What is Phonology? Basic terminology. Articulatory Phonetics. The vowel system. The consonant system. Phonotactics. Phonemic Transcription.

- 2. The Dialects of British English.
- 3. The literary representation of dialect phonology. Spelling and grapheme.
- 4. Methods for the linguistic analysis of the representation of speech in literature.

Methodology

The course consists of theory and practice sessions. In the theoretical sessions students are given explanations and notes on the contents of the subject. The practical sessions will mainly focus on the application of the knowledge gained in the theoretical sessions to the phonemic interpretation of dialect spellings representative of selected features. For the practical sessions, students must prepare the analysis of a given text for an oral presentation in the classroom which will be part of their assessment. Students must attend tutorials to correct, comment and discuss their work before their oral presentation.





The course will be taught in English, which means that students are expected to follow explanations, take notes and ask questions, as well as provide answers in this language.

Assessment

A selection of texts will be specified at the beginning of the course for class discussion on given dates. Students are required to read each assigned text before class and to come prepared to discuss it. In addition, each student will have to prepare an oral presentation.

The students will be evaluated on a combination of their participation in class, an oral presentation and a written assignment.

Attendance and participation in class activities: 20% Oral presentation: 20 % Written Assignment based on the oral presentation: 60%

Students' language performance (in grammar, vocabulary and spelling, as well as orally) will be taken into account. A C1 level of both English and Spanish will be considered mandatory.

Bibliography and Resources

Students will be given a fuller list of references at the beginning of the course.

- Bolinger, Dwight L. 1986. Intonation and its Parts: Melody in Spoken English. London: Arnold.
- Brazil, D. 1997. The Communicative Value of Intonation in English. Cambridge: University Press.

Cruttenden, Alan. 2008. Gimson's Pronunciation of English. London: Hodder Arnold.

- García Lecumberri, María L. and Maidment, J. 2000. English Transcription Course. London: Edward Arnold.
- Giegerich, Heinz J. 1992. English Phonology. An Introduction. Cambridge: University Press.
- Goldsmith, John A. ed. 1994. The Handbook of Phonological Theory. Oxford: Blackwells.
- Handke, Jürgen. 2001. *The Mouton Interactive Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology*. CD-ROM containing sounds and animated sequences. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.
- Hardcastle, William J. and John Laver. eds. 1999. The Handbook of Phonetic Sciences. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Kenworthy, Joanne. 2000. The Pronunciation of English: A Workbook. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Kortmann, Bernd. 2008. A Handbook of Varieties of English. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.
- Laver, John. 1994. Principles of Phonetics. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Monroy Casas, Rafael. 1994. Sistemas de transcripción fonética del inglés. Teoría y textos. Murcia: Universidad de Murcia.
- O'Connor, J. D. 1986 [1971]. Advanced Phonetic Reader. 7th reimpr.: Cambridge: University Press.
- Pullum, G. K. and W. A. Ladusaw. 1996 [1986]. *Phonetic Symbol Guide*. 2nd ed. Chicago and London: The University of Chicago Press.
- Tench, Paul. 1990. The Roles of Intonation in English Discourse. Bern: Peter Lang.
- Trask, R. L. 1996. A Dictionary of Phonetics and Phonology. London: Routledge.



Wells, J. C. 1982. Accents of English 1. Introduction. Cambridge: CUP. Wells, J. C. 1982. Accents of English 2. The British Isles. Cambridge: CUP. Wells, John. 2008. Longman's Pronunciation Dictionary. 3rd. edition. London: Longman.

