

# Phonology

Spring 2023

## *Code*

BBN-ANG-242/h, BBN-ANG-242/i, BBN-ANG-242/j

## *Time and place*

h: Thu 13:45–15:15, R326; i: Thu 15:30–17:00; R442; j: Thu 17:15–18:45; R442

## *Value, type*

3-credit seminar

## *Host*

Department of English Linguistics (DELG)

## *Instructor*

Péter Óri

## *E-mail*

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## *Course description*

This course will discuss the phoneme system of (current Standard Southern British) English, along with the phonetic properties of sound segments, and some of the most important phonological rules of the language. We will be practicing phonemic transcription, using the CUBE system. Special emphasis will be placed on letter-to-sound rules so that the spelling of English words will become a more reliable guide in guessing their pronunciation. This is planned to be a practical course with a lot of exercises for you to gain an in-depth knowledge of the material. Therefore, everybody will be encouraged to actively participate in the class work and required to regularly do their home assignments.

## *Course material and communication*

The syllabus, the course materials, the home assignments and your results will be made available on the platform of the course (in the MS Teams group), where announcements will also be posted, so it is your responsibility to check it for updates on a regular basis.

## *Readings*

Besides the shared course materials and the online readings mentioned in the slides, selected chapters from the following textbook are recommended for the course:

Nádasdy, Ádám. 2006. *Background to English Pronunciation (Phonetics, Phonology, Spelling)*. Budapest: Nemzeti Tankönyvkiadó.

## *Assessment*

Assessment will be based on a midterm test (40%), and an end-term test (60%), which can be substantially modified by your in-class participation and the weekly assignments submitted.

Grading policy: 0–59.99% → 1; 60–69.99% → 2; 70–79.99% → 3; 80–89.99% → 4; 90–100% → 5

## *Attendance*

Regular attendance is necessary; a maximum of three absences can be tolerated.

## *Syllabus\**

<i>Feb. 23</i>	<i>No class (spring break)</i>
<i>Mar. 2</i>	Introduction 1. Phonetics vs. phonology; phonemic transcription
<i>Mar. 9</i>	2. IPA symbols and the CUBE system; short vowels in SSBE
<i>Mar. 16</i>	3. Diphthongs in SSBE; articulation of vowels; phonetics of SSBE vowels
<i>Mar. 23</i>	4. Distribution of /r/; long vowels in SSBE; vowel contrasts: /a/ vs. /ɛ/ and /əw/ vs. /o:/
<i>Mar. 30</i>	5. R-influence and vowel categories; vowel contrasts: /ʌ/ vs. /ɔ/ vs. /ɑ:/
<i>Apr. 6</i>	6. Letter-to-sound rules; graphic positions
<i>Apr. 13</i>	7. Shortening rules and lengthening environments
<i>Apr. 20</i>	<b>MIDTERM TEST</b> 8. Stress; vowels in unstressed syllables; weak forms of function words
<i>Apr. 27</i>	9. Articulation and categorization of consonants; phonotactics: nasal+plosive clusters and geminates
<i>May 4</i>	10. <b>n</b> and <b>ŋ</b> ; allophonic rules and alternations: aspiration, L-darkening and flapping
<i>May 11</i>	11. Morpho-phonological alternations: allomorphs of -s and -ed, palatalization, velar softening and spirantization
<i>May 18</i>	12. Revision
<i>May 25</i>	<b>END-TERM TEST</b>

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\* The syllabus is subject to change; please check it regularly for updates.