

# Macao Polytechnic University

## Faculty of Languages and Translation

### Bachelor of Arts in Chinese-English Translation and Interpretation

#### Module Outline

Academic Year 2022 / 2023 Semester 1

<b>Learning Module</b>	Practical English Phonetics	<b>Class Code</b>	ENGL1106-111		
<b>Pre-requisite(s)</b>	NIL				
<b>Medium of Instruction</b>	English			<b>Credit</b>	2
<b>Lecture Hours</b>	30 hrs	<b>Lab/Practice Hours</b>	---	<b>Total Hours</b>	30 hrs
<b>Instructors</b>	Dr. Lily Lim		<b>E-mail</b>	llim@mpu.edu.mo	
<b>Office</b>	M308, Meng Tak Building, Main Campus		<b>Telephone</b>	85993160	

#### Description

This course introduces students to basic concepts in phonetics and phonology, including its theoretical and practical aspects with major emphasis on the English language. Students will gain an understanding of the articulatory mechanisms for producing consonants, vowels, diphthongs as well as stress and intonation in the English Language. Students will also be familiar with the International Phonetic Alphabet, and their pronunciation and phonetic transcript skills will be enhanced as well.

#### Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students are expected to have knowledge of the following concepts and demonstrate that knowledge through practical means:

- The International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)
- Consonant System
- Vowel System
- Connected Speech
- Intonation

## **Content**

### 1. Introduction (2 hours)

*Basic Terminology (Definition of key terms)*

*Students will be able to define the selected terms and express those concepts in their own words.*

### 2. Consonants (6 hours)

#### 2.1 *The breathing system and the vocal tract*

*Students will be able to label the diagrams of breathing system and vocal tract.*

#### 2.2 *Description of pronunciation of consonants*

*Students will be able to pronounce and describe the English consonants correctly.*

#### 2.3 *Consonant clusters*

*Students will be able to come up with English consonants clusters and to tell some of the key features of particular consonant clusters.*

### 3. Vowels and diphthongs (4 hours)

#### 3.1 *Vowels*

*Students are able to pronounce and describe the English vowels correctly.*

#### 3.2 *Diphthongs*

*Students are able to pronounce and describe the English diphthongs correctly.*

#### 3.3 *Vowels and Diphthongs*

*Students are able to distinguish the between vowels and consonants.*

*Students are able to point out the major difference of British and American English.*

### 4. IPA and Transcription (6 hours)

#### 4.1 *IPA symbols*

*Students are familiar with the basic symbols of the International Phonetic Alphabet, focusing on the symbols needed to describe English vowels and consonants.*

#### 4.2 *Syllables*

*Students are able to define of the concept of syllables.*

*Students are able to distinguish between strong and weak syllables.*

*Students are able to count the number of syllables in a word.*

#### 4.3 *Reading transcriptions*

*Students are able to identify words or sentences from their phonetic transcriptions.*

#### 4.4 *Transcription*

*Students are able to transcribe simple words and sentences.*

5. Suprasegmental: Word Stress (4 hours)

5.1 *Stress in simple words*

*Students are able to define of the concept of stress.*

*Students are able to distinguish between stressed and unstressed syllables.*

*Students are able to identify the stress of an English word or phrase.*

6. Suprasegmental: Intonation (3 hours)

6.1 *Basic intonation patterns*

*Students are able to identify rising and falling tones.*

*Students are able to identify the different intonation patterns and provide examples for each type.*

7. Connected Speech (3 hours)

7.1 *Aspects of connected speech*

*Students are able to illustrate the different aspects of connected speech in English.*

*Students are able to identify / provide examples of the three aspects of connected speech.*

8. Final Exam (2 hours)

**Remark:** *Content subjects to readjustment as to maximize the learning outcome of the students.*

### **Teaching Method**

The course is to be introduced in the form of:

- Lectures/ Discussions
- Transcription Exercises: Individual / Pair / Group Work
- Pronunciation Drills
- Quizzes
- Apps / Software for possible ICT teaching or online classes

### **Attendance**

Attendance requirements are governed by the “Academic Regulations Governing Bachelor’s Degree Programmes of Macao Polytechnic University”.

## Assessment

This learning module is graded on a 100-point scale, with 100 being the highest possible score and 50 being the passing score.

	<b>Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1.	Attendance	Overall attendance	5%
2.	In-class participation	Participation in class activities and discussions	10%
3.	Two Pronunciation Drills	A pronunciation practice assigned to assess students' application of phonetic knowledge in their pronunciation	10%
3.	Written Quiz	One short quiz assigned to check students' progress of their learning of IPA	8%
4.	Mid-Term Test	A summative assessment assigned in the middle of the semester	27%
5.	Final Examination	A summative assessment assigned at the end of the semester	40%

**Total Percentage:** 100%

*Remark: Distribution of scores subject to readjustment according to the arising situation.*

**Cheating Warning:** Plagiarism is an act of fraud. It is using others' ideas and words without clearly acknowledging the source of that information. A zero mark will normally be given to that piece of work if a student copies someone else's work or lets someone copy his/her own work.

## Teaching Material(s)

Handouts provided by the instructor

## **References**

Brazil, D. (1994). *Pronunciation for advanced learners of English*. Cambridge University Press.

Crystal, D. (2011). *A Little Book of Linguistics*. New haven: Yale University Press.

Department of Linguistics, the Ohio State University; Vedrana Mihalicek and Christin Wilson, compilers. (2011). *Language files: materials for an introduction to language* (11<sup>th</sup> ed.). Columbus: Ohio State University Press.

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<b>Instructors</b>	Mr. Daniel LEONG		<b>E-mail</b>	t1638@mpu.edu.mo	
<b>Office</b>	B201, Chi Uu Building, Main Campus		<b>Telephone</b>	---	

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