

---

# ENG568 - ISSUES IN ENGLISH PHONOLOGY

---

---

## COURSE OUTLINE

---

### COURSE DETAILS:

**Code:** ENG568.1      **MAM:** 14857      **ECTS:** 7.5      **Semester:** Spring 2018-19  
**Day:** Monday & Thursday      **Time:** 13:30 – 15:00      **Lecture Room:** A109  
**Prerequisites:** ENG 160 Introduction to Linguistics; any of the “ENG250–255 Topics in English Phonetics & Phonology” courses.

### CONTACT DETAILS:

**Instructor:** Spyros Armostis      **email:** armostis@ucy.ac.cy  
**Office hours:** Mondays 15:00–17:00  
**Office Room:** M006      **Office tel.:** 22892116

---

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The aim of this course is to provide students with a deeper understanding of concepts relating to phonological description and analysis in the context of current phonological analyses of English varieties. Through readings and problem solving, the students will be introduced to the major research questions, findings, and analytical techniques. English phonology will be examined at the segmental level (phonemic contrasts and processes), but also at the supra-segmental level (phonological organisation of segments into syllables, feet, words, and phrases) and at the sub-segmental level (feature geometry). In addition, the interfaces of phonology with morphology, syntax, and the lexicon will be examined. Themes that will be covered include the following: English syllable structure and syllabification, syllable weight, English word stress and rhythmical organisation, rule ordering, rules vs. constraints, and variation in English varieties. By the end of the course, students will develop the ability to apply their knowledge of phonology to analyse the various native pronunciations of English as well as English pronunciations of ESL/EFL learners.

### LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course, students should be in position to:

1. explain the phonological organisation of English using appropriate metalanguage;
2. describe the main allophonic behaviours of English phonemes;
3. have an understanding of the sound systems of English varieties;
4. understand the relationship between stress assignment and vowel reduction in English;
5. formulate English (morpho)phonological rules.

### EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to regularly attend our class sessions, take an active part in class discussions, and freely share ideas and insights with everybody in the class.

**Attendance is mandatory;** more than 3 absences from class will put students at serious risk of failing the course.

**METHOD OF EVALUATION:**

- (1) Participation (10%)
- (2) Midterm examination (30%)
- (3) Presentation (15%)
- (4) Final examination (45%)

**TEXT BOOKS**

Heinz J. Giegerich (1992) *English phonology: an introduction* (Cambridge text- books in linguistics). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Peter Roach (1998) *English phonetics and phonology: a practical course, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

**NOTE**

Articles and chapters on English phonology will be uploaded on BlackBoard in the course of the semester.

**WEEKLY BREAKDOWN (TENTATIVE):**

Week 1	14 Jan	Introduction
	17 Jan	Phonology vs phonetics
Week 2	21 Jan	The basic premises of phonology
	24 Jan	Revision: English consonants
Week 3	28 Jan	Revision: English vowels
	31 Jan	Natural classes and distinctive features
Week 4	04 Feb	Phonological distributions
	07 Feb	Phonological formalisms
Week 5	11 Feb	Types of processes – Rule writing
	14 Feb	Rule ordering
Week 6	18 Feb	English Syllable structure, sonority and timing
	21 Feb	Strong and weak syllables in English
Week 7	25 Feb	English Word stress and weak forms
	28 Feb	Aspects of connected speech (assimilation, elision, linking)
Week 8	04 Mar	Sound systems in different English varieties
	07 Mar	<b>Midterm examination</b>
Week 9	11 Mar	<b>Holiday</b>
	14 Mar	Sound systems in different English varieties
Week 10	18 Mar	Sound systems in different English varieties
	21 Mar	Rhythm and intonation
Week 11	25 Mar	<b>Holiday</b>
	28 Mar	Non-linear phonology
Week 12	01 Apr	<b>Holiday</b>
	04 Apr	Autosegmental phonology
Week 13	08 Apr	Suprasegmental phonology
	11 Apr	Feature geometry
Week 13	15 Apr	Optimality Theory
	18 Apr	Phonology transfer: ESL/EFL accent of English

**READING LIST**

PE1135.C64 2003 - *Practical phonetics and phonology: a resource book for students*

PE1133.M36 2002 - *An introduction to English phonology*

PE1133.J46 1993 - *English phonology*

PE1133.H365 1994 - *English sound structure*

PE1133.C5 1991 - *The sound pattern of English*

PE1133.C34 1999 - *English phonetics and phonology: an introduction*

P217.L35 1984 - *Phonology an introduction to basic concepts*

*P217.D384 2010 - Introducing phonetics and phonology*

*P217.C29 2007 - The Cambridge handbook of phonology*

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

---

- 31 January: Deadline for forming project teams.
- 07 March: Midterm Examination
- Presentation date: TBA for each team.