

# English Phonetics and Phonology (ENG195)

The course provides the student with a broad introduction to English phonetics and phonology, and to the study of English accents. It focuses on the sound systems of two model accents of English (Received Pronunciation and General American), including intonation patterns as well as consonants and vowels. In addition, it introduces the topics of accent variation, sound change and international variants of English. The course gives an overview of basic concepts and terminology within phonetics and phonology, combined with practical exercises.

*Course description for study year 2022-2023. Please note that changes may occur.*

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## Facts

**Course code**

**Version**

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**Credits (ECTS)**

15

**Semester tuition start**

Spring

**Number of semesters**

1

**Exam semester**

Spring

**Language of instruction**

English

**Offered by**

[Faculty of Arts and Education,](#)  
[Department of Cultural Studies and](#)  
[Languages](#)

**Time table**

[View course schedule](#)

**Content**

The course focuses on several broad topics within the field of English phonetics and phonology. The central course components include consonant and vowel production in RP and GA, suprasegmental features, such as stress, connected speech and intonation, as well as international variants of English (World Englishes). In addition, a significant aspect of the course is work on phonemic transcription. Due to the relevance of the concepts introduced during the course for students' overall communicative competence, a lot of attention will be given to their ability to recognize and interpret various phenomena of connected speech, speech sound distinctions and different intonation patterns in native and non-native English speakers' speech, as well as to their ability to produce them in their own speech.

**Learning outcome***Knowledge*

The student will gain knowledge of

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the English sound system

the processes of English connected speech

the main intonation patterns in English and their functions

the differences between British English and American English pronunciation based on the model accents Received Pronunciation (RP) and General American (GA)

the main differences between these and other major accents of English, and the concept of sound change

the most common problems in the acquisition of English pronunciation, with special reference to Norwegian learners

## *Skills*

By the end of the course, the student will be able to

explain how English sounds are articulated

read and produce phonemic transcriptions

identify processes that take place in English connected speech

explain the basic functions of English intonation

distinguish between the RP and GA accents and describe the main differences between them

explain why certain aspects of English pronunciation may cause problems to second-language learners, especially Norwegian ones

## *General competence*

By the end of the course, the students will be able to

understand how speech sounds are used to create meaning

apply their knowledge of English phonetics and phonology to improve

teaching  
understand how English accents vary and change  
be able to express themselves in appropriate academic English

### Required prerequisite knowledge

None

### Recommended prerequisites

The course presupposes a solid command of written and spoken English.

### Exam

Midterm exam and oral exam

Form of assessment	Weight	Duration	Marks	Aid
Midterm exam	1/3	4 Hours	Letter grades	None permitted
Oral exam	2/3	30 Minutes	Letter grades	None permitted

The student has to pass both the midterm and the final to pass the course. English language and academic writing skills are taken into account in the grading, as well as the course content.

### Coursework requirements

Attendance at a minimum of five group seminars, Submission of three short home assignments

Regular attendance is strongly recommended, as the course contains a large element of hands-on practice.

three assignments. In addition, they must have attended at least five group seminars.

Students who get one or more assignment assessed as not approved at their first attempt, are given one opportunity to hand in a revised assignment.

### Course teacher(s)

Course coordinator: [Oliver Martin Traxel](#)

Course teacher: [Nancy Marie Wood](#)

Programme coordinator: [Anne Marie Nygaard](#)

Programme coordinator: [Margrethe Melin](#)

### Method of work

A combination of lectures and group work at seminars. Independent work on exercises.

## Overlapping courses

Course	Reduction (SP)
The Sounds of English (ENG140_1)	10
The Sounds of English (MENG140_1)	10
English Words and Sounds (ÅEN140_1)	10
The Sounds of English (ÅEN140_2)	10

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**Course****Reduction (SP)**

English Phonetics and Phonology (LENG195\_1)

15

**Open for**

English Language and Literature - Bachelor's Degree Programme, English - One-year programme, History - Bachelor's Degree Programme, Religious Studies - Bachelor's Degree Programme, Nordic Language and Literature - Bachelor's Degree Programme, Teacher Education including an MA.

**Course assessment**

The UiS quality system involves student evaluation of all courses.

**Literature**

[Search for literature in Leganto](#)

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