



Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - 2024-2025

Exchange

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam offers many English-taught courses in a variety of subjects, ranging from arts & culture and social sciences, neurosciences and computer science, to economics and business administration.

The International Office is responsible for course approval and course registration for exchange students. For details about course registration, requirements, credits, semesters and so on, please [visit the exchange programmes webpages](#).

Applied Phonetics

Course Code	L_WABACIW203
Credits	6
Period	P2
Course Level	300
Language Of Tuition	English
Faculty	Faculty of Humanities
Course Coordinator	dr. R. Falahati Ardestani
Examiner	dr. R. Falahati Ardestani
Teaching Staff	dr. R. Falahati Ardestani, dr. R. Falahati Ardestani
Teaching method(s)	Seminar, Lecture

Course Objective

The main goal of the course is to provide students with a comprehensive overview of general theoretical issues in phonetics. On completion of this course, students should be able to identify, describe and understand key concepts involved in describing the acoustic and articulatory properties of speech sounds, as well as how speech sounds are produced and perceived. They will be able to use their newly gained practical skills to perform a basic acoustic analysis on various acoustic characteristics of speech signals. Furthermore, students will also know how to use and apply phonetic theories and concepts in other disciplines of language and communication.

Course Content

This course will introduce students to the study of phonetics. Whereas phonetics is a branch of linguistics that studies the sounds of human speech, as well as the equivalent aspects of signs in sign language, the main focus of this course will be on the acoustic characteristics and physical aspects of speech production and perception. Knowledge about the mechanism involved in speech production and perception will help to better understand and appreciate speech and its communicative function. It also helps to better understand the mechanisms and potential problems in language and speech development including second language acquisition. Theoretical phonetic issues will be linked with hands-on experience in acoustic analysis using PRAAT. Through lectures, assignments and hands-on sessions students will also get acquainted with possible applications of different phonetic theories and concepts in different areas of language and communication.

Additional Information Teaching Methods

A combination of lectures and seminars (2 hours per week), and practical sessions (2 hours per week). Practical sessions and assignments can be accomplished on your own. Attendance of all meetings is highly recommended.

Method of Assessment

Grades will be based on written practical sessions reports including answers to questions for studying course materials (40%); a written final exam including a critical summary, essay, or a special assignment that addresses the application of phonetics in language and linguistic communication (60%). In order to pass the course, the student must pass each component with at least 5.0. The weighted average of all grades has to be at least 5.5.

Literature

Phonetics, A practical Introduction by Rtree Wayland (2019), Cambridge University Press. ISBN 978-1-108407070-6.

Some additional non-textbook readings will be announced during the course.

Additional Information Target Audience

2nd-year Bachelor's students in CIS, specialisation Language Learning and Language Teaching. The course is

also part of the premaster's programme in Applied Linguistics (Language Disorders).

Additional Information

This is a mandatory course in the CIS specialisation Language Learning and Language Teaching. Students are required to hand in fully completed written reports before they are due. Deadlines will be provided on the course website and in the planning. If you hand in a report that is incomplete or too late, or you do not hand in a report without informing the instructor before the deadline, there will be no make-up assignments or extensions of deadlines. As a consequence, you are not allowed to participate in the exam and you cannot pass the course within this academic year.

Recommended background knowledge

Basic knowledge of general linguistics.