

The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Department of Linguistics and Modern Languages
Second Term, 2022-23

Course Title: LING5501 Chinese Phonetics and Phonology
Description: This course introduces general aspects of modern Chinese phonetics and phonology, including both segmental and prosodic characteristics. Students will be trained to compare and analyze sound patterns of Standard Chinese and other Chinese dialects from different theoretical approaches with common phonetic research tools. The final goal of the course is to provide students with a solid foundation for further phonetic and phonological research.

Content, highlighting fundamental concepts

Topic	Contents/fundamental concepts
Introduction: Phonetics vs. phonology	Categoricity, phonetic realization, transcription; The many meanings of Chinese (Standard Chinese vs. Mandarin Chinese vs. Chinese as a cover term of all Chinese dialects)
Consonant	Place and manner of articulation, voicing; Three sibilants in Standard Chinese; affricates and contour segments; the r-sound
Vowel	The vowel chart, schwa; the mid vowel phoneme; apical vowels; diphthong; diphthong as a unitary feature
Syllable structure	Sonority Hierarchy; Resyllabification; Systematic vs. accidental gaps
Chinese segmental processes	Assimilation, dissimilation, r-suffix; rhyme change; diminutive suffix
Tone	Fundamental frequency (F0), Tone-Bearing Unit (TBU); Tone features; Level vs. contour tones
Tone sandhi	Tone 3 sandhi; Tone substitution, tone spreading; directionality; tone sandhi vs. tone coarticulation
Chinese prosodic system	Syllable-timed and stress-timed rhythm, stress, neutral tone
Tone and intonation	Declination; Statement vs. question intonation, focus intonation; Autosegmental-metrical theory, intonational phonology; The interaction between tone and intonation
Diversities among Chinese dialects: Segments	Chinese dialect classification; different kinds of consonants (voiced stop and their realization, pre-nasalized stops and gesture timing); The status of glide (Standard Chinese vs. Cantonese); Apical vowels and their phonotactic constraints
Diversities among Chinese dialects: Tone	Tone inventory size; Tonogenesis and tone merger; Tone and voice quality; The multidimensional nature of tonal contrast

Learning outcomes

After completing this course, students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understand the sound inventories of Standard Chinese, including consonants, vowels, and tones • understand the articulation of Chinese sounds, and their acoustic correlates • understand basic phonological concepts, such as phoneme, contrast, distinctive features, tone sandhi, etc. • have a basic command of the phonetic analysis workflow • apply simple phonological analysis on data of Standard Chinese and Chinese dialects
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Learning activities

Lecture	Interactive	Lab	Discussion of	Field-trip	Projects	Web-based	Other
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(hr) in /out class		tutorial (hr) in /out class		(hr) in /out class		case (hr) in /out class		(hr) in /out class		(hr) in /out class		teaching (hr) in /out class		(hr) in /out class	
2		1													
M;O; NA	M;O; NA	M;O; NA	M;O; NA	M;O; NA	M;O; NA	M;O; NA	M;O; NA	M;O; NA	M;O; NA	M;O; NA	M;O; NA	M;O; NA	M;O; NA	M;O; NA	M;O; NA

M: Mandatory activity in the course

O: Optional activity

NA: Not applicable

Assessment scheme

Task nature	Description	Weight
1. Participation	Class participation: question answering & discussion of readings online and in class; the number of questions each student answers will be counted by TA	10%
2. Assignments	4 written assignments (2 data analysis + 2 short essay questions); submitted online; marked by TA	40%
3. Mid-term exams	Close-book exams (marked by TA and the instructor), questions are based on concepts covered in class	30%
4. Oral presentation*	Oral presentation (presentation + Q&A; marked by TA and the instructor)	20%

* The students may choose to do the oral presentation alone or in a group (no more than three members).

Learning resources for students

<p><u>Textbook</u> Duanmu, San. (2007). <i>The Phonology of Standard Chinese</i> (2nd edition). Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Lin, Yen-Hwei. (2007). <i>The Sounds of Chinese</i>. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.</p> <p><u>Recommended readings</u> Chen, M. Y. (2000). <i>Tone Sandhi : Patterns across Chinese dialects</i>. Cambridge University Press.</p> <p>Gussenhoven, C., & Jacobs, H. (2017). <i>Understanding phonology</i> (Fourth edition.). Routledge.</p> <p>Kenstowicz, Michael. (1994). <i>Phonology in Generative Grammar</i>. Cambridge, Mass. & Oxford: Blackwell.</p> <p>胡方. (2021). 《语音讲义》. 上海: 上海教育出版社. (As course reserves in the CUHK library)</p> <p><u>Learning resources</u> Encyclopedia of Chinese Language and Linguistics (Online access provided by the CUHK library) https://referenceworks.brillonline.com/browse/encyclopedia-of-chinese-language-and-linguistics</p>

Feedback for evaluation

Students are encouraged to give feedback or comments on course contents and teaching materials throughout the course, in addition to the midterm and final course evaluation. Students can contact either the lecturer or tutor directly. See contact details below.
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Grade Descriptors

Grade	Overall course
A	Outstanding performance on all learning outcomes. A thorough understanding of the subject demonstrated by consistently high marks of the assignments and exams. Outstanding ability to apply the phonetic/phonological concepts and analytical techniques introduced in the course to analyze language

	data from standard Chinese and different dialects. Ample evidence of familiarity with reading related to the course.
A-	Generally outstanding performance on most learning outcomes. A good understanding of the subject demonstrated by high marks of most assignments and exams. Generally outstanding ability to apply the phonetic/phonological concepts and analytical techniques introduced in the course to analyze language data from standard Chinese and different dialects. Evidence of familiarity with reading related to the course.
B	Satisfactory performance on most learning outcomes. An adequate understanding of the subject demonstrated by good marks of the assignments and exams. Strong ability to apply the phonetic/phonological concepts and analytical techniques introduced in the course to analyze language data from standard Chinese and different dialects. Evidence of a certain amount of reading related to the course.
C	Satisfactory performance on some learning outcomes. A basic understanding of the subject demonstrated by average marks of the assignments and exams. Sufficient ability to apply the phonetic/phonological concepts and analytical techniques introduced in the course to analyze language data from standard Chinese and different dialects. Evidence of basic reading related to the course.
D	Barely satisfactory performance on a number of learning outcomes. A poor understanding of the subject demonstrated by poor marks of the assignments and exams. Insufficient ability of applying the phonetic/phonological concepts and analytical techniques introduced in the course to analyze language data from standard Chinese and different dialects. Evidence of very limited reading related to the course.
F	Unsatisfactory performance on a number of learning outcomes. Very little understanding of the subject demonstrated by consistently poor marks of the assignments and exams. Lack the ability of applying the phonetic/phonological concepts and analytical techniques introduced in the course to analyze language data from standard Chinese and different dialects. No evidence of efforts in completing reading related to the course.

Course schedule

Class/ week	Date	Topic	Requirements
1	10/01	Introduction	Lin (2007) Ch.1
2	17/01	Consonants	Lin (2007) Ch.2; Duanmu (2007) Ch.2
3	24/01	Lunar New Year	
4	31/01	Vowels	Lin (2007) Ch.3; Duanmu (2007) Ch.2
	03/02	1st assignment due	
5	07/02	Syllabic structure and phonotactics	Lin (2007) Ch.5; Duanmu (2007) Ch.4
6	14/02	Chinese segmental processes	Lin (2007) Ch.7
7	21/02	Mid-term exam	
	24/02	2nd assignment due	
8	28/02	Tone	Lin (2007) Ch.4; Duamu (2007) Ch.10
9	07/03	Tone sandhi	Lin (2007) Ch.9; Duanmu (2007) Ch.11
10	14/03	Chinese prosodic system	Lin (2007) Ch.9; Duanmu (2007) Ch.6
11	21/03	Tone and intonation	Lin (2007) Ch.10; Duanmu (2007) Ch.10
12	28/03	Diversities among Chinese dialects: Segments	Lin (2007) Ch.13; supplementary
	31/03	3rd assignment due	
13	04/04	Diversities among Chinese dialects: Tone	Duanmu (2007) Ch.10; supplementary
14	11/04	Oral presentations	
15	18/04	Oral presentations	
	20/04	4th assignment due	

Teachers' or TA's contact details

Professor/Lecturer/Instructor:	
Name:	Dr. Chunyu Ge
Office Location:	Fung King Hey Building 221
Telephone:	39430575
Email:	chunyuge@cuhk.edu.hk

Teaching Venue:	Wen Lan Tang LG204
Website:	https://ge-chunyu.github.io/
Other information:	

Teaching Assistant/Tutor:	
Name:	Shu Tong
Office Location:	G16, Leung Kau Kui Building
Telephone:	39437082
Email:	tongshu@cuhk.edu.hk

A facility for posting course announcements

Announcements will be posted on the course Blackboard platform, and be emailed to students. Course materials will also be posted on the Blackboard platform.
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Academic honesty and plagiarism

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/ . With each assignment, students will be required to submit a statement that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures.
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