Opasraportti


Phonetics

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Overview of the subject

At the University of Oulu, Phonetics can be studied up to the Advanced Studies level, but only as a minor subject. Phonetics investigates the transmission of linguistic messages and other kinds of information (including information that signals the speaker's emotional state) through air, from the speaker to the listener, the relationship between speech and language, the form and working of the sound systems of different languages, speech production, the acoustic properties of speech, and speech perception. In principle, Phonetics approaches its object of study from three perspectives, as speaking is at the same time an individual, a language-specific and a universal activity. That is, the speech signal always contains speaker-specific properties, language-specific properties and properties that are common to all languages of the word. Phonetics yields useful theoretical and practical information for everyone working with spoken language, including students of languages and Logopedics. Areas of application of phonetic knowledge include teaching of pronunciation in foreign language didactics, disorders of speech and language that are manifested in the speaking voice as well as clinical speech therapy in Logopedics, and in technical subjects, signal processing.

Phonetics has many interfaces with other disciplines investigating speech and linguistic behaviour, including general linguistics, the study of individual languages, logopedics, psychology, cognitive science, language technology (automatic speech recognition, speech synthesis), anatomy, physiology, forensic phonetics (speaker identification), etc. Students of many major subjects have chosen a phonetic topic for their theses. The Basic Studies of Phonetics at the University of Oulu consist of courses that are common to all students. The Intermediate Studies consist partly of study courses common to all students and partly of studies chosen according to the student's own area of interest, whereas the Advanced Studies consist only of studies chosen according to the student's own area of interest.

Admission requirements and commencement of studies

All students of the University of Oulu who have registered as attending are entitled to study Phonetics. It is recommended to begin the studies in the autumn term, but beginning them in the spring term is also possible. One can begin the Basic Studies after having completed the course Basics of Phonetics. This is a compulsory course for language students in the first autumn term, but it is also counted as one of the courses making up the Basic Studies in Phonetics. It is recommended that students complete the course Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology' before the rest of the Basic Studies.
Study guidance

Study guidance is given by Professor Kari Suomi and Lecturer Pentti Körkkö at their reception hours and, by appointment, at other times. Professor: on Wednesdays at 11-12, telephone +358-8-553 3395. Lecturer: on Thursdays at 12-13, telephone +358-8-553 3375. The email addresses are of the form firstname.surname@oulu.fi.

Learning objectives at different levels

The objective of the Basic Studies is that the student will have an understanding of speech as the medium of linguistic communication and of phonetics as a discipline that investigates this medium, and that the student will have the basic abilities to do phonetic research. The objective of the Intermediate and Advanced Studies is to widen the knowledge obtained in the Basic Studies, and they make it possible for the students to concentrate on topics of personal interest.

In addition, Phonetics cooperates with General Linguistics, and when the students so wish, they can combine courses in the two subjects to fulfil the requirements of Basic Studies or Intermediate Studies in either subject.

Employment prospects

The working careers of students with Phonetics as a minor subject have been variable. Studies in Phonetics are no doubt profitable to students of languages wishing to become either researchers or teachers, and to students of Logopedics, who have a high rate of employment after graduation.

Practical information

Courses to be taught can vary from one academic year to the next. At the beginning of each term, an information meeting is arranged at which the timetable of the teaching is decided, and which prospective students of Phonetics are therefore recommended to attend. The information meetings are announced on the notice board of Phonetics and on the website. At the end of each course including teaching, a final examination is arranged which requires no preregistration. Registrations for examinations consisting of written study materials can be negotiated with the responsible teacher of each course.

The literature mentioned in course descriptions is the recommended literature, but alternative literature can be negotiated with the persons responsible, for example according to the student's language background or interests.

Courses

Basic Studies 25 credits

694500P Basics of Phonetics 3 credits
694501P Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology 4 credits
694502P Finnish Phonetics and Phonology 2 credits
694503P Introduction to Phonetics in Language Teaching 3 credits
694504P Speech Prosody 3 credits
694505P Speech Acoustics 4 credits
694506P Speech Processing in Computer Environment 2 credits
694507P Course in Experimental Phonetic Research 4 credits
Intermediate Studies 35 credits

694508A Areas in Phonetics 10 credits
694509A Studies According to Student's Area of Interest 25 credits

Advanced Studies 60 credits

694510S Studies According to Student's Area of Interest 60 credits

Tutkintorakenteisiin kuulumattomat opintokokonaisuudet ja -jaksot

694505P: Acoustics of speech production, 4 op
694510S: Advanced studies in phonetic research, 60 op
694507P: Course in experimental phonetic, 4 op
694502P: Finnish phonology, 2 op
694500P: Introduction to Phonetics, 3 op
694503P: Introduction to phonetics in language teaching, 3 op
694501P: Introduction to phonology, 4 op
694508A: Research areas in phonetics, 10 op
694509A: Special studies in phonetics, 25 op
694506P: Speech processing in computer environment, 2 op
694504P: Speech prosody, 3 op

Opintojaksojen kuvaukset

Tutkintorakenteisiin kuulumattomien opintokokonaisuuksien ja -jaksojen kuvaukset

694505P: Acoustics of speech production, 4 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2005 -
Opiskelumuoto: Basic Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuysikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opintokohteen oppimateriaali:
Suomi, Kari, , 1990
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish
ECTS Credits:
4 credits
Language of instruction:
To be negotiated with the person responsible
Timing:
Spring term
Learning outcomes:
The student will have an overview of the relationship between speech sound structure, speaker-specific and situation-specific factors and the acoustic properties of speech, and a readiness demonstrated by a small laboratory exercise to use acoustic speech research methods.
Contents:
Acoustic theory of speech production, acoustic properties of speech.
Learning activities and teaching methods:
Lecture course and a laboratory exercise
Target group:
Language students
Recommended optional programme components:
Basics of Phonetics, Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology
Recommended or required reading:
To be negotiated with the person responsible
Assessment methods and criteria:
Written examination
Grading:
0-5
Person responsible:
Professor Kari Suomi

694510S: Advanced studies in phonetic research, 60 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2005 -
Opiskelumuoto: Advanced Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuyksikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish

ECTS Credits:
60 credits
Language of instruction:
To be negotiated with the person responsible
Timing:
Autumn or spring term
Learning outcomes:
The student will have thorough knowledge of some areas of phonetic research
Contents:
These studies consist of reading literature in an area of phonetic research, and of an empirical study in this area
Learning activities and teaching methods:
A supervised study and writing a study report
Target group:
Language students
Recommended optional programme components:
Intermediate Studies
Recommended or required reading:
To be negotiated with the person responsible
Assessment methods and criteria:
Evaluation of the study report
Grading:
0-5
Person responsible:
Professor Kari Suomi
694507P: Course in experimental phonetic, 4 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2005 -
Opiskelumuoto: Basic Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuysikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish

ECTS Credits:
4 credits

Language of instruction:
To be negotiated with the persons responsible

Timing:
Autumn or spring term

Learning outcomes:
The student will be able to plan, realise and report an empirical phonetic investigation.

Contents:
Realisation of an experimental phonetic investigation

Learning activities and teaching methods:
A guided small-scale experimental investigation and written report on a topic negotiated with the persons responsible.

Target group:
Language students

Recommended optional programme components:
Speech Acoustics, Speech Processing in Computer Environment

Recommended or required reading:
To be negotiated with the persons responsible

Assessment methods and criteria:
Evaluation of a written report

Grading:
0-5

Person responsible:
Professor Kari Suomi, Lecturer Pentti Körkkö

694502P: Finnish phonology, 2 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2005 -
Opiskelumuoto: Basic Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuysikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opintokohteen oppimateriaali:
Suomi, Kari, , 2006
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish

ECTS Credits:
2 credits

Language of instruction:
English

Timing:
Autumn or spring term

Learning outcomes:
The student will have a systematic overview of the segmental, prosodic and phonotactic structure of Standard Spoken Finnish

Contents:
The sound structure of Standard Spoken Finnish

Learning activities and teaching methods:
Textbook reading

Target group:
Language students

Recommended optional programme components:
Basics of Phonetics, Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology

Recommended or required reading:
Suomi, Toivanen & Ylitalo, Finnish Sound Structure

Assessment methods and criteria:
Written examination

Grading:
0-5

Person responsible:
Professor Kari Suomi

694500P: Introduction to Phonetics, 3 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2005 -
Opiskelumuoto: Basic Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuyksikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish

ECTS Credits:
3 credits

Language of instruction:
Finnish

Timing:
Autumn term

Learning outcomes:
The student will be familiar with the basic phonetic concepts that are central in the description of the sound properties of the languages of the world.

Contents:
Basic phonetic concepts

Learning activities and teaching methods:
Lecture course

Target group:
Language students

Recommended or required reading:
No compulsory study materials

Assessment methods and criteria:
Written examination

Grading:
0-5

Person responsible:
Professor Kari Suomi, Lecturer Pentti Körkkö

694503P: Introduction to phonetics in language teaching, 3 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2005 -
Opiskelumuoto: Basic Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuyksikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish

ECTS Credits:
3 credits
**Language of instruction:**
To be negotiated with the person responsible

**Timing:**
Autumn or spring term

**Learning outcomes:**
The student will be familiar with the theory of foreign language pronunciation teaching, the principles of comparing sound patterns of different languages, and the nature of pronunciation errors and principles of error analysis.

**Contents:**
Phonetics of foreign language teaching

**Learning activities and teaching methods:**
A lecture course and/or textbook reading

**Target group:**
Language students

**Recommended optional programme components:**
Basics of Phonetics, Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology

**Recommended or required reading:**
To be negotiated with the person responsible

**Assessment methods and criteria:**
Written examination

**Grading:**
0-5

**Person responsible:**
Lecturer Pentti Körkkö

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694501P: Introduction to phonology, 4 op

**Voimassaolo:** 01.08.2005 -

**Opiskelumuoto:** Basic Studies

**Laji:** Course

**Vastuuysikkö:** Faculty of Humanities

**Arvostelu:** 1 - 5, pass, fail

**Opintokohteen oppimateriaali:**
Suomi, Kari, 2006
Suomi, Kari, 1996

**Opintokohteen kielet:** Finnish

**ECTS Credits:**
4 credits

**Language of instruction:**
To be negotiated with the person responsible

**Timing:**
Autumn or spring term

**Learning outcomes:**
The student will be familiar with the fundamentals of systematic description of the phonetic phenomena of languages and the central concepts of phonology, phonotactics and morphophonology.

**Contents:**
Fundamentals of phonetics, phonology, phonotactics and morphophonology

**Learning activities and teaching methods:**
Reading textbooks

**Target group:**
Language students

**Recommended optional programme components:**
Basics of Phonetics

**Recommended or required reading:**
To be negotiated with the person responsible

**Assessment methods and criteria:**
Written examination

**Grading:**
0-5

**Person responsible:**
Professor Kari Suomi
694508A: Research areas in phonetics, 10 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2005 -
Opiskelumuoto: Intermediate Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuysikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opintokohteen oppimateriaali:
Hardcastle, William J. & Laver, John, , 1997
Ladefoged, Peter , , 1996
Laver, John , , 1994
Ryalls, Jack , , 1997
Iivonen, Antti (toim.), , 2004
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish

ECTS Credits:
10 credits
Language of instruction:
English
Timing:
Autumn or spring term
Learning outcomes:
The student will have an overview of some central areas of phonetic research
Contents:
Some central areas of phonetic research
Learning activities and teaching methods:
Textbook reading
Target group:
Language students
Recommended optional programme components:
Basic Studies
Recommended or required reading:
Parts of the following works, to be negotiated with the person responsible: Hardcastle & Laver (eds.), The Handbook of Phonetic Sciences; Ladefoged & Maddieson, The Sounds of the World's Languages; Laver, Principles of Phonetics, Ryalls, A Basic Introduction to Speech Perception
Assessment methods and criteria:
Written examination
Grading:
0-5
Person responsible:
Professor Kari Suomi

694509A: Special studies in phonetics, 25 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2005 -
Opiskelumuoto: Intermediate Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuysikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish

ECTS Credits:
25 credits
Language of instruction:
To be negotiated with the person responsible
Timing:
Autumn or spring term
Learning outcomes:
The student will be well informed of some areas of phonetics chosen according to personal interest.

Contents:
These studies can consist of reading research literature only, or they can also involve empirical research.

Learning activities and teaching methods:
Reading research literature, possibly also empirical research.

Target group:
Language students

Recommended optional programme components:
Basic Studies

Recommended or required reading:
To be negotiated with the person responsible

Assessment methods and criteria:
Written examination, possibly also a written study report

Grading:
0-5

Person responsible:
Professor Kari Suomi

694506P: Speech processing in computer environment, 2 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2005 -
Opiskelumuoto: Basic Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuysikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish

ECTS Credits:
2 credits

Language of instruction:
To be negotiated with the person responsible

Timing:
Autumn or spring term

Learning outcomes:
The student will know how to make digital recordings and how to edit and process recorded speech in a computer environment.

Contents:
Supervision in recorded speech processing in a computer environment

Learning activities and teaching methods:
Lecture course and laboratory exercises

Target group:
Language students

Recommended optional programme components:

Recommended or required reading:
To be negotiated with the person responsible

Assessment methods and criteria:
Written report of a laboratory exercise

Grading:
0-5

Person responsible:
Lecturer Pentti Körkkö

694504P: Speech prosody, 3 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2005 -
Opiskelumuoto: Basic Studies
Laji: Course
ECTS Credits:
3 credits

Language of instruction:
To be negotiated with the person responsible

Timing:
Autumn or spring term

Learning outcomes:
The student will be familiar with the most important lexical and non-lexical prosodic properties (including quantity, tone, word stress, sentence accent and intonation), their manners of phonetic realisation and linguistic and other functions.

Contents:
An overview of central prosodic properties

Learning activities and teaching methods:
Lecture course and/or textbook reading

Target group:
Language students

Recommended optional programme components:
Basics of phonetics, Introduction to phonetics and phonology

Recommended or required reading:
To be negotiated with the person responsible.

Assessment methods and criteria:
Written examination

Grading:
0-5

Person responsible:
Professor Kari Suomi