

SPHSC 111

The American English Sound System

Summer 2017

Instructor:	Victoria Lai	
Email:	laiwvic@uw.edu Please put include SPHSC 111 in the subject line of all emails	
Course website:	On Canvas	
Reference text:	<u>The American Accent Guide, 2nd edition</u> . Beverly A. Lujan This text is not required for the course, but can be used as reference material. All material for the final exam will come from lectures.	
Class times:	Lecture: Mon 2:20pm-3:20pm, SWS 230	Lab: Wed 2:20pm-3:20pm SWS 230
Office Hours:	Wednesdays from 1:00pm to 2:00pm EGL 159	

Course Summary

This course is an introduction to American English pronunciation for students learning English as a second language. Topics to be discussed will include: anatomy and physiology of the speech mechanism, articulatory phonetics, use of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), consonants, vowels, word and sentence stress, intonation patterns, and the characteristics of connected speech. The goal for this course is for students to learn the basics of phonetic theory as a tool for the development of more “native-like” speech production.

Course Objectives

Over the course of the quarter, students will:

- Learn the pronunciation and IPA transcription of American English vowels and consonants
- Practice using typical patterns of stress and intonation
- Develop strategies for increased naturalness in the production of connected speech
- Develop proficiency and increased self-monitoring of target words and phrases unique to each student

Student responsibilities

- Being respectful of classmates and instructor by arriving to lecture and lab on time, having phones put away, and contributing to a safe and comfortable communicative environment for all students.
- Handing in assignments on time.
- Emailing me **in advance** if special circumstances prevent you from attending the final or handing in an assignment on time. Make-ups **may** be allowed given advance notice and valid reasons for absence.
- Attending lab sessions weekly. It is important that you physically attend lab in order to practice your pronunciation actively and get the most out of this course.

Grading Policy

This is a 2-credit course, offered on a Credit/No Credit basis only. You must earn 70% of all possible points (70 out of 100 points) to receive credit. Students who are concerned about their progress in this course are encouraged to promptly contact the instructor for additional discussion and suggestions to aid in understanding the course material.

Learning the IPA and changing pronunciation requires **regular practice**. To succeed in this course, you must apply yourself throughout the quarter by actively participating and completed the scheduled assignments and quizzes.

Grading

Quizzes (4)	18 points
Labs (8)	40 points
Assignments (4)	24 points
Final	18 points
Total	100 points

Quizzes: Four short quizzes will be administered in lecture, and are worth 5 points each except Quiz 4 which is worth 3 points.

Labs: Each lab will be examined for thoroughness, accuracy, and timeliness. Each of the 8 labs is worth 5 points. No credit will be given for labs that are not turned in. Labs must be completed during the scheduled lab time and turned in at the end of the lab section. Late labs will lose 1 point per 24-hour period after the end of the scheduled lab.

Assignments: Assignments will be described during lecture or lab and will also be posted on the course website. They will be graded for thoroughness, accuracy, and timeliness. Each assignment is worth 6 points. Full credit will be given when all questions have been answered with some degree of effort made. No credit will be given for assignments that are not turned in. Assignments are due at the beginning of each lecture on the week they are due (Mondays) unless otherwise stated in the schedule. Late assignments will lose 1 point per 24-hour period after the due date and time. Assignments may be accepted late due to emergency circumstances (prolonged illness, natural disaster, etc.). "Personal reasons" will not be considered a valid excuse. Contact the instructor as soon as possible should these circumstances occur.

Final: The final exam is worth 18% of the grade for the course, and will be conducted in class during our last week of class on Monday, August 14th at 2:20pm or Wednesday, August 16th at 2.20pm. The final exam will cover materials that were covered during lectures and labs. Students who have earned 70 or more points prior to the final will not be required to complete the final exam.

Academic Integrity

All students in this class will be required to adhere to the academic integrity standards set by the University of Washington. Please consult the following website for information on university policies regarding academic integrity: <http://depts.washington.edu/grading/pdf/AcademicResponsibility.pdf>. Your actions within class and on associated work must be in accordance with the Student Conduct Code (www.washington.edu/student/handbook/conduct.html). Your work must be your own, unless you have been given explicit permission for group work on an assignment.

Accommodations

Please advise me if you need specific accommodations in order to fully participate in the class. To request academic accommodations due to disability, please contact Disabled Resources for Students (DRSO)—www.washington.edu/students/drs—448 Schmitz, 543-8924 (Voice), 543-8925 (TTY), email uwdss@u.washington.edu. Present to me the letter from DRSO indicating you have a disability that requires academic accommodation; this will enable us to discuss the accommodations you might need in this class.

SPHSC 111 – Summer 2017 (subject to change)				
Week	Dates	Topic	Labs	Items Due
1	06/19	Introduction;		
	06/21	Speech Mechanism & IPA	Lab #1	
2	06/26	American English Vowels		Quiz #1 in class
	06/28	& Consonants	Lab #2	
3	07/03	NO LECTURE		Assignment #1 due on Canvas at 2.20pm
	07/05		Lab #3	
4	07/10	Word Stress		Assignment #2 due at 2:20pm (start of class)
	07/12		Lab #4	
5	07/17	Phrasing and Intonation		Quiz #2 in class
	07/19		Lab #5	
6	07/24	Rhythm and Sentence		Assignment #3 due at 2:20pm (start of class)
	07/26	Stress	Lab #6	
7	07/31	Comparing Sounds		Quiz #3 in class
	08/02	Across Languages	Lab #7	
8	08/07	Connected Speech		
	08/09		Lab #8	
				Quiz #4 available on Canvas from Wednesday (08/09), 3.30pm until Friday (08/11), 5pm. Assignment #4 due on Canvas by Friday, 08/11 5pm.
9	08/14	Final Exam		REMEMBER: If you have earned 70 points or more by the end of the quarter, you do not have to take the final exam.
	08/16		No lab	