

HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE

1. COURSE TITLE

Tone in Human Languages

2. COURSE CODE

ENGL4115

3. NO. OF UNITS

3 Units

4. OFFERING DEPARTMENT

Department of English Language and Literature

5. PREREQUISITES

ENGL2016 Sounds of English Around the World

6. MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

English

7. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

- 1) To acquaint students with the prevalence of tone in human languages;
- 2) To provide students with the analytical skills useful for advanced studies in phonology;
and
- 3) To teach students about the variation across languages in the world while discovering linguistic commonalities in that diversity.

8. COURSE CONTENT

- I. Tone Basics
 - a. Transcription systems for tone
 - b. Articulatory and acoustic correlates of tone
- II. Modelling Tone
 - a. Autosegmentality of tone
 - b. Structure of tone
 - c. Components of tone
- III. Phonological Patterns Across Human Languages
 - a. Inventory

- b. Tone sandhi
- c. Universal constraints
- IV. Tonogenesis
- V. Tone and Cognition

The content presented above is indicative of the scope of this course and is not intended to be interpreted as the linear ordering of class progression.

9. COURSE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (CILOs)

CILO	By the end of the course, students should be able to:
CILO 1	Identify tonal phenomena in human languages
CILO 2	Construct tonological analyses
CILO 3	Evaluate theoretical assumptions underlying the tonological analyses proposed

10. TEACHING & LEARNING ACTIVITIES (TLAs)

CILO alignment	Type of TLA
CILO 1	- Lectures on the kinds of linguistics patterns that involve tones
CILO 2	- Workshops to analyze tonal phenomena - Discussions to evaluate the analyses proposed
CILO 3	- Class discussions on unpacking the conceptual content behind the analyses - Forum discussions

11. ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMs)

Type of Assessment Methods	Weighting	CILOs to be addressed	Description of Assessment Tasks
Active participation and/or teamwork	10 %	1, 2	Students are required to engage each other through forum postings and class argumentation to demonstrate their understanding of the concepts and issues grappled with in class.
Learning journals	30 %	2, 3	Students write learning journals to capture and reflect on the class discussions.
Group project/presentation	25 %	2, 3	Students will engage as a group on a chosen tonal phenomenon in one or a few languages.
Term paper	35 %	1, 2	Students will undertake to write a term paper that integrates their knowledge learnt from the course.

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