



Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology

LINC14, Linguistics: Phonology - Theory and Method, 7.5 credits

Lingvistik: Fonologi - teori och metod, 7,5 högskolepoäng
First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Pro Dean of First and Second Cycle Studies at The Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2026-05-25 (U 2026/212). The syllabus comes into effect 2026-06-01 and is valid from the spring semester 2027.

General information

The course is offered as a freestanding course.

The course can normally be included in a first or second cycle degree.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of study *Specialisation*

Linguistics G1F, First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the students shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- be able to account for the division of linguistic sound patterns into phonological units, distinctive features, and domains according to current theoretical frameworks,
- be able to account for recurring phonological operations and sound changes in the world's languages,

Competence and skills

- analyze abstract underlying forms and operations on the basis of phonological data in the surface representation,
- identify properties of phonological environments that condition phonological operations and sound changes,
- design a data collection protocol based on principles in experimental science and laboratory phonology,
- collect linguistic data with speakers in order to investigate the presence of phonological patterns,

Judgement and approach

- argue for the choice of theoretical framework in the context of a phonological analysis,
- interpret the results from phonological data collection based on the underlying experimental design decisions.

Course content

The course builds on an overview of phonological theory, which covers phonological units, distinctive features, domains, and those operations that lie between deep and surface structure. Competing theoretical frameworks that encode these phenomena will be explored, with focus on rule- vs. constraint-based and synchronic vs. diachronic approaches, as well as articulatory phonology.

The course will also teach those principles in laboratory phonology necessary to collect novel phonological data, and to interpret phonological data based on the conditions under which it was elicited.

Course design

Teaching is given in the form of lectures (6–7), group exercises (3–4), two planning meetings for lab assignments, and a presentation day (total 12–14 meetings). It is obligatory to attend all class sessions. Absence from class sessions is compensated via submission of an assignment according to the instructor's instructions.

Assessment

Module 1: two laboratory sessions with written presentations, 3 credits (grades: Fail, Pass)

Module 2: oral and written presentation of an individual assignment, for which a theoretically justified issue is tested empirically, 4.5 credits (grades: Fail, Pass, Pass with Distinction)

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction

The two laboratory sessions are awarded a grade of Fail/Pass. The oral and written presentation of an individual assignment is awarded a grade of Fail/Pass/Pass with Distinction. To be awarded a Pass on the whole course, a Pass is required on all assessed components. To be awarded a Pass with Distinction on the whole course, a grade of Pass with Distinction is also required on the oral and written presentation of the individual assignment.

Entry requirements

General entry requirements and LINA15 Linguistics: Level 1, 30 credits, or 60 credits in a language subject including basic knowledge of phonetics in accordance with LINB25 or ENGE14, or the equivalent. Additionally, proficiency in English equivalent English 6/English B is required.

Further information

- The course is offered at the Centre for Languages and Literature, Lund University.
- The course replaces LINC13.
- The course is included as a module in LINA24.
- The credits allocated for course content that in whole or in part is commensurate with another course can only be credited once for a degree. For further details, see the current registration information and other relevant documentation.