

Communication Lab 1

Program in which it is offered: All Bachelor's degree programs

Course Category: Proficiency

Schedule of Offering: Semester II

Course Credit Structure: 1

- **Lecture: 0**
- **Tutorial: 0**
- **Practical: 2**

Contact Hours per week: 2

Instructor: Saurabh Singanapalli

1. Introduction

This course complements the 'Business Communication' course that runs parallel to it in the second semester. Moreover, it is also a practical component for the language elements discussed in the first semester course 'Communicating in English'. The focus of this course is specifically to practise and hence improve the language production skill of speaking. Special emphasis is laid on phonetics, stress and intonation, as well as elements of presentation skills, like body language, eye contact and pace.

Note: This course is NOT a voice and accent training course. Its goal is not to remove mother tongue influences entirely, but only to facilitate communication by understanding the pronunciation of the language as per its phonetic system.

2. Course Objectives

At the end of this course, learners should be able to:

- Understand the sounds and phonetic structure of the English language
- Avoid any characteristics of their speech that prevent a listener from comprehending what they are saying
- Make better presentations by improving their manner, eye contact and pace of speaking

3. Pre-requisites

The student must have attended the 'Communicating in English' course in the first semester. This implies that a student desiring to attend this course must be familiar and proficient in using English to perform the general communicative functions of day-to-day life.

4. Readings

Primary Texts

1. Ogden, R. (2009). *An Introduction to English Phonetics*. Edinburgh University Press.
2. Van Emden, J. and Baker, L. (2016). *Presentation Skills for Students, 3rd edition*. Palgrave MacMillan.

Subsidiary reading:

1. Pronouncing English sounds: <http://www.antimoon.com/how/pronunc-soundsipa.htm>
2. English phonetics: <http://www.elearnenglishlanguage.com/blog/learn-english/pronunciation/phonetics-introduction/>

5. Module-wise topics

Module 1: The sounds of English (10 sessions, Text 1 pp.7-19; 56-81; 96-168)

Objectives:

- To learn how to produce each of the sounds of the English language

Topics:

- How are each of the sounds of English produced?
- Types of sounds: voiced and voiceless
- Types of sounds: labials, dentals, glottals, fricatives, nasals

Module 2: English Phonetics (8 sessions, Text 1 pp.19-54)

Objectives:

- To understand, learn and practise the English system of pronunciation, syllabification, stress and intonation

Topics:

- Learning the phonetic alphabet
- Vowel sounds and consonant sounds
- Diphthongs and Triphthongs
- Syllabification and Syllable Stress
- Intonation
- Listening for specific information

Module 3: Presentation Skills (12 sessions, Text 2 pp.5-57)**Objectives:**

- To learn how to make clear and concise presentations in English through optimal use of voice, gestures and other body language

Topics:

- Voice and pace
- Eye Contact
- Body language
- General dos and don'ts

6. Pedagogy

Since this is a lab course, the teaching methodology will be mostly practice-oriented. Students will listen to the sounds of English and learn how to identify and produce them. They will also spend a number of classes practising and improving their presentation skills.

7. Evaluation Pattern

- Mid-semester exam (theory only) (20%)
- Group speaking tasks (20%)
- Individual speaking tasks (20%)
- Final presentation (40%)