Teaching English Pronunciation

Instructor: Ching Kang Liu (National Taipei University)
Time: 2:00 pm-5:00 pm, Wednesday, March 29-July 14, 2011 (Class A)
6:00 pm-9:00 pm, Wednesday, April-July 14, 2011 (Class B)


Objectives: This on-the-job training program course is designed to introduce the basic knowledge or theories of English pronunciation, phonetics, phonology, and phonics and provide rich environments for on-the-job training teachers to apply the knowledge and skills to real instructional situations. English teachers are obliged to have the basic understanding of phonetic features and phonological systems of English and to know how the sound changes according to different phonological environments. Then they can use appropriate attitudes and strategies to help students “learn” or “acquire” English pronunciation.

Grades: Participations and performance 40%
Homework & quizzes 20%
Review-tests 20%
Final papers 20% = Total 100%

A Tentative Schedule

1. Introduction of the course; learning how use PRAAT; the fundamental concept and practice of acoustic phonetics
2. Articulatory phonetics; understanding the organs that produce sounds; the components of sound; phonology and phonetic transcription (getting ready to use these tools)
3. Exploring and practicing English vowels (diagnosing & locating the vowel problems)
4. Exploring and practicing English vowels
5. English consonants
6. Allophones, segmental features of English words
7. History of pronunciation teaching; start writing the draft of a teaching plan
8. Prosody of English
9. Prosody of English (continued)
10. Verifying the features of prosody by using PRAAT
11. Applying phonetics and phonology to the materials chosen for the teaching
12. How to combine pronunciation teaching theories with the English phonetics and phonology
13. Presenting the draft of the teaching plan (with the peers’ comments and suggestions)
14. Continued (with the peers’ comments and suggestions)
15. English phonics and pronunciation instruction
16. Demonstrating the final teaching plan (3)
17. Demonstrating the final teaching plan (4)
18. Final exam and the revised version of the teaching plan (with the .doc file)