

# HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

## COURSE OUTLINE

1. **Course Title**

Phonological Tone

2. **Course Code**

LANG 7710

3. **No. of Units**

3 units

4. **Offering Department**

MA in Language Studies Programme

5. **Prerequisite**

Nil

6. **Medium of Instruction**

English

7. **Aims & Objectives**

The course aims to familiarize students with the topic of tonology. All the world's 9000 or so languages arguably use tone in one way or another. Understanding how tone works is a crucial and critical part of appreciating the structure of natural languages.

8. **Course content**

- (1) The Physics and Physiology of Tone
- (2) Tone-bearing Entities in language
- (3) Structure of Tone
- (4) Phonetic Aspects of Tone Sandhi
- (5) Phonological Analyses of Tone Sandhi
- (6) Interaction of Tone with other Aspects of Phonology
- (7) Linguistic Tone and Music

9. **Course Intended Learning outcomes (CILOs)**

<b>CILO</b>	By the end of the course, students should be able to:
<b>CILO 1</b>	demonstrate working knowledge of the key concepts of tone in human language
<b>CILO 2</b>	analyze tonal patterns when given data
<b>CILO 3</b>	demonstrate research knowledge on a chosen topic on phonological tone

10. **Teaching & Learning Activities (TLAs)**

<b>CILO No.</b>	<b>TLAs</b>
CILOs 1, 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will be presented with data from different languages which they are then asked to formulate the key concepts underlying tonal analyses.</li> <li>• Students will write learning journals capturing class discussion.</li> </ul>
CILO 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students undertake a research project that would lead to a final presentation (done as a group) and a paper write-up (done individually).</li> <li>• The project developments will be discussed over the Moodle forum</li> <li>• Students will write a peer-review report of other groups' presentation</li> </ul>

11. **Assessment Methods (AMs)**

<b>Type of Assessment</b>	<b>Weighting</b>	<b>CILOs to be addressed</b>	<b>Description of Assessment Tasks</b>
Learning Journals	15% x 3	1, 2	Students are to provide regular reflective and collative summaries of class discussion. The journals should reflect a critical understanding of the concepts and analyses developed in class.

Oral presentation	15%	2, 3	Students engage in a research project that they present in the final week(s) of class. The presentation should provide clear analyses to the data selected as well as a basic understanding of the relevance of their analyses to the field. Presentations are evaluated also for delivery and teamwork. This is done as group work.
Peer Review	10%	3	Each group will receive a review from a peer-group. The peer review provides a critique on analysis and presentation.
Term paper	30%	1, 2, 3	This is an individual assignment. Students will write up their research (which they have done as groupwork) individually in the form of a term paper. The exercise allows students learn from one another and then form their own understanding of the issues.