Preparing Course Specification in English A Workshop presented for English Language

Department

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In this workshop

- What is a Course Specification (CS) file?
- Why do we HAVE TO prepare and revise the CS regularly?
- Who is responsible for preparing the CS?
- What are the major components of a CS?
- A step-by-step guide to fill each component of the CS.



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Introduction

•Course Specification is a document which is prepared for setting out the plans for each course in a given program.

•The purpose is to exhibit the details of planning for the course.





Introduction

•Course learning outcomes, teaching strategies, and teaching methods are to be in alignment



Why prepare a CS?

A Course Specification provides the following:

a) Clear guidelines on the course objectives and its learning outcomes

b) Course content to be covered to achieve the course learning outcomes

c) Course contributions to the overall program, and how its effectiveness should be assessed.



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Who is responsible for preparing a CS?

The preparation of the course specification of a given course is the course coordinator's responsibility.

- Each semester, each faculty member is assigned one of the courses he/she is teaching to be its coordinator.
- Ideally, the course coordinator is an expert who has been teaching in the department for at least five years, and who has taught this course at least once.



Who is responsible for preparing a CS?

- The course coordinator is responsible for preparing ONLY one course and passing it to the other colleagues teaching the same course for other sections.
- Once the CS is approved by all the instructors, it is then passed to Quality Unit in the department to double-check and prepare for Department Council approval.



Who is responsible for preparing a CS?







CS Form Components





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CS form components: Cover Page

Course Title:	
Course Code:	
Program:	
Department:	
College:	
Institution:	



CS form components: Cover Page

Course Title:	English Phonology		
Course Code:	ENG 422		
Program:	3A in English Language		
Department:	English		
College:	College of Science & Humanities in Shaqra		
Institution:	Shaqra University		



CS form components: Course Identification

A. Course Identification

1. Credit hours:	2. Prog	ram Stud	y Plan				
2. Course type a. University College Depart	Level	Course Code	Course Title	Required or Elective	Pre-Requisite Courses	Credit Hours	Type of requirements (Institution, College or Department)
b.RequiredElective3. Level/year at which this course is offered							
4. Pre-requisites for this course (if any):	Level 1						
5. Co-requisites for this course (if any):							<u> </u>



CS form components: Course Identification

A. Course Identification

1. Credit hours: 3 hours
2. Course type
a. University College Department 🗸 Others
b. Required < Elective
3. Level/year at which this course is offered:
Level 6
4. Pre-requisites for this course (if any):
Phonetics – ENG 428
5. Co-requisites for this course (if any):
NA



CS form components: Mode of Instruction

6. Mode of Instruction (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom		
2	Blended		
3	E-learning		
4	Distance learning		
5	Other		



CS form components: Mode of Instruction

6. Mode of Instruction (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom	22	70%
2	Blended	0	0%
3	E-learning	11	30%
4	Distance learning	0	0%
5	Other	0	0%



CS form components: Mode of Instruction

Mode of Instruction	Definition
Traditional Learning	Lecture-based, and the teacher is the focal point of the class.
Blended Learning	Combines formal classroom teaching (face-to-face instruction) with different methodologies, and technologies which should support and allow the asynchronous mode of learning. <u>(Consists of both Traditional Learning and E-Learning)</u>
E-Learning	Online learning is where 100% of the learning materials and activities are conducted online, supporting both synchronous and asynchronous learning.
Distance Learning	Distance learning is a formalized teaching system specifically designed to be carried out remotely.
Other Mode of Instruction	E.g., Experiential learning , Studio Learning , Service Learning



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CS form components: Contact Hours

7. Co	7. Contact Hours (based on academic semester)				
No	Activity	Contact Hours			
1	Lecture				
2	Laboratory/Studio				
3	Tutorial				
4	Others (specify)				
	Total				



CS form components: Contact Hours

7. Contact Hours (based on academic semester)				
No	Activity	Contact Hours		
1	Lecture	22		
2	Laboratory/Studio			
3	Tutorial			
4	Others : Interactive Online Learning Simulation	11		
	Total	33		



Important Note:

6. Ma	6. Mode of Instruction (mark all that apply)					
No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage			
1	Traditional classroom	22	70%			
2	Blended	0	0%			
3	E-learning	11	30%			
4	Distance learning	0	0%			
5	Other	0	0%			

7. Contact Hours (based on academic semester)

No	Activity	Contact Hours	
1	Lecture		22
2	Laboratory/Studio		
3	Tutorial		
4	Others: Interactive Online Learning Simulation		11
	Total		33



CS form components: B. Course Objectives

B. Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

1. Course Description

2. Course Main Objective



CS form components: B. Course Objectives

B. Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

1. Course Description

The course enables students to define and discuss the main concepts in Phonetics and Phonology. It also allows student to explain major topics in Phonology such as sound system/patterns, phonological rules/processes, distinctive features, minimal pairs and sets, syllables, suprasegmental features such as stress, rhythm, intonation, pitch, etc.



CS form components: B. Course Objectives

2. Course Main Objective

Provide students with basic knowledge and skills to pronounce English utterances fluently, according to Received Pronunciation, and to be familiar with segmental and suprasegmental features of English phonology.



Make sure to prepare:

Program Program Learning Latest Learning course Outcomes Outcomes report Mapping Matrix



English Program learning Outcomes



Program Learning Outcomes Mapping Matrix

Program learning Outcomes Mapping Matrix Align the program learning outcomes with program courses, according to the following desired levels of performance (1 = Introduced N = Particed M = Mastered)





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General Guidelines for Writing CLOs:

CLOs should:

- Be concise and clear, using language that is easy to understand;
- Se realistic, considering the students' prior knowledge and the time-frame for the module or program;
- Be aligned to the SAQF levels, domains and standards;
- Be student-centered rather than faculty-centered;
- Start with active verb, recognizing an appropriate level of achievement;
- Focus on knowledge and skills that are central to the course topic and/or discipline;
- Clarify the content and educational objectives;
- Be observable and/or measurable;
- Indicate how the learning will be demonstrated, linking to assessment;
- Be specific, using one verb per sentence



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General Guidelines for Writing CLOs:





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General Guidelines for Writing CLOs:

Knowledge and Understanding	 Knowledge (limit - describe - mention - name - choose - attribute - retrieve - enumerate - write - discuss - balance - differentiate - compose - classify - name - etc.) Understanding (explain - summarize - translate - express - transform - distinguish - arrange - infer - calculate - paraphrase - generalize - deduce - give examples - find a relationship - criticizeetc)
Skills	Apply - produce - prepare - solve - arrange - prepare - create - change - plan - use - calculate - clarify - discover - deal - adjust - operate - show - install - prove - check - execute - draw - weigh - measure - fix - Organize - Adapt - Adjust - Diversify - Edit - Adjust - Design - Create - Build - Conclude - Observe - Practice - Combine etc
Values	follow up - initiate - participate - suggest - assess - contribute - call - hold - organize - change - support - formulate - correct - commit - connect - review - perform - show - affect - ask - adjust - control - support - attend - listen - Share - Care - Help - Comply - Respond - Accept - Prefer - Excite - Call to - Favor - Choose - Justify - Collect.



3. Course Learning Outcomes

	CLOs	Aligned PLOs
1	Knowledge and <u>Understanding</u>	
1.1		
1.2		
1.3		
1		
2	<u>Skills :</u>	
2.1		
2.2		
2.3		
2		
3	Values:	
3.1		
3.2		
3.3		
3		



Program learning Outcomes*

K4

K5

1-Knowledge and understanding:

Upon successful completion of the program, students will be able to:

- **K1** Demonstrate profound knowledge and understanding of facts, concepts, principles and theories of English linguistics, literature, and translation.
- **K2** Exhibit extensive knowledge and profound understanding of grammatical structures, literary texts, vocabulary items and idiomatic expressions.
- **K3** Recognize\describe the strategies of language skills required for communication.

Recognize the main principles of the major areas of theoretical linguistics

Recognize the main principles of the major areas of applied linguistics

	CLOs	Aligned PLOs
1	Knowledge and Understanding Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:	
1.1	Describe phonetic and phonological classification of speech sounds	K 1
1.2	Describe syllable structure and suprasegmental elements	K 1
1.3	State the formulation of phonological rules such as elision, assimilation, and insertion	K4



Prog	gram learning Outcomes*					K	nowle	dao				Skills				Values	
	nowledge and understanding:				K1	K2	K.3	K4	K5	S1.	S2	SKIIIS S.3	S.4	S.5	V1	Values V2	V 3
Upo K1	n successful completion of the program, students will be able to: Demonstrate profound knowledge and understanding of facts, concepts, princ theories of English linguistics, literature, and translation.	iples and	Course H	ENG 422	U			IJ		Р		I		P		Р	
K2	Exhibit extensive knowledge and profound understanding of grammatical s literary texts, vocabulary items and idiomatic expressions.	tructures,															
К3	Recognize\describe the strategies of language skills required for communication.																
K4	Recognize the main principles of the major areas of theoretical linguistics																
К5	Recognize the main principles of the major areas of applied linguistics																
	CLOs	Aligned PLOs															
1	Knowledge and Understanding Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:																
1.1 1.2	Describe phonetic and phonological classification of speech sounds Describe syllable structure and suprasegmental elements	K1 K1															
1.3	State the formulation of phonological rules such as elision, assimilation, and insertion	K4															



S1	Perform practical tasks and activities in a variety of settings that demonstrate pr understanding of grammatical structures, translation skills, literary criticism, and I Language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing.						
S2	Apply critical thinking and problem-solving skills both independently and in team environments to make decisions in a multiplicity of contexts.						
S 3	Utilize various information and communication technology (ICT) tools to research, process, analyze, and produce material to demonstrate ability to integrate technology into English language learning and translation.						
S4	Communicate in English appropriately and effectively in different academic and social contexts.						
S5	Analyze linguistic data and make appropriate use of the tools provided in the d areas of linguistics	ifferent					
2	Skills:						
	Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:						
0.1	Transcribe words and sentences broadly and narrowly using IPA symbols	S1					
2.1							
2.2	Explain syllable structure and suprasegmental elements	S 5					

	Knowledge						Skills		Values				
	K1	K2	K.3	K4	K5	S1.	S2	S.3	S.4	S.5	V1	V2	V3
Course ENG 422	Ι			Ι		e		V		P		Р	



3-Va			Knowledge			Skills					Values				
Upon successful completion of the program, students will be able to			K1	K2	K.3	K4	K5	S1.	S2	S.3	S.4	S.5	V1	V2	V3
V1	Show commitment to professional ethics and adhere to required codes of conduct.	Course ENG 422	T			I		Р		T		Р		Р	
V2	Demonstrate positive co-existence and build rapport with others.		-			-		1		1		1		Ś	
V3	Respond to community challenges and act as a responsible citizen.														
3	Values:														
	Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:														
3.1	Demonstrate leadership role and a sense of accountability V2														



3. C	ourse Learning Outcomes	
	CLOs	Aligned PLOs
1	Knowledge and Understanding Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:	
1.1	Describe phonetic and phonological classification of speech sounds	K1
1.2	Describe syllable structure and suprasegmental elements	K1
1.3	State the formulation of phonological rules such as elision, assimilation, and insertion	K4
2	Skills: Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:	
2.1	Transcribe words and sentences broadly and narrowly using IPA symbols	S 1
2.2	Explain syllable structure and suprasegmental elements	S5
2.3	Analyze basic phonological problems	S5
2.4	Search using the digital library database.	S 3
3	Values: Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:	
3.1	Demonstrate leadership role and a sense of accountability	V2



Checklist to Review Course Learning Outcomes

Criteria	Yes	No
Does it describe what students should know, able to do, and values (to represent, demonstrate and produce)?		
 Is it worded properly? (using action verbs and suitable terms related to the course) 		
 Is it distinct and specific? 		
Does it map to curriculum and educational practices?		
□ Is it student-centered?		
□ Is it written in terms of observable, behavioral outcomes?		
□ Is it designed so that it can be assessed by various methods of assessment?		
□ Is it aligned with PLOs?		



CS form components: C. Course Content

C. Course Content

No	List of Topics						
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
	Total						



CS form components: C. Course Content

C. Course Content

No	List of Topics						
1	Introduction +The syllable	3					
2	Strong and weak syllables	3					
3	Stress in simple words	3					
4	Complex word stress	3					
5	Weak forms	3					
6	Problems in phonemic analysis	3					
7	Aspects of connected speech	3					
8	Intonation 1; Intonation 2; Intonation 3	3					
9	Functions of intonation 1; Functions of intonation 2	3					
10	Varieties of English pronunciation	3					
11	Course wrap-up	3					
	Total						


CS form components: D. Teaching and Assessment

D. Teaching and Assessment

1. Alignment of Course Learning Outcomes with Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	Knowledge and Understanding		
1.1			
1.2			
2.0	Skills		
2.1			
2.2			
3.0	Values		
3.1			
3.2			



CS form components: D. Teaching and Assessment: Example

CLOs	Teaching Strategies	Course Assessment Method
Knowledge	 Effective Lecturing Effective Classroom Discussion Active Learning 	 Written examination (quizzes, Midterms, etc.) MCQs (Multiple-choice questions) Short-answer questions Short Reports
Skills	 Effective Lecturing Effective Classroom Discussion Active Learning Case study Brainstorming 	 Assignments Essays Reports
Values	 Projects Co-operative Learning Pair-work Group Work 	 Demonstrate a research paper, a project, library research assignment Rubric Oral Presentation (Rubric)



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CS form components: D. Teaching and Assessment

1. Alignment of Course Learning Outcomes with Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	Knowledge and <u>Understanding</u>		
1.1	Describe phonetic and phonological classification of speech sounds	 Effective Class discussion In-class exercises 	Assignments Quizzes
1.2	Describe syllable structure and suprasegmental elements	 3. Extra handouts 5. Online exercises 	Mid-term exam Final exam
1.3	State the formulation of phonological rules such as elision, assimilation, and insertion		
2.0	Skills		•
2.1	Transcribe words and sentences broadly and narrowly using IPA symbols	1. Lectures/teaching students phonetic and phonological	Assignments Quizzes
2.2	Explain syllable structure and suprasegmental elements	elements and concepts 2. Class discussions and	Mid-term exam Final exam
2.3 2.4	Analyze basic phonological problems Search using the digital library database.	collaborative and individual practice as well as group work	
		 In-class exercises and error analysis 	
		4. Directing students to using online sources to obtain	
		further explanations, exercises, and sound	
		recordings	





CS form components: C. Course Content

2. Assessment Tasks for Students

#	Assessment task*	Week Due	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			

*Assessment task (i.e., written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.)



CS form components: C. Course Content

2. Assessment Tasks for Students

#	Assessment task*	Week Due	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1	Quizzes (two)	Throughout the term	20%
2	Mid-term exam	6 th week	20%
3	Assignments (two)	Throughout the term	20%
4	Final Exam		40%

*Assessment task (i.e., written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.)



CS form components: E. Student Academic Counseling and Support

E. Student Academic Counseling and Support

Arrangements for availability of faculty and teaching staff for individual student consultations and academic advice:



CS form components: E. Student Academic Counseling and Support

Example

- 5 hours in pre-determined office hours
- By appointment on per need basis.
- Moodle Learning Management system is used to allow students to access all course materials online and stay connected to the course through forums and messaging service.
- Student may email instructors.
- Students may use group or individual chat messaging using Telegram.



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CS form components: E. Student Academic Counseling and Support

E. Student Academic Counseling and Support

Arrangements for availability of faculty and teaching staff for individual student consultations and academic advice:

The course has allocated two office hours for individual student consultations & academic advice. These hours are known to the students from the very beginning of the course. Students know they can see the course instructor during these hours to seek any help or clarification.

Office Hours

Official email.

Telegram Group for the course



F. Learning Resources and Facilities

1.Learning Resources

0	
Required Textbooks	
Essential References Materials	
Electronic Materials	
Other Learning Materials	



F. Learning Resources and Facilities

1.Learning Resources

Required Textbooks	1. Roach, Peter, English Phonetics and Phonology: A Practical Course, Cambridge University Press, 2007
Essential References Materials	 Sethi, J., Sadanad, K. & Jindal, D.V. A Practical Course in English Pronunciation, 2007. Wolfram, Walt, et al. Phonological Analysis: Focus on American English, Prentice Hall, Inc. 1982
Electronic Materials	 <u>http://www.uiowa.edu/~acadtech/phonetics/english/frameset.html</u> <u>http://www.ic.arizona.edu/~lsp/IPA/SSAE.html</u> <u>http://www.antimoon.com/how/pronunc-soundsipa.htm</u> <u>http://ipa.typeit.org</u>
Other Learning Materials	



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2. Facilities Required

Item	Resources
Accommodation (Classrooms, laboratories, demonstration rooms/labs, etc.)	
Technology Resources (AV, data show, Smart Board, software, etc.)	
Other Resources (Specify, <u>e.g.</u> if specific laboratory equipment is required, list requirements or attach a list)	



2. Facilities Required

Item	Resources
Accommodation (Classrooms, laboratories, demonstration rooms/labs, etc.)	Lecture room with smart board and data show.
Technology Resources (AV, data show, Smart Board, software, etc.)	Computer, Internet connection & data show.
Other Resources (Specify, e.g. if specific laboratory equipment is required, list requirements or attach a list)	



G. Course Quality Evaluation

Evaluation Areas/Issues	Evaluators	Evaluation Methods

Evaluation areas (e.g., Effectiveness of teaching and assessment, Extent of achievement of course learning outcomes, Quality of learning resources, etc.)
Evaluators (Students, Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewer, Others (specify)
Assessment Methods (Direct, Indirect)



Evaluation Methods Example:

Indirect	Direct	
Average of students'	• Mid-terms	
participation in active learning	Oral tests	
• Hours spent (by students) in	Classroom Discussions	
learning and curriculum	Students' presentations	
activities	Students' research projects	
Students' surveys	Practical training	
Peer surveys	Students' portfolios	
• Interviews with students	Group work	
Students' overall grades		



Evaluation Areas/Issues	Evaluators	Evaluation Methods
Achievement of Course Learning Outcomes	Instructor	Direct Method (Rubrics) Indirect Method (Course Exit Survey)
Achievement of Course Learning Outcomes	Students	Indirect Method (Course Exit Survey) Course Evaluation Survey (CES)
Effectiveness of Teaching and class management	Chairperson Peers	Class Observation (using Rubric)
Effectiveness of Teaching and class management	Students	Course Evaluation Survey (CES)



Quality of Assessments	Reviewer (faculty from the same department)	Reviewing the exam paper Co- signing the grades. Unified Mid-term/Final Exams
Effectiveness of Assessment Results	Instructor	 Course Report (Grade Report Analysis) Course Evaluation Survey (Indirect)
Quality of Learning resources	Instructor Student	Course Report. Course Evaluation Survey (CES)



CS form components: H. Specification Approval Data

H. Specification Approval Data

Council / Committee	
Reference No.	
Date	

