



Dear Erasmus and International students,

Welcome to Cologne! We hope that you will enjoy your stay here at the University of Cologne and at the Department of English I.

The core module **BM2** consists of three elements:

- 1) the Grammar course,**
- 2) the Practical Phonetics and Phonology course and**
- 3) the final pen and paper exam**

In sum, you will receive 6 CPs for all three elements (which amounts to 180 hours of work). You are not able to take only one or two of the above. Rather, you have to complete all three elements of the module in order to receive credit.

Courses

Please register on KLIPS for the two courses and make sure that you are enrolled. If you are registered on KLIPS for the classes, you automatically have access to the material on the ILIAS e-learning platform. Handouts and the scripts for the classes are uploaded there along with other relevant material. Make sure you check your email-account regularly as messages concerning classes and exams will be sent via KLIPS or ILIAS to your email-account. Regular and active attendance as well as the thorough preparation of the content of the classes are not obligatory but are the best preparation for the exam.

The Grammar course has three aims. First, it will practise linguistic description in order to help you see how English ‘works’. Second, it will improve your skills as observers and analysts of language, enabling you to identify and describe grammatical phenomena in a precise manner. Third, it will help you to use English more confidently with respect to grammar and enable those who are training to be teachers to explain grammatical phenomena. The course therefore provides a descriptive overview of the structure of the English language. Basic concepts and terminology in syntax and morphology are explained and illustrated in the context of a detailed examination of the major areas of English grammar.

The Practical Phonetics and Phonology course offers a general as well as a language-specific introduction to phonetics and phonology. We will start by analysing the organs of speech and the articulation of speech sounds. We will survey various phenomena that characterise the sound structure and pronunciation of English, e.g. allophonic and allomorphic variation, syllable structure, phonotactic constraints and features of connected speech. The course will also provide practical training in phonemic transcription.

Exam

In the final exam you will have to do a handwritten phonemic transcription and answer questions concerning the content of the Phonetics/Phonology (PP) and the Grammar course. The number of points you can obtain in the exam is 80 (40 Grammar, 20 PP content and 20 transcription). You need at least 48 points (60%) in order to pass.

**The exam will take place on the 28th of July at 2 pm at home.
You have to register for the exam on KLIPS by the 16th of June.**



Please note that the time of the exam given on KLIPS is different. However, you will be writing your exam at **2 pm** on the date indicated above (28th of July).

Below you find further information about the exam procedure:

- We will send you an email at 2 pm on the 28th of July with the exam sheets.
- You have **120** minutes to complete the exam; please send it back to mapbm2-es1@uni-koeln.de by **4 pm** on that day at the latest!
- Either you print out the file, fill it out, scan it (e.g. scanner or a scan app for mobile devices) and send it back to us via email. Or, if you do not have the opportunity to scan it, use the word document that we will send you and fill out the exam on your computer. In this case, nonetheless, prepare a handwritten transcription, take a picture of it and attach it to your email as well.
- Make sure that we are able to read your scans/pictures.
- You are allowed to use the scripts discussed in the Grammar and PP courses as well as a pronunciation dictionary (Wells (2008), others are not recommended at all). However, please note that most questions require you to analyse specific examples, which of course cannot be found as such in your script. The same holds true for your transcription. Hence, searching for the answer in the scripts will cost you precious time. We recommend that you prepare for the exam as if you were not allowed to use the script and the dictionaries.
- Finally, make sure that you complete the exam without any help from others. On the first page of the exam you will confirm this with your signature.
- Even though your exam will be a pen and paper exam, you may use the online exercises to prepare as the questions will be very similar. A link to these online exercises can be found on ILIAS.
- We will provide you with a telephone number that you can call during the exam in case you encounter any technical difficulties.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. For questions concerning your classes please send an email to your teacher, for questions concerning your exam, please send an email to mapbm2-es1@uni-koeln.de. Always state your name, your matriculation number and the courses that you are attending. If you need help with your course or exam registration, please contact the Center for International Relations (ZIB).