

Spring 2015 Linguistics Course CAS LX 500

Melodies Of English

(And Some Other Languages)

TR 3:30–5:00, W 1–2

Punctuation changes everything



Punctuation changes everything (semantic meaning, syntactic structure, and phonological melody) **in the sentence in this comic**

Wait, English has melodies?

YES! The melody is what changes in the pronunciations of
“OK!” “OK...” “OK?” & “OK.”

In this class, we will answer questions like these:

- How many different kinds of melodies are there in English?
- What are the basic “notes” and how do they combine?
- What tools can we use to measure and transcribe melodies?
- How do English tones and melodies differ from/resemble “real” tone languages like Chinese? Or other languages like French, Greek, or Korean?
- How do melodies relate to meaning and structure?

Instructor

Prof. Byron Ahn

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Prerequisite

LX 250