



## **Experimental Phonetics, Social Knowledge and Speech Perception**

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In this workshop we will explore various means of examining speech perception, particularly from an experimental point of view. We will place particular emphasis the role of social knowledge in human perception, and examine how experimental phonetics can demonstrate this. First, we will see that such experimental studies tell us that social knowledge is a crucial part of speech perception: talker variability, for instance, has been show to affect how listeners perceive and retain speech information. Second, we will explore how experimental work can reveal what listeners know about variation according to different social groups, and in fact, we will see that this work can reveal social knowledge which is subconscious, and not subject to overt reflection and reporting.

We will discuss the basic design of several experimental methods, as well as their goals; additionally, we will explore their strengths and weaknesses. Participants are invited to contact me if there are particular designs that they would like to explore.