

## Linguistics 503 Phonology

T R 0930 - 1118 JE 0160

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Office Hours:  
T 1130-1230  
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Or by appointment

### Course Description:

This course is an introduction to phonology: the study of the sound systems of language. There are two main goals of instruction in this course: 1) to learn how to do phonological analysis, and 2) to develop a familiarity with the types of phonological patterns that occur commonly in languages of the world. In the course of pursuing those two goals we will address issues relating to data collection and sampling, theory building and evaluation, and the conventions and notation employed in language description.

In order to learn how to analyze phonological systems it is necessary to actually look at a number of phonological patterns in diverse languages, that is, to be exposed to a large amount of data. As a result, this course will be organized along lines very similar to a field methods course. In such a course, a linguist typically has access to a native informant from which he or she can elicit words and sentences of an unknown language. From this corpus, the phonologist then attempts to deduce the inventory of contrastive sounds, their legal combinations, and how sound segments are altered in certain environments. Similarly, students in this course should approach the material as field linguists, developing their own hypotheses about how individual language patterns are organized, and developing theories about how phonological systems work in general.

There is not a great deal of reading required for this course, nor are there any tests or exams, however, you should expect a fairly heavy workload. The bulk of the class will be taken up with working through a large number of datasets, and with discussion of competing analyses. This will occur through the homework assignments, as well as in-class exercises. This will be a collaborative process, therefore it is crucial that students both attend class, as well as contribute to class discussion.

### Responsibilities/Grading (percentages subject to adjustment)

- 20%: In class exercises + participation in discussions
- 50%: Homework assignments (7): Assigned Tuesday, due following Thursday, hard copy to be turned in in class. These may be done collaboratively (no more than 5 people in a group). If you work with other people you may turn in a single paper with everyone's name on it.
- 30%: 2 Typologies: one mid-way through the quarter, one at the end of the quarter. TO BE DONE INDEPENDENTLY

You will need to keep a notebook of all data we cover in class or in homework. This will allow you to complete the typology assignments, and will make it easier to do analyses.

**If you miss class it is your responsibility to track down the material you missed. I recommend contacting a fellow classmate. All handouts will be available online on the Carmen site for this class. Late work is not accepted except in rare instances. If a health or family related situation arises, let me know and arrangements can be made. Otherwise, if you know you will need to miss class for any reason then you may turn in homework early, and schedule an appointment to go over the missed in-class exercises. This**

**is only an option for unavoidable absences that YOU LET ME KNOW ABOUT AHEAD OF TIME. You should know that I will not be sympathetic to appointments that you suddenly remember the day of class.**

### Texts:

There is no textbook for this class, but there are a few readings. Required reading will be available in pdf form on the Carmen site for this class. Readings are taken from the following books.

Goldsmith, John A. (Ed). (1995) Handbook of Phonological Theory. Blackwell.

Halle, Morris, Bresnan, Joan, & Miller, George A. (Eds). (1978) Linguistic Theory and Psychological Reality. The MIT Press.

Hayes, Bruce. (2009) Introductory Phonology. Wiley-Blackwell.

Kenstowicz, Michael. (1994) Phonology in Generative Grammar. Blackwell Publishing.

Kenstowicz, Michael & Kisseberth, Charles. (1977) Topics in Phonological Theory. Academic Press.

Kenstowicz, Michael & Kisseberth, Charles. (1979) Generative Phonology. Academic Press.

Lass, Roger. (1984) Phonology. Cambridge University Press.

Odden, David. (2005) Introducing Phonology. Cambridge University Press.

Silverman, Daniel. (2006) A Critical Introduction to Phonology. Continuum.

### Ethics:

Don't cheat.

### Technical Details:

You're more than welcome to hand-write your homework, but if you want to be able to make phonetic transcriptions on your computer, you'll need to download some fonts. In fact, you're really going to want not only the font, but some sort of keyboard layout as well for shortcuts.

You can search around online for whatever works best for you, but here are a couple of sites that describe how to download and use different types of ipa fonts:

[http://scripts.sil.org/cms/scripts/page.php?site\\_id=nrsi&item\\_id=encore-ipa-download](http://scripts.sil.org/cms/scripts/page.php?site_id=nrsi&item_id=encore-ipa-download)

Particularly for mac users:

<http://linguisticmystic.com/2007/03/08/using-ipa-fonts-with-mac-os-x-the-comprehensive-guide/>

### Other Stuff:

Very cool site that has animations and movies of various sounds being produced:

<http://www.uiowa.edu/~acadtech/phonetics/>

Lots of audio files of sounds from around the world:

<http://www.phonetics.ucla.edu/index/sounds.html>

<http://archive.phonetics.ucla.edu/>

IPA chart with clickable symbols for pronunciation:

<http://www.phonetics.ucla.edu/course/chapter1/chapter1.html>

Encyclopedia of (all/most of ) the world's languages:

<http://www.ethnologue.com>

Green Text: data adapted from Odden, David. (2005) *Introducing Phonology*. Cambridge University Press.

Purple Text: data adapted from a variety of other texts.

Red Text: phonological pattern (did not appear in original syllabus)

	Topic	Reading	In-Class Exer.	Homework
Week 1				
Tuesday: March 31	What is Phonology?			
Thursday: April 2	Phonetic Transcription (IPA)	Halle Chapter 9 – p.300		
Week 2				
Tuesday: April 7	Inventories: unigram statistics	Hayes ch1		
Thursday: April 9	Phonological Analysis			Homework #1
<b>Phonotactics</b>				
Week 3				
Tuesday: April 14	Bigram statistics		Kipsigis voice assimilation Kenyang back assimilation Kuria intervocalic lenition	
Thursday: April 16	N-gram statistics		Arabela nasal harmony Mohawk stress, coda [heavy]/vowel length Papago palatalization	Homework #2 Kimatuumbi: (Text II) nasal place assimilation Kodava CC clusters word-final C's nasal place assimilation Turkish vowel harmony (front,round) Malay I nasal place assimilation Slovak velar palatalization
Week 4				
Tuesday: April 21	Allophones/Phonemes minimal pairs complementary distributions		Kishambaa voicing assimilation A. Campa I CC clusters	
Thursday: April 23	Allophones/Phonemes minimal pairs complementary distributions		Review all in-class exercises to date looking for allophonic patterns	Homework #3 Tuyuca nasal harmony Maasai intervocalic lenition post-nasal voicing Lhasa Tibetan voicing assimilation

				back assimilation Cypriot Greek CC clusters velar palatalization
<b>Conditioned Alternations</b>				
<b>Week 5</b>				
Tuesday: April 28	Alternations/Rules  Relationship between phonotactics and rules		Ga Vowel harmony (nasal)	
Thursday: April 30	Underlying Representations		Kimatuumbi II (Text I) nasal place assimilation Malay II cluster reduction Russian final de-voicing	Homework #4 Nootka deletion cb syllable structure vowel/consonant allomorphs Kodava II vowel/consonant allomorphs post-nasal voicing Korean vowel harmony (high) de-aspiration de-glottalization Chamorro vowel harmony (raising)
<b>Week 6</b>				
Tuesday: May 5	Rules/URs/Constraints		Russian con't	
Thursday: May 7	Phonological Analysis: Naturalness: language-internal, language-external, Conventions	K &K 1977 ch1 - p.11	Tonkawa deletion (predictable info)	
<b>Units &amp; Notation</b>				
<b>Week 7</b>				
Tuesday: May 12	Feature Theory  Phonological Analysis	Lass (1984) ch 5 – p.95	A. Campa II deletion v. epenthesis	1 <sup>st</sup> Typology
Thursday: May 14	Feature Theory		Sundanese dissimilation infixation	
<b>Week 8</b>				
Tuesday: May 19	Syllable Structure	Blevins – 220	Karok vowel deletion prog. palatalization ? epenthesis	Homework #5 Korean nasal assimilation Japanese CodaCond etc. Hungarian voice assimilation (obsts. only) vowel harmony (back) Samoan

				deletion? epenthesis? lexicalization?
Thursday: May 21	<b>No CLASS</b>			
Week 9				
Tuesday: May 26	Syllable Structure		Nootka revisited Koasati nasal place assimilation	
Thursday: May 28	Typological Generalizations alpha notation changing(agreeing)/adding/deleting features		Lhasa Tibetan revisited Malay II revisited	
Week 10				
Tuesday: June 2	Phonetic basis for Phonology  Is Phonology just Phonetics?	K ch 4: 136-150;180- 191		
Thursday: May 4	Markedness & Universal Implications  Possible & Impossible Patterns			
Finals Week: June 10 by 4:00 pm				2 <sup>nd</sup> Typology