

LING 5320: Phonological Theory I
Meeting Time: Tuesday/Thursday 11:00-12:20
Meeting Location: Trimble Hall 014
Section 001, Fall 2014

Instructor: Cindy Kilpatrick

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Office: Hammond Hall 128 Lab: Trimble Hall 301

Office Hours: TBD, but appts always available

Catalog Description

Ling 5320 is a foundations course for the study of the principles that govern sound systems in human languages. Students will work with sound patterns from a variety of languages in order to understand the fundamental aspects of phonological phenomena, and course assignments will require application of the descriptive and theoretical tools in working with sound pattern data. Lectures will further develop this description, analysis, and argumentation for phonological data.

Course Objectives

After successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

- 1) Recognize phonological patterns both within and across languages
- 2) Utilize phonological generalizations to describe relevant data
- 3) Analyze phonological data from different theoretical perspectives
- 4) Formulate phonological arguments in oral and written form
- 5) Present phonological analyses in appropriate academic style
- 6) Identify interesting phonological data and patterns

Textbook

There is no required textbook for this course. Lectures will cover the necessary topics, with relevant handouts and materials distributed as needed. Students wishing to explore deeper understanding of course topics should discuss possible reading material with the instructor.

Grading and Course Requirements

The course grade for all students will be determined by averaging the grades given on homework assignments throughout the semester. The final paper or problem set will count as 2 assignments.

Attendance and Participation: At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this course, I have decided to mark attendance but not include it as a part of your grade.

While attendance is not a formal part of your grade, attendance and participation in this course are crucial. Because we do not have a textbook, understanding of the course material will require attendance of lectures and practice with in-class problem sets, which will provide you with the skills and knowledge you will need in order to successfully complete the work in this course. In class you may also receive helpful hints, updates, and any changes made to the homework assignments. Missing classes regularly is likely to have a negative effect on performance in the course.

Homework Assignments: Analysis of different sets of phonological data will comprise a major part of this class. In addition to doing this together in class, you will have 6 homework assignments to complete, which may consist of one or more data sets. In general, these problem sets will be due on Thursdays, with the assignment handed out the previous Thursday. Students are encouraged to work together to determine an adequate analysis of the data, but **each student must submit their own work for the actual homework write-up**. All work should be written up independently and should clearly state the contributions made by others. Students are not expected to need to consult published (or internet) sources in order to complete the homework assignments, but if they do, proper citations are mandatory and should follow Language/LSA style guidelines. For all write-ups, the following formatting guidelines should be followed:

- Typed in 14 point font
- 1.5 spacing (data/examples may be single spaced)
- pages numbered with 1-inch margins all around
- appropriate section divisions
- absolute maximum of 12 pages, including coversheet that includes your name, the course and semester, the assignment, the date due, and a statement describing who you worked with (or stating that you worked alone)
- submitted as a pdf via Blackboard no later than 11am on the days they are due, with a printed copy (2-up, front side only) handed in to Cindy in class.

Your homework write-ups will be graded on both content (does your analysis work and cover all the data?) and writing (argumentation, organization, and prose). The following factors will determine the grade on each homework assignment:

- Data is described clearly
- Phonological generalizations are well-formulated
- Analysis is theoretically sound and accounts for the data
- Argumentation is logical and examples are explained
- Organization flows well
- Writing is clear and easy to read

A = Fully meets all 6 of the above criteria

B = Fully meets most of the criteria, but minor problems arose in 1 - 2 areas

C = Meets most of the criteria above, but minor problems arose in 3 - 4 areas, or major problems arose in 1 - 2 areas

D = Meets some of the criteria above, but major problems in several areas

F = Assignment does not clearly meet any of the criteria above

Final Exam/Paper: The final exam for this course will be a final problem set (or sets), which students will analyze and answer questions about in a face-to-face oral presentation and Q&A. As with homework assignments, students are encouraged to work together to determine a workable analysis, but each student should ensure that they understand and can talk through the data and analysis on their own. The final exam will be administered during our final exam period. Students will be given access to the problem set itself no later than one week prior to that date.

PhD students and any other students who plan for further study in linguistics are encouraged to write a final paper in lieu of taking the final exam. This paper should, at a minimum, present a well-synthesized literature review of some topic in phonology, but may also describe and analyze data that the students find to be interesting. Students who choose to take this option are required to discuss their topic idea with the instructor no later than the end of Week 10.

Late work policy: Please be aware that late assignments cannot be accepted in this class. Once assignments are turned in, we may be discussing them together in class, and/or answering specific questions about how to account for certain pieces of the data. Students who turn their work in late would thus be given an unfair advantage over other students, so to be fair to all, no late work is possible.

Grade Grievances: Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current University Catalog.

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student in this course requiring an accommodation must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364 or at www.uta.edu/disability or.

Title IX: The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to upholding U.S. Federal Law "Title IX" such that no member of the UT Arlington community shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. For more information, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX.

Academic Integrity: Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence. I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with

University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Final Review Week: A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located to the right as you exit the classroom. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

Expectations for Out-of-Class Study: Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 9 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc.

Librarian to Contact: Your librarian, Jody Bailey, is your friend. She can help you find the best scholarly, authoritative materials you'll need for your research project. Find her at Room 312, Central Library, or contact her at jbailey@uta.edu or 817.272.7516.

Very flexible schedule of classes

I, Cynthia D. Kilpatrick, reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course

Week 0	Aug 21	<i>Intro to the course: Generative Phonology</i>
Week 1	Aug 26 and 28	<i>Sound patterns and classes, phonological rules Homework 1 due</i>
Week 2	Sept 2 and 4	<i>Alternations and derivations, rule ordering</i>
Week 3	Sept 9 and 11	<i>Rules vs constraints Homework 2 due</i>
Week 4	Sept 16 and 18	<i>Constraint-based theories; Classic OT</i>
Week 5	Sept 23 and 25	<i>More on Optimality Theory Homework 3 due</i>
Week 6	Sept 30, Oct 2	Markedness and naturalness
Week 7	Oct 7 and 9	Lexical Phonology and the cycle <i>Homework 4 due</i>
Week 8	Oct 14 and 16	<i>Cyclicity in OT</i>
Week 9	Oct 21 and 23	Syllables <i>Homework 5 due</i>
Week 10	Oct 28 and 30	Phonotactic constraints <i>Assignment: Reflection #2</i>
Week 11	Nov 4 and 6	<i>Autosegmental phonology Homework 6 due</i>
Week 12	Nov 11 and 13	Autosegmental tone
Week 13	Nov 18 and 20	Phonological Skeleton
Week 14	Nov 25	Skeleton continues <i>Nov 27 = Thanksgiving Holidays</i>
Week 15	Dec 2	<i>Paper presentations? Dec 3 = last day of classes</i>