

LING 5320/4301: Phonological Theory I  
Meeting Time: Tuesday/Thursday 9:30 – 10:50  
Meeting Location: Preston Hall 206  
Section 001, Fall 2012

Instructor information:

Instructor: Cindy Kilpatrick  
Email: cynkil@uta.edu  
Phone: 817-272-3133 (main Ling office, for messages only)  
Office: Hammond Hall 128  
Lab: Speech Sounds Lab, Trimble 301  
Office Hours: Tues 2 – 4pm in Hammond 128, or by appt

Teaching Assistant: Lori McLain Pierce  
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Office: Trimble Hall 217B  
Office hours: Tuesdays 11-12 or by appt, room TBA  
Guided discussion sections may take place in lieu  
of office hours on occasion

**Catalog Description**

Ling 5320/4301 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 or the TA.

## **Grading and Course Requirements**

The course grade for all students will be determined by the total number of points accrued throughout the semester.

A = 225+ points

B = 200-224 points

C = 175-199 points

D = 162-174 points

F = below 162 points

For homework assignments, a total of 200 points will be available

A final exam or paper will be worth a total of 50 points

A maximum of 15 additional points can be earned through the following:

Attendance at department colloquia or talks = 2 points each

On-time, remain through question period

Specifics for Metroplex Linguistics Conference (Sat, Nov 10) will be provided once the schedule has been determined

Participation in Linguistics experiments = 1 – 2 points each

One point if less than 45 minutes, 2 points if 45 minutes or longer

Attendance at departmental lab meetings = 1 point each

Written and detailed contributions to PhonFun = .5 points each

See the instructor for other options, or suggest your own

### **Attendance and Participation:**

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 homework and final exam. 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, and students can expect that any absences beyond 2 will lower the final grade in the course by one letter.

### **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. Online homework quizzes will be closed for grading at the time and date that they are due. 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.

### 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 8 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 or quiz. 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 undergraduate students, an in-depth write-up will be required for 2 of the homework assignments (the instructor will let you know which assignments this is a necessity for), with these two write-ups worth 25 points each. For the remaining 6 homework assignments, online quizzes will be offered in lieu of an in-depth write-up. Each of these quizzes will also be worth 25 points. Undergraduate students who wish to complete write-ups and not quizzes and who are considering graduate work in linguistics are encouraged to complete write-ups rather than quizzes, but should discuss this with the instructor before making this decision.

For graduate students, in-depth write-ups are expected for all 8 homework assignments, with each write-up worth 25 points each. However, students may choose, for the 6 homework assignments with quiz options, to take the quiz instead of completing the write-up, but a maximum of 18 points will be offered for this option.

For all write-ups, the following formatting guidelines should be followed:

- Typed
- 14 point font
- 1.5 spacing (data/examples may be single spaced)
- pages numbered
- 1-inch margins all around
- appropriate section divisions
- absolute maximum of 12 pages, including coversheet
  - o coversheet should include: 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 via Blackboard no later than 9:30am on the days they are due, with a printed copy (2-up, front side only) handed in to Cindy in class.

Homework quizzes will be available by 5pm on the Tuesday before they are due on Thursday. They will include questions of all kinds, including open-ended discussion requiring several sentences of explanation. Students should be familiar enough with the problem set and its solution to be able to adequately explain the patterns and possible solution once they open the quiz.

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). Your grade will be determined based on the following factors:

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

23-25 = Fully meets all 6 of the above criteria

20-22 = Fully meets most of the criteria, but minor problems arose in 1 - 2 areas

18-19 = Meets most of the criteria above, but minor problems arose in 3 - 4 areas,  
or major problems arose in 1 - 2 areas

16-17 = Meets some of the criteria above, but major problems in several areas

15 or below = 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. As with homework assignments, students are encouraged to work together to determine a workable analysis. However, the final exam will be administered during our final exam period, scheduled for Thursday, Dec 6, from 8-10:30am. 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 may, with the permission of the instructor, have the option 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.

## Departmental Policies

**Academic Integrity:** All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code, and can expect to see an acknowledgement of adherence to it on any online quiz or work submitted:

*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.*

Instructors 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.

**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.

**Make-up Exams:** No make up exams will be given in this course except in verified emergencies. In those cases, students can expect to be given an exam that is significantly different in format (but not material) to the one given in class.

**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](mailto:jbailey@uta.edu) or 817.272.7516.

**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 catalog. Undergrads, see [http://wweb.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic\\_regulations.aspx#10](http://wweb.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic_regulations.aspx#10). Grads, see <http://www.uta.edu/gradcatalog/2012/general/regulations/#grades>.

**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 at <http://wweb.uta.edu/ses/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 requiring an accommodation for this course 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 at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**Student Support Services:** UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).

**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 a 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.

**Auditors:** The Department of Linguistics and TESOL has a "no audit" policy. However, with instructor permission, Department of Linguistics and TESOL faculty, staff, and students enrolled in a linguistics/TESOL program may be able to sit in on a course. These courses cannot be used to satisfy any degree or program requirements/electives, nor will any credit (including retroactive credit) be granted.

## Schedule

- Week 0      Thurs Aug 23  
Intro to Generative Phonology and the Sounds of Speech
- Week 1      Tuesday, August 28 and Thursday, August 30  
Phonetics and Features, Sound classes and predictable patterns
- Week 2      Tues, September 4 and Thurs, September 6  
Due Thursday by 9:30am: Homework #1 on Sound classes and patterns  
Rule-Based Phonology, Alternations and Derivations
- Week 3      Tues, September 11 and Thurs, September 13  
Due Thursday by 9:30am: Homework #2 on Alternations and Derivations  
Simple Rule Ordering
- Week 4      Tues, September 18 and Thurs, September 20  
More complex Rule Ordering
- Week 5      Tues, September 25 and Thurs, September 27  
Due Thursday by 9:30am: Homework #3 on Rule Ordering  
Lexical Phonology and the Cycle
- Week 6      Tues, October 2 and Thurs, October 4  
Feature Geometry
- Week 7      Tues, October 9 and Thurs, October 11  
Due Thursday by 9:30am: Homework #4 on Feature Geometry  
Syllabification
- Week 8      Tues, October 16 and Thurs, October 18  
Due Thursday by 9:30am: Homework #5 on Syllabification  
Autosegmental Phonology
- Week 9      Tues, October 23 and Thurs, October 25  
Autosegmental Phonology continued

- Week 10    Tues, October 30 and Thurs, November 1  
Due Thursday by 9:30am: Homework #6 on Autosegmental tone  
The Phonological Skeleton
- Week 11    Tues, November 6, and Thurs, November 8  
Metrical Stress Theory
- Week 12    Tues, November 13, and Thurs, November 15  
Due Thursday by 9:30am: Homework #7 on Stress  
Metrical Stress Theory
- Week 13    Tues, November 20  
Note: Thurs, November 22 = Thanksgiving  
Prosodic Morphology
- Week 14    Tues, November 27, and Thurs, November 29  
Due Thursday by 9:30am: Homework #8 on Metrical Stress  
Optimality Theory
- Week 15    Tues, December 4 and/or Thursday, December 6 (exam date!)  
A little more OT  
Final Exam is Thursday, Dec 6, from 8-10:30am  
Final Papers due no later than 12noon on Dec 6

*Summary of Major Due Dates:*

- Thurs, September 6:        Homework #1 on Sound classes and patterns
- Thurs, September 13:     Homework #2 on Alternations and Derivations
- Thurs, September 27:    Homework #3 on Rule Ordering
- Thurs, October 11:        Homework #4 on Feature Geometry
- Thurs, October 18:        Homework #5 on Syllabification
- Thurs, November 1:       Homework #6 on Autosegmental tone
- Thurs, November 15:     Homework #7 on Stress
- Thurs, November 29:     Homework #8 on Metrical Stress
- Thurs, Dec 6, 8-10:30am:    Final Exam!