

Laboratory Phonology
LING 5322
Meeting Time: Tuesday/Thursday 11:00 - 12:20
Meeting Location: Trimble Hall 218
Section 001, Spring 2012

Instructor: Cindy Kilpatrick

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Course Description:

Ling 5322 is focused on experimental phonetics and its use in answering phonological questions. The course will cover the three main areas of phonetics: acoustics, articulation, and speech perception, as well as look at ways that phonological questions are examined in psycholinguistics and neurolinguistics. Course readings, class discussions, and hands-on laboratory sessions will help students acquire the necessary skills to complete work in laboratory phonology. Students will be expected to conduct an independent research project in experimental phonology. Prerequisite: LING 5320

Course Objectives:

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

- 1) Measure acoustic and articulatory aspects of different sounds
- 2) Effectively read and understand published work in laboratory phonology
- 3) Analyze instrumental data from different theoretical perspectives
- 4) Argue for a phonological analysis using empirical data
- 5) Present results and analyses in appropriate format and style
- 6) Identify interesting phonetic or phonological patterns, and discuss appropriate ways to gather related empirical data

Textbook:

The textbook for this course will be a set of articles and book chapters. These readings will be made available through course reserves in the library.

Grading and Course Requirements

The course grade will be determined in the following manner:

Experimental Participation or observation	10%
Article presentation	10%
Final Project	40%
Homework Assignments	40% (4 assignments at 10% each)

Attendance and Participation:

Attendance and participation in this course are crucial. Just reading a book about laboratory phonology is unlikely to provide you with the skills and knowledge you will need in order to successfully complete the course. While students are not directly graded on attendance and participation, missing classes regularly is likely to have a negative effect on performance in the course.

Experimental Participation or Observation:

As a requirement for this class, students must participate in, observe, or assist in running an experiment. More details regarding this requirement will be provided in class.

Article Presentation

This course will require extensive reading and discussion of articles. Each student will be required to lead the discussion of at least one article during the semester. This should include preparation of a handout or a set of powerpoint slides that clearly outlines the important points in the article, including identification of the research question, the methods, the results, and the conclusions and implications. In addition, the student should provide a minimum of 5 questions for discussion regarding the article. More details on this assignment will be provided in class.

Final Project:

The final exam for this course will be in the form of a final paper, in which students will describe and analyze data that they have encountered elsewhere, or that is much more extensive than that which we analyze for class assignments. Throughout the semester, you are encouraged to discuss your thoughts with Cindy or Namrata. The paper will be graded on the same rubric as the homework assignments.

Homework Assignments:

Homework assignments for this course will take the form of lab reports that should be structured with the four following sections:

- Introduction: an overview of the research questions under investigation, with reference to other relevant work that has been completed in this area
- Methods: a description of the exact participants, materials, and procedure that was followed, detailed enough that the replication would be straightforward
- Results: a theory-neutral presentation of what was found, usually presented with charts, graphs, stats, and numbers, but including clear and concise description in the text
- Discussion: a discussion of what was found in light of the theoretical questions under discussion, which uses the results found to argue for or against some particular theoretical construct

Each of these assignments should be written up coherently, following these guidelines:

- typed, with pages numbered
- 1.5 spaced, though data/examples may be single spaced
- 14 point font with 1-inch margins all around
- appropriate section divisions
- absolute maximum of 12 pages, including coversheet
 - o coversheet should include the following information: your name, the course and semester, the assignment, the date due, and a statement describing who you worked with (if anyone)
- sent as a pdf to cynkil@uta.edu no later than 10:55am on the days they are due, with a printed copy (2-up, front side only) handed in to Cindy in class.

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.

Your homework assignments 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:

- Introduction sets the stage and states the question (Why is this important?)
- Methods are clearly described (What did you do? To whom? Using what?)
- Results are presented coherently and transparently (What did you find?)
- Discussion ties together intro & results (What do your results mean?)
- Research question is clearly stated, motivated, investigated, and answered
- Writing is clear and easy to read

- A = Fully meets all 6 of the above criteria
- B = Criteria mostly met, minor problems arose in 1 - 2 areas
- C = Some criteria met; minor problems in 3 - 4 areas, or major probs in 1 - 2 areas
- D = Some criteria met, but major problems in several areas
- F = Assignment does not clearly meet any of the criteria above

Students are encouraged to discuss ideas with the other students currently enrolled in class, but 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.

Departmental Policies

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. Contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships for more information.

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 or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

As a student, your responsibility rests with informing the instructor in writing or email and providing the official documentation from the Office for Students with Disabilities no later than the end of the second week of classes.

Academic Integrity: At The University of Texas at Arlington, academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form, including but not limited to) "cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts" (UT System Regents' Rule 50101, §2.2). Suspected violations of academic integrity standards 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.

While the Department of Linguistics and TESOL hopes to foster a sense of community in which students can enhance their educational experience by conferring with each other about the lectures, readings, and assignments, all work submitted must be the product of each student's own effort. Students are expected to know and honor the standards of academic integrity followed by American universities; ignorance of these standards is not an excuse for committing an act of academic dishonesty (including plagiarism). If you have questions, please speak with your instructor, your academic advisor, or the department chair.

Please be advised that departmental policy requires instructors to formally file charges with the Office of Student Conduct, following procedures as laid out for faculty

(<http://www.uta.edu/studentaffairs/conduct/faculty.html>), as well as notify the department chair of the filing of the charges.

Student Support Services Available: The University of Texas at 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. These resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals to resources for any reason, students may contact the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107 or visit www.uta.edu/resources for more information.

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 course 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.

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 will be asked to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS) about the course and how it was taught. Instructions on how to access the SFS system will be sent directly to students through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback data is required by state law; student participation in the SFS program is voluntary.

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.

A Very Tentative Schedule

Week 1	IPA and Intro to Praat
Week 2	Acoustics of consonants
Week 3	Acoustics of vowels
Week 4	Acoustic evidence for phonological questions
Week 5	Production-based studies
Week 6	Production studies and L1 acquisition
Week 7	Auditory Phonetics
Week 8	Infant speech perception
Week 9	Categorical speech perception
Week 10	Perception-based studies
Week 11	Articulatory phonetics
Week 12	Intonation
Week 13	Sociophonetics
Week 14	Phonology in Neurolinguistics: EEG
Week 15	Student presentations

Final Paper due on scheduled exam day, no later than 5pm!