

University of Florida at Gainesville  
Linguistics Program  
4131 Turlington Hall

**Lin 3201-12E0**  
**Sounds of Human Language**

T 4 (10:40-11:30am), R 4-5 (10:40-12:35am), Fall 2103, MAT 114

**Professor:** **Caroline Wiltshire**

E-mail: [wiltshir@ufl.edu](mailto:wiltshir@ufl.edu)

Web site: <http://www.clas.ufl.edu/users/wiltshir/>

E-learning: <http://lss.at.ufl.edu>

Student/Office Hours: Mondays 2-3pm, Tuesdays 11:45-1pm, and by appointment

Turlington 4123

Phone: 294-7448

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**Overview:**

Humans use a wide variety of sounds in producing language. This course enables the student to recognize the sounds of human languages, to understand how they are made, and to identify the physical properties that correspond to them. We study the patterning and function of sounds in languages of the world, doing in-class research on an unfamiliar language to apply the methods of analyzing a language's sound system.

**Prerequisite:** Lin 3010 (Introduction to Linguistics)

**Objectives:** On completion of this course, students should be able to:

- accurately transcribe speech from an unfamiliar language or dialect
- describe the articulatory processes involved in producing speech sounds
- perform a phonemic analysis on phonetic data
- recognize and label common phonological processes
- appreciate similarities among phonetic/phonological systems of languages

**Assessment**

	% of course grade
Transcription Exercises (Smalleys) (16)	8%
Attendance and Classroom Participation	7%
Homeworks (5)	30%
Quizzes (5)	30%
Fieldwork Project (1)	15%
Production Quiz (1)	5%
Perception Quiz (1)	5%

<b>Grading:</b>	92-100 = A	89-91.9 = A-	86-88.9 = B+
	82-85.9 = B	79-81.9 = B-	76-78.9 = C+
	72-75.9 = C	69-71.9 = C-	66-68.9 = D+
	62-65.9 = D	58-61.9 = D-	Below 58 = E

UF's policy of GPA points for grades: <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>

**Late Policy:** No late transcriptions, homeworks, or quizzes unless you receive permission before the due date. Let us know as soon as you realize you will be unable to meet a deadline. Assignments are collected at the beginning of class on the date they are due.

## Details of Assessments

## Wiltshire Lin3201

**Smalley Transcription (8%):** The Smalley assignments, listed by number on your schedule, are due by Thursdays' classes. Each week's assignment is worth ½ point. To complete them, go to the Language Lab webpage: <http://www.clas.ufl.edu/lc/audio.htm>. Select the link to Lin3201 Sounds of Modern Language. Your user name is **smalley** and your password is **articulate**. Alternatively, you can go to the website: <http://bach.arts.kuleuven.be/MOAP/> and click on the J.-Ph. Goldman's interactive course link at the bottom of the page. Details on how to complete the assignments, including further instructions, copies of the assignments, answer keys in IPA, and a general conversion guide from Smalley's transcription system to the IPA can be found on the eLearning site for this course. After recording your answers while listening to the tapes, compare your answers to the answer sheet and note any problems. Turn in your transcriptions and notes about problems.

**Attendance & Classroom Participation (7%):** in most classes, time permitting, 10-15 minutes will be spent on exercises, either individual or group-oriented. These practice exercise sessions will reinforce your ability to perceive and to produce the different sounds, and attendance will not only be reflected in your participation grade, but also in your success in the quizzes and field work project. Your attendance and your participation in these exercises contributes 7% to your final grade. Regular class attendance is crucial, and will count towards your grade as follows (and note that missing a Thursday (2-hour) class counts as missing 2 Class-Hours):

# Missed ClassHours	Percent earned	# Missed ClassHours	Percent earned
0	7%	6	3%
3	6%	7	2%
4	5%	8	1%
5	4%	9 or more	0%

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

**Homeworks (30%):** Homework assignments are due on Thursdays; each is worth 6% of your grade. They ask you to use terms, methods, or information presented in class. You are free to work with fellow students on these assignments, but you must write up the answers on your own.

**Quizzes (30%):** Quizzes take place at the beginning of class on Thursdays. Each quiz will be worth 6% of your grade, and will take no more than 15 minutes. Each will involve transcription of examples provided by Dr. Wiltshire or prerecorded, followed by questions on the material covered during the preceding weeks.

**Fieldwork Project (15%):** In weeks 13-14 of class, a native speaker of a language which no one in the class has studied will join us so that you can practice "field methods" on the language. You will interact with the speaker to determine the sound system (phones and phonemes) of his/her language, and you will write up the results for the last class 12/03.

**Perception Quiz (5%):** Administered at the beginning of the final class session 12/03 Tuesday. You will be asked to identify or discriminate sounds presented to you via the computer. The sounds to be used will be selected from either Smalley's exercises or the exercises available through my web page. The quiz will take approximately 10-15 minutes.

**Production Quiz (5%):** Administered during the final class sessions: Tuesday 11/26 and Tuesday 12/03 (after the perception quiz), I will meet with each of you for 5 minutes and ask you to produce various sounds by reading from the IPA transcription. You will sign up for a time slot in advance (either for a Tuesday class, or an office hour time if you prefer).

**Policy on working together:** You are welcome to work together on homework assignments, but you should write up your answers independently from each other. No collaboration of any kind is allowed on the quizzes, etc. Remember you are bound by the UF honor pledge:

"We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

It is expected that all students will adhere to the full Honor code and academic honesty guidelines available at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

**Late Policy:** No late homeworks or exams unless you have received permission before the due date. Call or e-mail and let me know as soon as you realize you will be unable to meet a deadline. Homeworks will be collected at the beginning of class on the due date due.

**Cell Phone Policy:** Cell phones should be switched off before class. If you need to leave it on for a specific class (because of a family medical emergency, for example) please notify me before class and sit near the door.

**Accommodations for students with disabilities:** Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drp/> The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student, who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. If you have any need for modification in seating, testing, or other class requirements, please contact me as early in the term as possible so that arrangements can be made.

## Reading

**Required:** Catford, J.C. (1988). *A Practical Introduction to Phonetics*. (Cat)  
Wayland, R. (2003). *Sounds of Human Language Manual*. (Rat)

The Wayland reader, information and assignments from Smalley, and handouts are or will be available on the e-Learning site for the course. Go to <http://lss.at.ufl.edu/>, login with your GatorLink username and password, and find Lin3201.

**Optional:** Smalley, W. A. (1980) *Manual of Articulatory Phonetics*. (The language lab has a copy you can read with the drills; this book is out of print).

## Course Evaluation Process

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu> . Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available at: <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results> .

**Course Details**

**Wiltshire Lin 3201**

<b>Week/Dates</b>	<b>Assignment</b>			<b>Topic(s)</b>
	Reading	Transcriptions (Smalley)	Hw/Quiz	
1 8/22 R	Syllabus, Cat Ch. 1, Rat pp. 1-9			Introduction, Overview, Anatomy
2 8/27 T 8/29 R	Cat Ch. 2, Rat 9-15 Cat Ch. 3, Rat 15-18			Airstream Voicing
3 9/3 T 9/5 R	Cat Ch. 4, Rat 22-29	1,31	<b>QZ 1</b>	Articulation (manner)
4 9/10 T 9/12 R	Cat Ch. 5, Rat 17-22	5,7	<b>HW 1</b>	Articulation (place)
5 9/17 T 9/19 R	Cat Ch. 6, Rat 30-31,38-40	3,13	<b>QZ 2</b>	Coarticulation
6 9/24 T 9/26 R		11,15	<b>HW 2</b>	Practice/Review all consonants
7 10/1 T 10/3 R	Cat Ch. 7, Rat 31-38	9, 21	<b>QZ 3</b>	Vowels
8 10/8 T 10/10 R	Cat Ch. 8	12,14	<b>HW 3</b>	More Vowels
9 10/15 T 10/17 R	Cat Ch. 9, Rat 40-53		<b>QZ 4</b>	Prosodics
10 10/22 T 10/24 R	Handouts	16, 22	<b>HW 4</b>	Acoustics
11 10/29 T 10/31 R	Cat Ch. 10, Rat 53-58 Handouts, Rat 58-62	2, 6	<b>QZ 5</b>	Phonemics Phonological processes
12 11/5 T 11/7 R	Handouts		<b>HW 5</b>	& Morpho-phonemics Field Methods
13 11/12-14 T&R				Field Work
14 11/19 T 11/21 R	(Chapter 11 Catford)			Field Work Field Work/Review/Discussion
15 11/26 T		<b>Production Quizzes</b>		
16 12/3 T	<b>Field Work Project DUE</b>	<b>Perception/Production Quizzes</b>		