

University of Florida at Gainesville
Department of Linguistics
4131 Turlington Hall
LIN 3201
Sounds of Human Language

T 4th period (10:40-11:30) Matherly 0103
R 4-5th periods (10:40 -12:30) Matherly 0103

Professor: Ratree Wayland Turlington 4131E
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Office Hours: T 11:45-12: 35 p.m., R 12:50-1:40, and by appointment

Teaching Assistant: Lu Liu
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Office Hours: TBA

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
Perception Exercises (16)	8%
Attendance & Classroom Participation	10%
Drill sessions	10%
Home work (5)	20%
Quizzes (5)	20%
Fieldwork Project (1)	20%
Production Quiz (1)	6%
Perception Quiz (1)	6%

Grading Scale

93.7–100% = A	90-93.6% = A-	86.7-89.9% = B+
83.7-86.6% = B	80.0-83.6% = B-	76.7-79.9% = C+
73.7-76.6% = C	70.0-73.6% = C-	66.7-69.9% = D+
63.7-66.6% = D	60.0-63.6% = D-	Below 60% = E

Note: a C- is not a passing grade. Information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points can be found here. <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>.

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Policies:

- Please turn off all cell phones.
- Emailing, texting, web browsing, face-booking, tweeting, chatting and other cell-phone or computer activity is not allowed during class unless it is part of the course assignments.
- For academic honesty guidelines, see <http://regulations.ufl.edu/chapter4/4017.pdf>. Students are required to hand in all assignments.
- Students are required all assignments and tests before the end of the class period they are due. Please contact the instructor in advance if you need to skip a class, or cannot make a deadline. There will be no make-up quizzes, exams, or extensions of homework and paper deadlines without a documented excuse. If you are absent for more than 3 classes or parts of classes without a documented medical or academic excuse, one point will be deducted from your final score for each additional absence.

Details of Assessments

- **Perception Exercises (8%):** Due on Tuesdays. The assignments can be found in your course packet. After recording your answers while listening to the recordings for each exercise, compare your answers to the answer given and note any problems.
- **Attendance & Classroom Participation (10%):** In most classes, as time permits, 15-20 min will be spent on exercises given. They will either be individual or group oriented. Your attendance and participation in these exercises contributes 10% to your final grade. Therefore, regular class attendance is crucial to earning these 10%.

# of Missed Classes	Percentage earned
0	100%
3	8%
7	6%
7	4%
10	0%

- **Drill Sessions (10%):** Lu Liu will meet with small groups of students (5-6) each week for practice on the sounds covered in class; each drill session will be approximately 25 minutes and will take place in the Linguistics Conference Room (Room 4104) inside Turlington Hall. Drill sessions start week 3 (January 20th). You should attend one session per week; you are allowed to miss one session for the entire semester, but each additional absence will cost you 1% out of the 10% of your drill session grade. You may make up for a missed session by attending a different

session during the same week if space permitted. These sessions will reinforce your ability to perceive and to produce the different sounds, and attendance will not only be reflected in your drill session grade, but also in your success in the perception and production quizzes and the final field work project. Because of the extra time commitment, formal class on Thursdays will end 15-20 minutes early; we will cover no new material after that point. However, you are welcome to stay to ask questions or do practice quizzes or drills.

# of Missed Sessions	Percentage earned
1	10%
2	9%
3	8%
4	7%
5	6%
6	5%
7	4%
8	3%
9	2%
10	0%

- **Homework (20%):** Homework assignments are due on Mondays, and each will be worth 4% of your grade. They will ask you to use the terms, methods, or information presented in class. You are free to work with fellow students on these assignments, but you should write up the answers on your own.
- **Quizzes (20%):** Quizzes take place in class on Fridays, and each will be worth 4% of your grade. Each will involve transcription of sounds produced by myself followed by questions on the material covered during the preceding weeks. Each quiz will take around 30 minutes.
- **Fieldwork Project (20%):** In the last or one before last week 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 12/4.
- **Production Quiz (6%):** Administered during the last week; I will meet with each of you for 5 minutes and ask you to produce various sounds by reading from the IPA transcription.
- **Perception Quiz (6%):** Administered during the last day of class. You will be asked to identify or discriminate sounds presented to you on a computer in the classroom. This quiz will take approximately 10-15 minutes.

Reading

Required:

Ratree Wayland. (2003). *Sounds of Human Language Manual* (Rat)

Optional:

Catford, J.C. (1988). *A Practical Introduction to Phonetics*. (Cat)

Course Outline

Lectures will follow the outline below. This outline is tentative and may be updated as we go.

Week	Date	Topic	Reading Assignment	Perception Exercises	HW & Quiz
1	Jan 6	Cat Ch. 1	Introduction		
	Jan 8	Rat pp.1-9	Anatomy		
2	Jan 13	Cat Ch. 2	Airstream		
	Jan 15	Rat pp. 9-15	Airstream/voicing		
3	Jan 20		Articulation Place	airstream	
	Jan 22	Rat pp.15-18	Articulation Place		HW 1 Drill sessions start
4	Jan 27	Cat Ch. 4	Articulation Manner	Place and manner	
	Jan 29	Rat pp. 18-22	Manner		Quiz 1
5	Feb 3	Cat Ch. 5	vowels	vowels	HW2
	Feb 5	Rat pp. 22-29			
6	Feb 10	Cat Ch. 6		Pitch/tone	
	Feb 12	Rat pp. 30-31	prosody		Quiz 2
7.	Feb 17	Cat Ch. 7			HW3
	Feb 19	Rat pp. 31-40	prosody		
8.	Feb 24	Cat Ch. 8	phonemics		
	Feb 26				Quiz3
9.	Mar 3	Spring break	Spring break	Spring break	No class
	Mar 5				
10.	Mar 10	Cat Ch. 9			HW 4
	Mar 12	Rat pp. 40-53	morphophonemics		
11.	Mar 17	Handouts	Field Methods		HW 5
	Mar 19	Rat 53-60			Quiz 4
12.	Mar 24	Rat pp. 60-61	Field Methods		
	Mar 26	Handout			

13.	Mar 31				
	Apr 2			Production test	Quiz 5
14.	Apr 7	Handouts	Field method		
	Apr 9				
15.	Apr 14				
	Apr 16				
16.	Apr 21			Perception test	

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.

Academic honesty It is expected that all students will adhere to the University of Florida Honor Code and the academic honesty guidelines available at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/procedures/honestybrochure.php>.