

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

MWF6th period (12:50-1:40)

Anderson 0034

Professor: Rtree Wayland

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Office Hours: TBA

Overview:

Humans use a wide variety of sounds in producing language. This course enables the students 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

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+
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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

Information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points can be found here.
<http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>.

Late Policy: No late transcriptions, homework, 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

- **Perception Exercise Homework (8%):** Due on Mondays. The assignments can be found on Canvas. 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 contribute 10% to your final grade. Therefore, regular class attendance is crucial to earning this 10%.

# of Missed Classes	Percentage earned
1	10%
2	9%
3	8%
4	7%
5	6%
6	5%
7	4%
8	3%
9	2%
10	1%
11	0%

- **Drill Sessions (10%):** Lu 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 (September 5th). 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 Fridays 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	1%
11	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%):** 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 12/7.
- **Production Quiz (6%):** Administered during the 12th week (Nov. 7th); Lu 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 on November 18th. You will be asked to identify or discriminate sounds I produce. 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	Reading Assignment	Topic	Perception Exercise HW due	HW & Quiz
1	Aug 22	Cat Ch. 1	Introduction		
	Aug 24	Rat pp.1-9	Anatomy		

	Aug 26				
2	Aug 29	Cat Ch. 2	Airstream		
	Sept 31	Rat pp. 9-15	Airstream/voicing		
	Sept 2				
3	Sept 5	Rat pp.15-18	Articulation Place	Airstream/ phonation	Drill sessions start HW 1
	Sept 7				
	Sept 9				
4	Sept 12	Cat Ch. 4	Articulation manner	Place and manner	
	Sept 14	Rat pp. 18-22			
	Sept 16				Quiz 1
5	Sept 19	Cat Ch. 5	vowels	Vowels	HW2
	Sept 21	Rat pp. 22-29			
	Sept 23				
6	Sept 26	Cat Ch. 6	prosody	Pitch/tone	
	Sept 28	Rat pp. 30-31			
	Sept 30				Quiz 2
7.	Oct 3	Cat Ch. 7	prosody		HW3
	Oct 5	Rat pp. 31-40			
	Oct 7				
8.	Oct 10	Cat Ch. 8	phonemics		
	Oct 12				
	Oct 14				Quiz3
9.	Oct 17	Cat Ch. 9			HW4
	Oct 19	Rat pp. 40-53	morphophonemics		
	Oct 21				

10.	Oct 24	Handouts	Field Methods		HW 5
	Oct 26	Rat 53-60			
	Oct 28				Quiz 4
11.	Oct 31	Rat pp. 60-61	Field Methods		
	Nov 2				
	Nov 4				Quiz 5
12.	Nov 7			Production test	
	Nov 9	Handouts			
	Nov 11	Veterans Day	No class		
13.	Nov 14				
	Nov 16				
	Nov 18			Perception test	
14.	Nov 21	Handouts	Field methods		
	Nov 23	Thanksgiving	No class		
	Nov 25	Thanksgiving	No class		
15.	Nov 28		Field methods		
	Nov 30		Field methods		
	Dec 2		Field method		
16.	Dec 5		Field methods	Review	
	Dec 7			Final project due	

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>.