

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

MWF4th period (10:40-11:30)

Anderson 0134

Professor: Ratree Wayland

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Office Hours: MW (11:45-12:30)
and by appointment

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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+
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%):** Tristan 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 4th). 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). Available free of charge on Canvas.

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 21	Cat Ch. 1	Introduction		
	Aug 23	Rat pp.1-9	Anatomy		
	Aug 25				
2	Aug 28	Cat Ch. 2	Airstream		
	Sept 30	Rat pp. 9-15	Airstream/voicing		
	Sept 1				
3	Sept 4	Rat pp.15-18	Articulation Place	Airstream/phonation	Drill sessions start HW 1
	Sept 6				
	Sept 8				
4	Sept 11	Cat Ch. 4	Articulation manner	Place and manner	
	Sept 13	Rat pp. 18-22			
	Sept 15				Quiz 1
5	Sept 18	Cat Ch. 5	vowels	Vowels	HW2
	Sept 20	Rat pp. 22-29			
	Sept 22				
6	Sept 25	Cat Ch. 6	prosody	Tone/intonation	
	Sept 27	Rat pp. 30-31			
	Sept 29				Quiz 2
7.	Oct 2	Cat Ch. 7	prosody		HW3
	Oct 4	Rat pp. 31-40			
	Oct 6				
8.	Oct 9	Cat Ch. 8	phonemics		

	Oct 11				
	Oct 13				Quiz3
9.	Oct 16	Cat Ch. 9			HW4
	Oct 18	Rat pp. 40-53	morphophonemics		
	Oct 20				
10.	Oct 23	Handouts	Field Methods		HW 5
	Oct 25	Rat 53-60			
	Oct 27				Quiz 4
11.	Oct 30	Rat pp. 60-61	Field Methods		
	Nov 1				
	Nov 3				Quiz 5
12.	Nov 6			Production test	
	Nov 8	Handouts			
	Nov 10	Veterans Day	No class		
13.	Nov 13				
	Nov 15				
	Nov 17			Perception test	
14.	Nov 20	Handouts	Field methods		
	Nov 22	Thanksgiving	No class		
	Nov 24	Thanksgiving	No class		
15.	Nov 27		Field methods		
	Nov 29		Field methods		
	Dec 1		Field method		
16.	Dec 4		Field methods	Review	
	Dec 6			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>.