

University of Florida, Gainesville
Department of Linguistics, 4131 Turlington Hall

Lin 4320: Introduction to Phonology

MWF 4th period (10:40-11:30am) Fall 2025

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Professor Caroline Wiltshire

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E-learning: <https://elearning.ufl.edu/>

Student/Office Hours:

Wednesdays 11:45am-12:30pm & Fridays 9:30-10:20am (both **F2F in office**), and

Thursdays 3:15-4:30pm (Zoom only): <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/99239285764>

(Meeting ID: 992 3928 5764)

I'm also available by e-mail and by appointment at other times; to ask questions or make an appointment: please email me directly at wiltshir@ufl.edu anytime

Course materials on Canvas: <http://elearning.ufl.edu> log in and find Lin4320

Technical Issues? contact the [UF Computing Help Desk:helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu) or (352) 392-4357.

Overview:

The phonological systems of the world -- the principles that govern how sounds function in language -- exhibit a fascinating range of highly organized patterns. This course examines some of the classic problems of phonology and introduces the theoretical tools that have been proposed for solving them. We will study phonemic and morphophonemic analysis, distinctive-feature theory, the formulation of rules and constraints, the problems of abstractness and rule ordering, and the formalization of phonological representation. The course focuses on problem solving in phonological analysis, presenting insights from current phonological theories and applying them to a range of natural language data.

Prerequisites: Lin3010 (Introduction to Linguistics) & Lin 3201 (Sounds of Human Language)

Objectives:

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

- recognize common phonological processes, and appreciate similarities among the phonological systems of a range of languages
- use the formalism of generative phonology, including distinctive features, rewrite rules, rule ordering, and constraint ranking to capture phonological processes
- analyze language data to extract phonological generalizations, and construct arguments from such data to support or to weaken proposals for particular analyses
- identify the kinds of data that can crucially distinguish among theoretical approaches, and discuss the implications of specific data to the construction and development of phonological theory

Required Reading:

books: Hayes, Bruce. 2009. *Introducing Phonology*. Wiley-Blackwell.

(bookstore) Peng, Long. 2013. *Analyzing Sound Patterns: An Introduction to Phonology*. Cambridge University Press.

articles: Sapir, Edward. 1933. "The Psychological Reality of Phonemes," reprinted in
(on Canvas) *Phonological Theory*, 1972, Makkai, ed, Jupiter Press, IL, pp. 22-31.
 Archangeli, Diana. 1997. "OT: an Introduction to Linguistics in the 1990s", in
Optimality Theory, An Overview. Archangeli & Langendoen, eds., pp. 1-32.

Recommended:

From LIN3201/Phonetics: Wayland, Ratree. 2018. *Phonetics: A Practical Introduction*.
 Cambridge University Press

For Generative phonology: Chomsky, Noam and Morris Halle. 1968. *The Sound Pattern of English*.

IPA chart: <https://www.internationalphoneticassociation.org/content/full-ipa-chart>

Assessments

On-line Reading Quizzes: Practice quizzes are on Canvas for each chapter of the readings we cover; these quizzes close around the time that we discuss the reading in class. Quizzes grouping chapters together (Hayes1-2, Hayes 3-4, etc.) can be taken during the 4 days before the dates on the schedule (**9/3, 9/12, 9/24, 10/3, 10/24, 11/5**), and contain a subset of questions from the practice quizzes. Each of the 6 quizzes is worth 1% (=10 points).

Homework: Six homework assignments (8%=80 points each) throughout the course: **due: 9/8, 9/17, 9/26, 10/20, 10/29, 11/7**. To be distributed roughly one week before they are due, on Canvas (e-Learning). Note that these are due before class time on those days (**10:40am**).

Tests: Two tests (timed) on **Oct 6th** (Covers Weeks 1-7, 10%=100 points) and **Nov 12th** (Weeks 1-13, 11% = 110). The final is a take-home, due **Dec 10th** (entire course, 13% = 130)

Team Presentations: In teams of 2-3, you will present your solution to a problem given in advance. During week 14 of classes, about 20-25 minutes per team (8% = 80 points).

Comprehensive Exam Practice: During week 14 (& through Thanksgiving break, if you like), four ½ hour comprehensive exam questions will be made available on Canvas. These are required for graduate students, but are optional/bonus for undergraduates. If you try more than one, tell me which one you could like to have graded, worth up to 5 (bonus) points. Due before class **Dec. 1st**.

Participation: I expect you to attend class regularly, participate in class discussions, group activities, and problem solving. You may be chosen to present your solution to a problem that we work on in small groups (4% = 40 points).

Summary	% of course grade	Total Points
6 On-line Reading Quizzes	6%	60
6 HWs	48%	480
2 Tests During Term	21%	210
1 Team Presentation	8%	80
1 Take-home	13%	130
Participation	4%	40

Grading by points

		930-1000	A	890-929	A-	
860-889	B+	820-859	B	790-819	B-	
760-789	C+	720-759	C	690-719	C-	
660-689	D+	620-659	D	590-619	D-	Below 590 E

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

General Policies

Attendance: I do not take formal attendance, but experience shows that missing class will cost you. If you miss a class, be sure to review any material posted on Canvas. Requirements for make-up exams, attendance, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies (see link below). If you are sick and expect to miss deadlines, please contact me as soon as possible.

Diversity Statement (borrowed, but I like it!):

"I consider this classroom to be a place where you will be treated with respect, and I welcome individuals of all ages, backgrounds, beliefs, ethnicities, genders, gender identities, gender expressions, national origins, religious affiliations, sexual orientations, ability – and other visible and nonvisible differences. All members of this class are expected to contribute to a respectful, welcoming, and inclusive environment for every other member of the class." (American Society for Engineering Educations Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion)

On working together: You are welcome to work together with classmates on homework problems, but you must write up your solutions independently from each other. No collaboration of any kind is allowed on the tests (in-class and take-home). Remember you are bound by the UF honor code:

We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. 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."

On the take-home final, authorized aid means only your class notes, handouts, previous homework assignments and tests, the required and optional readings for the course (listed on the syllabus), and information provided by the professor of the course. Unauthorized aid means anything else.

Late Policy: No late homeworks or exams unless you have received permission. Let me know as soon as you realize you will be unable to meet a deadline.

Cell Phone Policy: Cell phones should be set to vibrate and put away during class times, except when needed for two-factor authentication. If you need it on for a specific class (because of a family medical emergency, for example) please notify me before class.

UF General Academic Policies

This course complies with all UF academic policies. For information on those policies and for resources for students, please see this link: <https://syllabus.ufl.edu/syllabus-policy/uf-syllabus-policy-links/>. This includes DRC information, Gator Evals, In-class recording policies, and academic and wellness resources.

Course Details

Detailed Schedule

Lin 4320 Wiltshire 2025

Week	Days	Reading due for class Required [Optional]	Qz – HW – Tests	Topic(s)
1	8/22 F	Syllabus		Introduction, Overview
2	8/25 M 8/27 W 8/29 F	Hayes Ch 1 [Wayland Ch 1-2] Hayes Ch 2		Phonetics Review & Practice Phonemics Phonemics Analysis practice
3	9/1 M 9/3 W 9/5 F	Holiday Monday Hayes Ch 3 Sapir article	Qz H1-2	Labor Day: No class More on Phonemics/More Practice Psychological Reality of the Phoneme
4	9/8 M 9/10 W 9/12 F	Hayes Ch. 4 Features (70-91) Finish Hayes Ch. 4 (89-102)	HW1 Qz H3-4	Features overview Features and Rule Writing Practice Features/Rules
5	9/15 M 9/17 W 9/19 F	Hayes Ch 5 Hayes Ch 6	HW 2	Morphology Derivations and Neutralizations Practice neutralizations
6	9/22 M 9/24 W 9/26 F	Peng Ch. 6 Hayes Ch 7	Qz H5-6, P6 HW 3	Alternations: Tibetan Practice Alternations Alternations and Ordering
7	9/29 M 10/1 W 10/3 F	Peng Ch. 8	Qz H7-P8	Yawelmani Practice Ordering Review for test 1
8	10/6 M 10/8 W 10/10 F	Peng Ch. 9 & 10	Test 1	Test 1 Syllable: General Syllable: Ponapean
9	10/13 M 10/15 W 10/17 F	Archangeli article on OT Peng Ch. 11 & 12 Holiday Friday		Optimality Theory (OT) & practice Syllable Alternations Homecoming: No Class
10	10/20 M 10/22 W 10/24 F	Peng Ch. 13 & 14	HW 4 Qz P9-12	Syllable: Diola Fogany Practice Syllable & OT Autosegmental Phonology: Tone
11	10/27 M 10/29 W 10/31 F	Peng Ch. 17 & 18	HW 5 Pres Choice	Autosegmental Phonology (General) Practice Tone/Autosegmental Stress
12	11/3 M 11/5 W 11/7 F	Peng Ch. 21	Qz P13-18 HW 6	Continue & Practice Stress Reduplication Practice Reduplication
13	11/10 M 11/12 W 11/14 F		Test 2	Review for test #2 Test 2 In-class prep time for Team Pres
14	11/17 M 11/19 W 11/21 F		Comp Practice (due 12/1)	Team Presentations Team Presentations Team Presentations
	11/24 M to 11/28 F	Holiday Week	Eat, Sleep, Relax	Thanksgiving break: No Class
15	12/1 M 12/3 W			Comprehensive Exams, Practice Overview & Review, Distribute Final
	12/10 Wed	Take-home final due 3:00pm		By canvas or email wiltshir@ufl.edu