

University of Florida at Gainesville
Department of Linguistics
4131 Turlington Hall
LIN 6932: Special Topics:
Sociophonetics

T 5-6th period (11:45-1:40)
R 6th period (12:50-1:40)

MAT 0108 (Matherly Hall)
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Professor: Ratree Wayland

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Turlington 4131E

Phone: (352) 294-7450

Office Hours: TR (1:55-2:45 PM), and by appointment (please email to schedule)

Course materials on Canvas: <http://elearning.ufl.edu> log in and find LIN 4930

Technical Issues? Contact the UF Computing Help Desk: helpdesk@ufl.edu or call (352) 392-4357.

Overview:

This course will examine the social aspects of phonetic variation, focusing particularly on the relationship between method and theory. Students will be introduced to the field through a survey of contemporary research from variationist sociolinguistics, linguistic anthropology, experimental phonetics and laboratory phonology. Basic methods for studying the production of different types of phonetic variables including vowels, consonants, tones, voice quality/phonation, and prosody, etc. will be introduced to give students the foundational tools for conducting sociophonetic work. How both sounds and speakers are perceived, and the implications of both inter- and intraspeaker sociophonetic variation for theories of sociolinguistics and phonetics/phonology will also be discussed.

Students will be assessed by 3 essays (no longer than 2,000 words each) summarizing and critically evaluating research articles, 1 in-class presentation of an article of choice and a research project proposal of the students' design at the end of the semester.

Prerequisite: LIN 3010

Objectives: By the end of this course, students should:

- Be able to examine phonetic variation/change using techniques and theories from sociolinguistics, linguistic anthropology, experimental phonetics and laboratory phonology.
- Be able to apply acoustic analysis techniques to investigate phonetic variation/change.
- Be able to design a research project on phonetic variation/change suitable for a senior thesis (for under graduate students) or academic conference (for graduate students).

Assessment

	% of course grade
Homework Essays (3)	60%
In-class presentation (1)	10%
Final research design paper	30%

Grading Scale

93–100% = A	90-92.9% = A-	87-89.9% = B+
83-86.9% = B	80.0-82.9% = B-	77-79.9% = C+
73-76.9% = C	70.0-72.9% = C-	67-69.9% = D+
63-66.9% = D	60.0-62.9% = 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: 10% penalty per day up to 3 days 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.

Textbooks (Recommended)

Thomas, Erik. Sociophonetics: an introduction. Macmillan International Higher Education, 2010.
Wayland, Ratee. Phonetics: A Practical Introduction

Course Outline

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

Week	Date	Topic	Reading Assignments	HWs & Exams
1	1/10/2023	Introduction to the course Review of phonetics: Understanding sounds	Thomas Ch. 1, 2 Wayland Ch. 6	
2	1/17/2023	Acoustic of vowels Vowel normalization	Thomas Ch. 2 Wayland Ch.7 (pp. 218-222) Clopper 2009 Adank et al 2004	
3	1/24/2023	Vowel variation	Labov 1963 Blake and Josey 2003 Clopper et al 2005	
4	1/31/2023	Acoustics of consonants	Thomas Ch. 4 Wayland Ch. 8	1 st essay
5	2/7/2023	Consonant variation	Thomas 2016 D'Onofrio & Stecker 2020 Munson and Babel 2019	

6	2/14/2023		Jacewiz et al. 2009 Diaz-Campos 2008 Pearce 2019	
7	2/21/2023	Acoustics of voice quality	Thomas Ch. 7 Wayland, Ch. 2 Keating et al 2015	
8	2/28/2023	Voice quality variation	Dallaston and Docherty 2019 Anderson et al 2014 Xu and Lee 2018	
9	3/7/2023	Acoustic of Prosody	Thomas Ch. 6 Wayland Ch. 3	2 nd essay
10	3/14/2023	SPRING BREAK!	NO CLASS!	
11.	3/21/2023	Prosody variation	Shousterman 2014 Henriksen 2003	
12.	3/28/2023	Variation acquisition/perception	Nytc 2015 Docherty et al 2013 Chappell and Kanwit 2021 Thomas 2002 Drager 2010 Levon 2007	
13.	4/4/2023	Student presentation		3 rd essay
14.	4/11/2023	Student Presentation		
15.	4/18/2023	Student Presentation		
16.	4/25/2023	Student Presentation		Final paper 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>.

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/public-results/>

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.