

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

Tuesday 4th period (10:40-11:30)
Thursday 4-5th periods (10:40-12:35)

MAT 0119

Professor: Ratree Wayland

E-mail: ratree@ufl.edu

Office Hours: TR 6th (12:50-1:40)

and by appointment (please email me to arrange)

Turlington 4131E

Phone: (352) 294-7450

Teaching Assistant: Rylen Garlitz

E-mail: rylengarlitz@ufl.edu

Office Hours: TBA

Course materials on Canvas: <http://elearning.ufl.edu> log in and find Lin3201

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

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

Materials and Supply Fees

None besides the cost of the textbook

Assessment	Points	% of course grade
Perception Exercises	100	10%
Drill sessions	100	10%
Homework (5)	300	30%
Quizzes (5)	200	20%
Fieldwork Project (1)	200	20%

Production Quiz (1)	50	5%
Perception Quiz (1)	50	5%

Grading:	930-1000 = A	900-929 = A-	870-899 = B+	830-869 = B
	800-829 = B-	770-799 = C+	730-769 = C	700-729 = C-
	670-699 = D+	630-669 = D	600-629 = D-	Below 599 = E

This course complies with all UF academic policies. For information on those policies and for resources for students, please see <https://syllabus.ufl.edu/syllabus-policy/uf-syllabus-policy-links/>.

Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, and Make-Up Policy

Attendance is required and participation in class activities are expected. Excessive absences (2 or more weeks of classes in total) may result in course withdrawal recommendation. If you are unable to attend a lecture, please let us know as soon as possible to arrange for any missed assignments.

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 generally submitted online via Canvas by midnight on the due date. Ten points will be subtracted per day for everyday that the homework is late up to three days. Homework handed in on the fourth day after the due date (or later) will be given a grade of 0. It is the student's responsibility to get notes, handouts, and any other information from any missed classes. Make-up tests/quizzes are possible only if you provide documentation of illness or if you have received advance approval to take a make-up test/quiz.

AI Policy: If you use AI (e.g., Chat-GPT) to assist with your paper, include it in the references. Remember that these systems are notorious for inventing 'facts' and 'references,' so diligently fact-check whatever you utilize. Ultimately, you are responsible and accountable for the accuracy, relevance, and scholarly quality of the content in your papers.

Details of Assessments

- **Perception Exercise Homework (10%):** Due on **Tuesdays**. 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.
- **Drill Sessions (10%):** Rylen 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) in Turlington Hall. Drill sessions start week 3 (**Sept 1st**) and end on week 12 (**Nov 10th**). You are required to 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.

- **Homework (5 x 6% = 30%):** Five homework assignments are due on **Tuesdays**, and each will be worth 6% 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 (4 x 5% = 20%):** Quizzes take place in class on **Thursdays**, 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 that 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 **12/10**.
- **Production Quiz (5%):** Administered during the 12th week (**November 5th**); Rylen will meet with each of you for 5 minutes and ask you to produce various sounds by reading from the IPA transcription.
- **Perception Quiz (5%):** Due on **November 16th**. This will be done online via Canvas. You will have 50 minutes to complete it.

Reading

Required:

Ratree Wayland. (2018). *Phonetics: A Practical Introduction*. Cambridge University Press (WAY).

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 due	HW due & Quiz
1	Aug 21	Syllabus	Introduction Anatomy		
2	Aug 26	WAY Ch 1: pp.1:9 (CAT Ch1)	Airstream		
	Aug 28	WAY Ch2: pp. 35:40 (CAT Ch2)	Airstream		
3	Sept 2	WAY Ch2: pp. 40-45 (CAT Ch3)	Phonation/ voicing	Airstream	Drill sessions start
	Sept 4		Phonation/voicing		

4	Sept 9	WAY Ch1: pp.9-13 (CAT Ch4)	Place/Manner	Phonation	HW1
	Sept 11		Manner		
5	Sept 16	WAYCh1: pp. 22-25 (CAT Ch6)	Coarticulation	Place and manner	
	Sept 18		Coarticulation		Quiz 1
6	Sept 23	WAY Ch1: pp.25-31 (CAT Ch7)	Vowels		HW2
	Sept 25				
7.	Sept 30	WAYCh6: pp.115-132 WAY Ch8: pp.169-174	Acoustics (consonants)		HW3
	Oct 2	WAY Ch8: pp.178-192	Acoustics (vowels)		Quiz 2
8.	Oct 7	WAY Ch3 (CAT Ch6)	Prosodies	Vowels	
	Oct 9				Quiz3
9.	Oct 14	(CAT Ch7)	Prosodies		HW4
	Oct 16			Home coming?	
10.	Oct 21	WAY Ch5	Phonemics	Prosodies	
	Oct 23	(CAT Ch8)			Quiz 4
11.	Oct 28	Handout	Phonemics	CV combinations	HW 5
	Oct 30				
12.	Nov 4	Handout	Field Methods	Production test	
	Nov 6				Quiz 5
13.	Nov 11		Field Methods		
	Nov 13			Perception test	
14.	Nov 18	Handouts	Fieldwork		

	Nov 20				
15.	Nov 25			THANKSGIVING BREAK	
	Nov 27			THANKSGIVING BREAK	
16.	Dec 2		Fieldwork	Review	