

Linguistics 101

Phonology 1

Wendell Kimper, Spring 2012

Syllabus

1 Contact

Email: wkimper@ucsc.edu

Office Hours: W 1:00–3:00pm

Office Location: Stevenson 236

| |
|---|
| Note: Please do not wear heavy scents (perfume, cologne, etc) to class or to my office hours, as I am allergic. |
|---|

Course Website

This course will have an eCommons site, where you can download readings and assignments and track your grades. You should check this frequently for announcements; any changes to the course schedule will be posted there.

TAs

Nick Deschenes

Email: ndeschen@ucsc.edu

Office hours: Tuesday 12-1pm in the Stevenson Cafe

Jeremy O'Brien

Email: jpobrien@ucsc.edu

Office hours: Thursday 1-2pm in Stevenson 269

Bern Samko

Email: bsamko@ucsc.edu

Office Hours: Thursday 11am-12pm in Stevenson 269

2 Course Requirements

There is no required textbook for this course; all course materials will be made available on the eCommons site.

Your grade for this course will be based on regular homework assignments, participation in discussion sections, a midterm exam, and a final exam. In addition, you must participate in an experimental study in one of the department's labs.

Homework Assignments

There will be 7 homework assignments. These will consist primarily of problem sets; you will be given further instructions for writing up your solutions to these problem sets.

Exams

There will be midterm and final exams. The format of these exams will be similar to that of the homework assignments — problem sets — but will also include some additional types of questions to test the factual knowledge based aspects of the course content.

Participation

This is a large lecture course; I understand that participating in such a format can be difficult. Still, this is a course based on solving puzzles, and as such will work best if you are actively engaged with the material and willing to reason through problems together and speak up in lecture.

Participation in discussion sections is absolutely crucial to mastering the material, and will constitute part of your grade. If speaking up in section is especially difficult for you, you can also fulfill your participation requirement by speaking with your TA one-on-one (in office hours or via email) about the content of the course.

Experimental Credit

Some of the research done in the Linguistics Department is experimental; one goal of the Linguistics and Language Studies majors is to expose students to how this kind of research is done. One of the best ways to do this is to participate in an experiment — and we need your help to generate experimental data!

For Phonology 1, you earn your experimental credit by committing to at least one hour as

a participant in an experiment in one of the Linguistics Department's labs. You can earn extra credit points for up to one additional hour of participation. All of our experiments are approved by the University: they're safe and painless, and some of them might even be fun. However, if you object to experimental participation, other provisions may be made — you should contact me as soon as possible if this is the case.

To participate in an experiment, please go to <http://ucsc-ling.sona-systems.com>. If you haven't used this system before, you will need to request an account, which should be approved within 48 hours. Once you log in you can see the experiments that are available for credit. Find one with a timeslot that works for you and sign up — *please arrive at least 5 minutes early for the experiment, as some involve multiple participants at once and they will need to start without you if you are late.*

Grading

Assignments will be graded on a standard 100-point scale, and percentage grades convert to letter grades in the usual way.

Your final grade will be a weighted average of homework assignments, participation, and exams, in the following proportions:

Homework: 45%
Participation: 15%
Midterm: 20 %
Final: 20%

3 Course Policies

Attendance

Attendance in lecture extremely important, since there is no textbook and all content will be delivered in class. Simply put, if you don't come to class, it is extremely unlikely that you could pass. If you have to miss class for some reason, please make arrangements to get notes from someone else in the class; it's your responsibility to get caught up (though we are of course here to answer any questions you might subsequently have).

Collaboration

You are encouraged to collaborate on homework assignments, and to form study groups to talk over the problem sets. This is how the best phonological problem-solving has been

accomplished in the field! But you must each write up your own assignments, in your own words.

Collaboration is not permitted on exams. A word of warning: relying too heavily on collaborators in completing the homework will leave you ill-prepared for going it alone on the exams.

Late Assignments

Late assignments will **not** be accepted. You have one no-questions-asked pass on this policy. To use it, you must email your TA *before* the deadline, and turn in the assignment by the following class meeting.

Extenuating Circumstances

If unforeseen circumstances like illness, injury, or family emergencies interfere with your performance in this course, please contact either me or your TA as soon as possible so that we can work something out.

Accommodations for Disabilities

Please let me know within the first week of class if you are registered with the Disability Resource Center and have any physical impairments or learning needs that I should be aware of in order to assist you in meeting the requirements of this class. Students who feel that they might benefit from services offered by this office but have not yet been assessed should contact them as soon as possible (drc@ucsc.edu, 146 Hahn Student Services).

4 Schedule

| Week Of | MONDAY | WEDNESDAY | FRIDAY |
|----------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| April 2 | Describing Speech Sounds | Describing Speech Sounds | Contrast |
| April 9 | Phonemic analysis | Phonemic Analysis | Phonotactics HW1 Due |
| April 16 | Natural classes | Inventories | Repairs HW2 Due |
| April 23 | Alternations | Alternations | Alternations HW3 Due |
| April 30 | Neutralization | Productivity/Generalization | MIDTERM |
| May 7 | Rule Ordering | Rule Ordering | Non-Locality HW4 Due |
| May 14 | Autosegments | Autosegments | Syllables HW5 Due |
| May 21 | Syllables | Stress | Stress HW6 Due |
| May 28 | <i>no class</i> | Prosodic Morphology | Prosodic Morphology HW 7 Due |
| June 4 | Conspiracies | Optimality Theory | Optimality Theory |
| June 11 | <i>no class</i> | <i>no class</i> Exam Week | <i>no class</i> |