

Linguistics 102

Phonology 2

Wendell Kimper, Fall 2011

Syllabus

1 Contact

Email: wkimper@ucsc.edu

Office Hours: M 1:00–3:00pm

Office Location: Stevenson 271

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

Teaching Assistants

Teaching Assistant: Kendra Buchanan

Email: knbuchan@ucsc.edu

Office Hours: Th 11:15am–12:15pm, Stevenson 269

Course Assistant: Saskia Salm

Email: ssalm@ucsc.edu

Office Hours: M 11:00am–12:00pm, Stevenson Cafe

Tutor: Julie Winkler

Email: jgwinkle@ucsc.edu

Office Hours: M 4:00–5:00pm, Stevenson Cafe

Course Website

This course has 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.

2 Course Goals

Phonology 1 provided a general overview of phonology, including a survey of autosegmental phonology, syllables, and stress theory. This course treats these areas in greater depth, and

also provides a basic foundation in Optimality Theory, which is the predominant theoretical architecture in current use by phonologists.

The goal is for you to become conversant in the fundamentals of current phonological theory, and to gain experience and skill expressing and analyzing phonological generalizations. Readings will be drawn primarily from published articles rather than textbooks (though a few excerpts from those will come in handy). I've made an effort to choose papers that are fairly clear and readable in addition to being influential.

The course will be divided approximately into two themes. The first is *Representations*, which will cover various aspects of phonological features, autosegmental processes, and metrical theory. The second is *Grammar*, which will introduce Optimality Theory and cover analyses of a variety of phenomena that are of particular theoretical interest.

3 Course Requirements

There is no required textbook for this course; scanned copies of the readings will be made available on the eCommons site. It is, however, strongly recommended that you obtain *Doing Optimality Theory* (John McCarthy, Blackwell Press, 2008).

Your grade for this course will be based on short responses to assigned readings, regular homework assignments, and a final paper.

Readings

The readings for this course are drawn primarily from published articles; you'll be assigned approximately one per week (listed on the schedule on the day they're due), and I'll ask you to write a brief response to each. These should be typed, and will be collected at the end of class, but should also be used to guide your participation in class discussions. Full credit will be given to responses that demonstrate that you've read and engaged with the material. Some of these papers will be difficult, and it's okay if your response has more questions than answers.

Homework Assignments

There will be 6 homework assignments, consisting primarily of problem sets with data for you to analyze. These should be fairly straightforward; you'll get instructions on how they should be written up.

Final Paper

There will be a final paper, due at the end of the quarter. Choice of topics will be fairly open, so keep an eye out for things that particularly interest you (approximate scope: 10ish double-spaced pages). More on this later.

Participation

This course really works best if you speak up and participate in class and in section. The hour and 45 minutes will go by painfully slowly for everyone if I just talk at you the whole time, so I'm relying on you to ask questions, respond to questions, and generally stay involved in the discussion.

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, reading responses, and your final paper, in the following proportions:

Homework: 50%

Readings: 20%

Final paper: 30%

4 Course Policies

Attendance

Attendance in lecture and in discussion sections is mandatory, and not coming to class is the quickest route to failure. If you have to miss class for some reason, it's your responsibility to get notes from one of your classmates and catch up as soon as possible; please don't ask me or your TA to re-hash what we went over in class.

Collaboration

You are encouraged to collaborate on homework assignments, but you must each write up your own assignment separately, and you must clearly indicate who you worked with.

If you want to collaborate on your final paper, you should see me ahead of time. Multiple-author papers are increasingly common in the published literature in phonology, and collaborative endeavors often provide an opportunity to tackle a more ambitious project than individual researchers would otherwise take on. A collaborative final project will need to be appropriately ambitious in scope, and the topic should be one suited to a joint effort with equal contribution from both authors.

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.

Extra Credit

You are encouraged to participate in one of the experiments being run in the linguistics department's labs. If you do so, your lowest homework grade will be dropped (note: this only counts for assignments that were turned in and graded, not missing assignments).

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 then sign up. Please arrive at least 5 minutes early for the experiment.

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).

5 Schedule

Week Of	TUESDAY	THURSDAY
Sept. 19	<i>no class</i>	Features, Markedness & Predictability
Sept. 26	Underspecification Itô & Mester 1989	Motivating Autosegmentalism HW1 Due
Oct. 3	Vowel Harmony, Part I	Vowel Harmony, Part II Kiparsky 1981
Oct. 10	Syllables: Overview HW 2 Due	Stress: Overview McCarthy 1982
Oct. 17	Introduction to OT, Part I McCarthy 2008, Ch. 1	Introduction to OT, Part II HW3 Due
Oct. 24	The Syllable in OT, Part I	The Syllable in OT, Part II Prince & Smolensky 1993
Oct. 31	Stress in OT, Part I HW 4 Due	Stress in OT, Part II Kager 1999, Ch. 4
Nov. 7	Reduplication, Part I HW 5 Due	Reduplication in OT, Part II McCarthy & Prince 1999 Paper Proposal Due
Nov. 14	Positional Asymmetries Beckman 1998 HW6 Due	Underspecification Revisited Itô et al. 1995
Nov. 21	*NC & Factorial Typology Pater 1996	<i>no class</i>
Nov. 28	Variation Anttilla 2007	Topic TBD
Dec. 5th	<i>no class</i>	<i>no class</i> Final Paper Due