Linguistics 9621B 001

Advanced Phonological Analysis
2022-2023

Delivery mode:	In-person instruction (with some asynchronous activities on OWL)[1]
	Thursdays 9:30 – 12:30
	University College 2120
Instructor:	Dr. Jeff Tennant
	jtennant@uwo.ca
Office Hours:	Dates and times posted on the OWL site "Overview" page
	Unless announced otherwise on the OWL site, office hours are in hybrid format (OWL and in University College 3126)
	You may also schedule an appointment with the instructor outside of these hours

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is an advanced phonology course for fourth-year undergraduates and graduate students in linguistics. The course addresses the interface between phonetics and phonology by focusing on the study of aspects of sound structure using recorded speech. While some aspects of segmental phonology will be examined (e.g., formant measurements for analyzing vowel systems, voice onset time (VOT) for analyzing consonant inventories), a prominent place will be given to prosodic phonology, particularly rhythm and intonation patterns. In addition to a variety of learning activities, students will complete a number of steps in a research project: literature review, abstract, presentation, and final paper.

2. GENERAL LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course, students should be able, at a Master's degree level of achievement, to:

- Describe, explain, and apply advanced concepts in segmental and prosodic phonology
- Describe and explain historical developments in phonology and their relevance to understanding of current advances in the field
- Read, synthesize, evaluate and critique research publications in phonology
- Describe, explain, and evaluate research methodologies for the study of speech and language sounds, with an emphasis on tools and techniques for the quantitative analysis of phonological variation in recorded speech
- Evaluate and critique theoretical approaches to the study of sound patterns in language, acknowledging limits of knowledge in the field
- Apply theoretical concepts and research methodologies to the analysis of phonological data
- Communicate information, arguments, analyses, ideas and issues accurately and reliably, orally and in writing

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[1] In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, affected course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will **not** change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

3. EVALUATED ASSIGNMENTS

Task descriptions and assessment criteria are posted on the course OWL site:
- Article summary and commentary: 10%
  - due January 26
- Annotated bibliography: 20%
  - due March 2
- Abstract: 10%
  - can be done individually or in a group of two or three (same mark for all in group)
  - due March 16
- Presentation: 20%
  - can be done individually or in a group of two or three (same mark for all in group)
  - In "mini-conference" format in class March 30
- Final paper: 30%
  - can be done individually or in a group of two or three (same mark for all in group)
  - due April 30
- Participation (activities on OWL site and in class): 10%

4. WEEKLY SCHEDULE AND COURSE MATERIAL

Weekly schedule of topics and readings:
Posted and updated on the course OWL site.

Readings and course material:
There is no textbook to purchase for this course. Material will be made available on the OWL site.

5. DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION OF ASSIGNMENTS

Submission Deadlines:
All work in graduate courses must be submitted by the deadline set by the instructor. "Incompletes" will not be permitted without medical documentation. In order to continue to receive financial support from the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, each student must demonstrate satisfactory progression in their program. Regulations are available upon request from Mirela Parau in the Department of French Studies.

Penalty for Work Submitted Late: A penalty of 2% per working day will apply to work submitted late without appropriate grounds for accommodation. For accommodation for work totaling 10% or more of the final course grade, you must provide valid medical or supporting documentation to the Academic Counselling Office of your Faculty of Registration as soon as possible.

6. DOCUMENT FORMATS

Format for Submission of Written Assignments:
The preferred means for submission of written work in the course is as a word processing file (Microsoft Word) sent to the instructor via the OWL site on the Assignments page. This saves paper resources and facilitates the provision of timely and detailed feedback.

Bibliographic Style:
Use of bibliographic sources is essential for research at the graduate level, and there are certain conventions for referring to the literature that it is important to follow. Style guidelines vary in terms of the format of citations in the text of a paper, the use of footnotes and endnotes, and the format of bibliographical references at the end of the paper. They also set specific guidelines for the format of subheadings, examples, tables and graphic illustrations, among other elements. **The prescribed style guidelines for this course are those of the *Canadian Journal of Linguistics***, which can be found on the course OWL site. You are advised to adhere to this style sheet as consistently as possible. You should focus on the minute details of style at the right stage in the drafting of your work, without losing sleep over them; fine-tuning of bibliographic style is for final editing but should not be neglected. While you will not be severely penalized for falling short of perfection on such points of detail, it is expected that your work will demonstrate due attention to them. Appropriately acknowledging all sources is of course a requirement, and failure to do so can constitute plagiarism.

7. ACCOMMODATION AND ACCESSIBILITY

Religious Accommodation
When a course requirement conflicts with a religious holiday that requires an absence from the University or prohibits certain activities, students should request accommodation for their absence in writing at least two weeks prior to the holiday to the course instructor and/or the Academic Counselling office of their Faculty of Registration. Please consult University's list of recognized religious holidays (updated annually) at
https://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo.

Accommodation Policies
Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact Accessible Education, which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities can be found at:
https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic
Accommodation_disabilities.pdf.

8. ACADEMIC POLICIES

Academic Offences: Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: Scholastic discipline

Correspondence: The centrally administered **e-mail account** provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at their official university address is attended to in a timely manner. You can read about the privacy and security of the UWO email accounts here.

Turnitin and other similarity review software: Assignments may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. Papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between Western University and Turnitin.com.

Copyright and Audio/Video Recording: Course material produced by faculty is copyrighted and to reproduce this material for any purposes other than your own educational use contravenes Canadian Copyright Laws. You must always ask permission to record another individual and you should never share or distribute recordings.

9. SUPPORT SERVICES

Mental Health Support
Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (https://uwo.ca/health/) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Gender-based and sexual violence
Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html.
To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.

Accessible Education
Please contact the course instructor if you require lecture or printed material in an alternate format or if any other arrangements can make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Accessible Education at
http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/index.html
if you have any questions regarding accommodations.

Learning Development and Success
Counsellors at the Learning Development and Success Centre https://learning.uwo.ca) are ready to help you improve your learning skills. They offer presentations on strategies for improving time management, multiple-choice exam preparation/writing, textbook reading, and more. Individual support is offered throughout the Fall/Winter terms in the drop-in Learning Help Centre, and year-round through individual counselling.

Digital Student Experience
Western University is committed to a thriving campus as we deliver our courses in the mixed model of both virtual and face-to-face formats. We encourage you to check out the Digital Student Experience website to manage your academics and well-being: https://www.uwo.ca/se/digital/.

Society of Graduate Students (SOGS)
SOGS offers support services for graduate students: https://sogs.ca

10. RESEARCH ETHICS

For your Research Paper, you may wish to do an empirical study of data you gather from human subjects. If you choose such a topic for your Research Paper, you must obtain ethics approval from the instructor before beginning your work with human subjects. The instructor will post information about the approval process on the course OWL site.

Information on Western's policy governing ethical research involving humans can be found on the Office of Research Ethics website: http://www.uwo.ca/research/ethics/

Before undertaking research involving human subjects, please read the instructions below, and complete the tutorial at the following URL: http://tcps2core.ca/welcome

Instructions to Student Researchers Whose Research Papers Involve Use of Human Subjects

The following instructions are a supplement to the description of the Research Paper found in the syllabus. They apply to all assignments done for the course involving work with human subjects.

a) The purpose of the exercise is to carry out research in the field of sociolinguistics by means of interviews and/or a questionnaire used to gather data on participants' language use patterns or perception of language forms.
b) Once potential participants have been given the Letter of Information and had all their questions answered to their satisfaction, you ask them to sign the Consent Form if they consent to participate. You must prepare the Letter of Information and Consent Form using the models provided on the REB website (copies are posted on the course OWL site in the Ethics folder under Resources). These must be submitted to the instructor for advance approval, and **you must not begin participant recruitment or data collection until after this approval has been obtained**.
c) Participants can be recruited from among your friends, family, classmates, roommates, acquaintances, or people you do not know. Please note criterion 3 in the Guidelines, which states that participants must be adults and must be "capable of free and informed consent." Be sure to read the Guidelines thoroughly. You invite people to participate by explaining the purpose of the exercise and providing a copy of the Letter of Information (see section c) below for more information about this Letter). Please remember that "snowball" recruitment (i.e., obtaining participants contact information of other potential participants) is not permitted unless it is "mediated", i.e., potential participants are given the researcher's contact info and have the option to contact them or not, but the researcher doesn't receive their contact info.
d) Since this project will likely involve only one session with each participant, it is not anticipated that a participant will withdraw part way through. If a participant does withdraw, assume that you cannot use any data gathered from the participant, and consult the instructor for advice. You may encounter participants who don't want to finish their interviews (for whatever reason). They should be given the option of asking for their recording to be erased, or for the recorded interview up until that point to be used.
e) There is no formal requirement for debriefing (informing participants of the results of the research). If you do decide to do so, be sure to submit the proposed summary of the results to the instructor for approval before giving it to participants.
f) You must take care to maintain data confidentiality. You must not identify participants by name in your paper or anywhere else; rather, use pseudonyms to protect anonymity and confidentiality

when reporting on the results of your study. Any data you have allowing participants to be identified should be encrypted and destroyed when it is no longer needed.

g) Please note the following important note in the Guidelines regarding risk: "The research projects must be no more than **minimal risk**. The standard of minimal risk is defined as follows: *If potential participants can reasonably be expected to regard the probability and magnitude of possible harms implied by the participation in the research to be no greater than those encountered by the subject in his or her everyday life that relate to the research then the research can be regarded as within the range of minimal risk.*"

h) **Work with participants must be compliant with Research Western Precautionary Measures for Research in the context of COVID-19:**
https://www.uwo.ca/research/covid19_updates.html