

LIGN 111: Phonology (Winter 2014)

TuTh 12:30 - 1:50pm
CSB 002
Section ID # 792792

Course website: <http://thiscourse.com/ucsd/lign111/wi14/>

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Recent Announcements

Evaluation update. All 3 TAs now have more than 30 evaluations (though more are always welcome!), and we're handily beating all other LIGN classes according to CAPE. But we're only at 92%, so keep those coming as well! We can make it to 100%! (Thu Mar 13, 8:28 a.m.)

Additional office hours. Kati has graciously offered to hold an additional office hour on *Friday, March 14, 2-3pm in AP&M 3331A*. Because she's nice. I also have my own office hour right after class today (*Thursday, March 13, also 2-3pm, in AP&M 4151*). (Thu Mar 13, 8:26 a.m.)

Instructors

Amanda Ritchart (Head TA)
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Office Hours: Tu 11-12 in AP&M 4432
Section: Mo 11-12 in AP&M; 4432

Kati Hout (TA)
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Office Hours: Mo 1-2 in AP&M 3351A

Eric Meinhardt (TA)
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Office Hours: We 11-12 in AP&M 3351E

Eric Bakovic (Professor)
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Office Hours: TuTh 2-3 in AP&M 4151

Course Description

From the [course catalog](#):

Why does one language sound different from another? This course analyzes how languages organize sounds into different patterns, how those sounds interact, and how they fit into larger units, such as syllables. Focus on a wide variety of languages and problem-solving.

Phonology is the study of the sound patterns of human languages. We will learn ways to identify and describe these sound patterns using a variety of analytical techniques and devices.

Overall course objectives

- To learn about the ways in which sound patterns are alike and the ways in which they differ.
- To acquire various analytical tools specific to the study of sound patterns.
- To use these tools to identify and describe sound patterns.

The primary vehicle for accomplishing these objectives will be the *phonology problem set* -- a semi-organized collection of phonological data, often from an unfamiliar language, transcribed with phonetic symbols, providing evidence for some kind of phonological pattern or patterns. These problem sets are designed to both train and test you on the concepts and tools that are the main subject matter of the course, and will often also require that you propose some new concepts or tools of your own to solve them. We will work on problem sets in class and for homework.

Course Details and Policies

Resources

- There is no textbook or other regular reading for this course; just the material on [this website](#). All handouts, assignments,

updates, announcements, lecture notes, links, and any other materials will be made available here.

- If you are able to attend Amanda's section (Mo 11-12), you should. You should also take advantage of the four separate office hours that we offer throughout the week (Kati: Mo 1:30-2:30, Amanda: Tu 11-12, Eric M.: We 11-12, Eric B.: Th 2-3).
- The day-to-day schedule will be regularly updated **below**, with links (when applicable) to class handouts/notes, problem sets, and assignments. Assignments will also be submitted via UCSD ACMS FileDrop links provided on the assignment sheets. You will probably find it useful to **subscribe** to the schedule to receive updates.
- A general **discussion board** is enabled for questions about and/or discussion of course material. Please use this discussion board to ask questions or participate in discussions about course material that is relevant to anyone else in the course.
- You are welcome to contact the instructors directly over email if there is something you need to ask about or discuss that is not relevant to others in the course (e.g., a question about a grade, notifying us that you will be late or absent, etc.). In such a case, please address the email to the professor and copy all of the TAs in the Cc: line; failure to do this will result in delays in having your email answered.
- Sometimes there is an exchange over email between a student and an instructor that ends up being relevant to others in the class. We will sometimes choose to rebroadcast the relevant bits of these exchanges on the discussion board, suitably edited and without revealing the student's identity. (If you would prefer that a particular exchange be kept completely private, you should let us know this in advance.)

Requirements

- **Attendance (5%).** Attendance will be recorded every class period. Given 20 class periods, an absence is worth 0.25% of your course grade. (Unexcused late arrivals or early departures are each worth 0.1%.)
- **Participation (10%).** Most class periods will be spent working on problem sets, often in small groups. In most cases, each group's solution will be recorded and submitted to an instructor before general discussion of the problem set begins. We will also keep track of each individual's participation in the general discussions.
- **Problem set assignments (6@10% each, 60% total).** Six problem sets will be assigned for homework throughout the quarter, to be written up as formal analytical solutions. You will be given approximately one week to work on each assignment.
- **Final problem set assignment (20%).** There will be a final problem set at the end of the quarter that will require a fair bit more work to solve. It will be due by the end of our regularly scheduled final exam period (Tu 3/18, 11:30am - 2:30pm), and you will be given approximately two weeks to work on it.
- **Experiment participation (5%).** You are required to earn one credit for participation in an experiment for this class. One credit is equal to approximately one hour of experiment participation. Visit <http://tinyurl.com/ucsd-sona> for details, especially the **Sona Student Guide**. Do not wait until the last week to participate, there may be no more experiments available! The last day to fulfill this requirement is the Wednesday before finals week. Get on it! If you are opposed to experiment participation, you must request an alternative from the instructor or a TA by classtime on Thursday, Feb. 6 at the latest.

Ground rules

- You are welcome to discuss problem set assignments with others in the class, so long as (a) you write up your solution entirely on your own and (b) you specify at the very beginning of the assignment who you discussed the problem set with.
- The materials made available on this website are not substitutes for attending class. Most of it is unlikely to make much sense unless you also attend class regularly.
- As a courtesy to others, no cell phones, pagers, or disruptions of any kind during the class hour! Turn off and put away your noisemakers before coming to class.
- If you have to arrive late or leave early, please do so without disruption.
- Speak up, ask questions, confirm your understanding -- but remember to give others a chance to do the same. Each student deserves an equal share of time and attention in the course. Take advantage, but don't abuse this.
- If you have to miss a class for any reason, don't expect a run-down of the class from us. Find out what happened in class from a classmate, look the material over carefully, and only then come to us with any remaining questions you may have. On the other

hand, if you have something else to do during classtime, don't come to class.

- As a general rule, we will not answer questions about a particular item of course material if more than one week has passed since the material was due or took place. The time to ask about an item (or to contest a grade) is **immediately**.

Non-negotiable policy for late or make-up work

- Late assignments are allowed only if you provide documented proof of an emergency. (Please do not make us ask for this documentation; be prepared.)
- Penalties are assessed **only if** you have provided proof of an emergency. No late assignments are allowed at all otherwise.
- A 1% course grade penalty will be assessed for an assignment handed in within 24 hours after the due date/time, and an additional 1% penalty for every 24-hour period thereafter. No late assignments will be accepted after five 24-hour periods.

Academic integrity

- Any cheating or plagiarism will result in no credit for the assignment in question, and you will be referred to the Office of the Academic Integrity Coordinator for disciplinary action.
- In cases where academic dishonesty is confirmed, you will fail the class; **no exceptions**.
- Cheating and plagiarism are serious issues; you should learn and follow the rules. I feel very strongly about this issue and will handle all cases of academic dishonesty accordingly.
- See <http://academicintegrity.ucsd.edu/>.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Slides/notes, etc.	Problem sets	Assignments
1	Tue Jan 07	Overview of the course	Introductory slides		
	Thu Jan 09	Phonetics review	Amanda's slides		
2	Tue Jan 14	Getting to know you(r names)			
	Thu Jan 16	Natural classes	Natural classes		
3	Tue Jan 21	Complementary distribution	Complementary distribution	Ewe and Ganda	
	Thu Jan 23	Phonemic analysis	Phonemic analysis	Kongo and Tohono O'odham	Japanese
4	Tue Jan 28	More phonemic analysis; features	Feature definitions	Thai	
	Thu Jan 30	More features	Feature charts	Completing problem set assignments	Zoque
5	Tue Feb 04	Even more features		Practice with phonological features and rule writing	Japanese solution
	Thu Feb 06	Further practice with features		Feature practice solutions	Greenlandic Eskimo
6	Tue Feb 11	Rule writing hints & tips		Sierra Popoluca	Zoque solution
	Thu Feb 13	Morphophonological alternations		Russian	Lamba
7	Tue Feb 18	Derivations	Derivations		Greenlandic Eskimo solution
	Thu Feb 20	Alternations and rule ordering	Advice	Polish	Turkish (and Turkish vowel alternations)

8	Tue Feb 25	More alternations and rule ordering		Tagalog	Lamba solution
	Thu Feb 27	Even more rule ordering			Somali
9	Tue Mar 04	Still with the rule ordering?!?	Examples of rule ordering	Indonesian (solution)	Turkish solution
	Thu Mar 06	More complex ordering problems		Yokuts	Final problem set: Japanese
10	Tue Mar 11	More complex ordering problems, continued			Somali solution
	Thu Mar 13				
11	Tue Mar 18	Final exam period (11:30am - 2:30pm)			

Course Links

4 Ways to Create PDF Files (via WikiHow): <http://www.wikihow.com/Create-PDF-Files>

Downloading and using phonetic fonts (via Jen Smith): <http://www.unc.edu/~jlsmith/ipa-fonts.html>

Creating Word documents that include phonetic symbols: <http://faculty.ithaca.edu/landersson/docs/phoneticsymbols.pdf>

Type IPA phonetic symbols: <http://ipa.typeit.org>

Unicode phonetic transcription in Word: <http://www.phon.ucl.ac.uk/home/wells/phoneticsymbols.htm>

Phonetic fonts (via Bruce Hayes): <http://www.linguistics.ucla.edu/people/hayes/Fonts/>

Brackets around features (via Bruce Hayes): <http://www.linguistics.ucla.edu/people/hayes/120a/Brackets.htm>