

Phonology II, Spring 2019

Syllabus

1 Course information

Course #:	16:615:521
Time & place:	Tues & Thurs 1:10pm–2:50pm, 18 Seminary Pl Rm 108
Website:	On Sakai
Instructor:	Adam Jardine (Rm 205A)
E-mail:	adam.jardine@rutgers.edu
Office hours:	Wed 3pm–4pm and by appointment

2 Overview and goals

In this course we will continue to survey empirical and theoretical issues in phonology, while further developing the analytical skills you learned in Phonology I.

Topics:

- Stress and metrical structure
- Lexical phonology
- Process interaction and opacity
- Truncation and reduplication
- Prosody and interactions with syntax
- Agreement-by-Correspondence
- Some current issues (not exhaustive):
 - Explanation in phonology and the role of ‘substance’
 - Computation and phonology

This overview of different sub-domains in phonology serves several purposes. One is to **develop your empirical knowledge** of the range of phenomena discovered and studied by phonologists. Another is for you to understand and practice the **principles of phonological analysis**. Additionally, through the analysis of a range of phonological phenomena, you will continue to learn how to **evaluate phonological theories**. We will look at theories of phonology couched in a number of frameworks (derivational, optimization-based, parametric, computational). You will continue to learn how to contrast and compare theories based on the predictions they make and their ability to explain phonological phenomena.

Finally, you will continue to develop your **clarity in writing and thought**. You are already excellent writers, but the success of your career as a linguist hinges on your ability to communicate complex ideas as clearly as possible. As such, in this course you will practice exposition and argument through a number of written assignments.

3 Textbook

There is no textbook for this course. Reading material for the course will comprise journal articles and book/dissertation chapters, which will be posted on the course website.

4 Coursework

You will be evaluated based on your attendance and participation, several homework assignments, and a final project, as detailed below.

In terms of a schedule, I will post an (initially tentative) schedule on Sakai. Details will be filled in as the course progresses, and this will serve as our official schedule for the course. If you are wondering about any reading or homework deadlines, **please consult the schedule on Sakai**. If you still have any questions, please contact me sufficiently far in advance that there are no issues regarding the assignment.

4.1 Attendance and participation

Participation in class is a crucial part of the course. You will be expected to come to class prepared to actively discuss any homework or assigned reading. If you absolutely have to miss a class, **please contact me beforehand**. Use of electronic devices during class is strongly discouraged; **use of cellphones during class is prohibited**.

4.2 Homework

Your homework grade will comprise five longform assignments where I ask you to provide a detailed analysis of a phenomenon (or phenomena). These assignments will be graded less on whether or not you get the “correct” answer and more on clarity of exposition and quality of argumentation.

Additionally, I will periodically assign small homework assignments to be checked for completion and count towards your participation grade.

All homework assignments are due at the beginning of class on the assigned due date.

4.3 Final paper

Each student will be expected to write a final paper consisting of a novel analysis of one or more phonological phenomena in a lesser known language variety. **Papers on standard varieties of well-studied languages** (North American English, Mandarin Chinese, Standard Arabic, Tokyo Japanese, etc.) **are not allowed**. Additionally, it is strongly recommended (but not always possible) that the subject of your final paper cannot be a language variety sharing a language family with a language you speak or have previously researched.

The ideal language is one for which one or two grammars are available, and about which at most a few journal articles have been published. (That is, some resources are available, but not so many that it is hard to find 'low-hanging fruit'.) It may be difficult to find resources on such languages, so **start looking for resources early**. There will be some time allocated early in the course to get you started on this search. Also, please also stay in touch with me throughout the semester about your project.

The final paper will give an introduction of the language (area spoken, number of speakers, related languages), overview of its phonology (underlying and surface inventories, major phonological processes), and then focus on a novel, contemporary analysis of a phenomenon or related phenomena in the language. The process of writing the paper will be broken down into the following broad stages. The final product should be around 10-15 pages long.

4.3.1 Proposal

Please submit a document of 250–500 words explaining the language you have chosen for your final paper. Give background information about the language (area[s] spoken, language family, number of speakers), an overview of some potentially interesting phonological phenomena in the language, and a list of resources. Please submit a **hard copy** of your proposal by **March 26**.

4.3.2 Presentation

The last week of the course will be reserved for presentations of your final papers. These will be **20-minute presentations** followed by a 10-minute question and answer period. This is standard for conference talks, and so will also serve as practice for presenting your work.

4.3.3 Final draft

Please turn in a **hard copy** of your final paper by **5 o'clock on May 7th**. The hard copy can either be hand-delivered to me in my office or left in my mailbox.

4.4 Final exam

There is no final exam.

5 Policies

5.1 Grading

Your course grade will be determined as follows:

Attendance and participation:	10%
Homework (5 assignments):	60%
Project proposal:	10%
Final paper:	20%

All assignments are to be turned in as hard copies. Assignments delivered electronically, e.g. via email, will not be accepted. Late homework will be accepted but with a **grade reduction of 20% per day late.**

5.2 Office hours

You are encouraged to stop by during my office hours or any other time that I am around **for short questions**. For longer questions, **please make an appointment**.

5.3 Policies on disabilities and religious observance

This class will be conducted in accordance with all Department and University policy on accomodating students with disabilities or students who must miss class due to religious observances. For more details see

- <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>
- <http://visiting.rutgers.edu/policies/religious-holiday-policy>
- <http://ling.rutgers.edu/undergraduate-mainmenu-139/departement-learning-goals-and-policies>

5.4 Academic integrity

I strongly encourage you to meet amongst yourselves to discuss the course material and work through the homework assignments. However, all students are expected to turn in their own work. This class will be conducted in accordance with University policy on academic integrity. Please refer to <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/>.