

LING 330 Phonetics – Fall 2018

Course Description and Objectives

Description of speech sounds; transcription systems; articulation; acoustics of speech sounds; cross-linguistic diversity and phonetic universals; the role of phonetics in linguistics; prosody and intonation; the role of phonetics in conversation.

Prerequisite(s): LING 201, or permission of the instructor.

Lectures three hours a week.

Specific course objectives:

- Offer the student an opportunity to develop a phonetic analysis through hands-on experience with data
- Becoming familiar with articulatory and acoustic aspects of speech
- Learning to classify and transcribe speech sounds and prosodic patterns used in the world's languages
- Learning to generate and to interpret oscillograms, power spectra, spectrograms, and pitch tracks
- Learning about the phonetic grounding of phonological concepts
- Learning about the role of phonetics in interactive language use

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Office Hours: Wednesdays from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm in room 117 (1085 Dr. Penfield)

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Rooms and Times

Lectures:

001 Monday, Wednesday (Friday): 12:35-1:25, RPHYS 114

Conferences:

002 Fridays, 12:35-1:25, RPHYS 114

003 Fridays, 11:35-12:25, LEA 15

Course Materials

Main textbook (required; available from the Campus Bookstore):

- Ladefoged, P. & K. Johnson (2015) A Course in Phonetics (7th edition). Wadsworth.

Audio files, interactive quizzes and other supplementary materials can be accessed via the textbook companion website: <http://www.cengagebrain.com>, and at <https://corpus.linguistics.berkeley.edu/acip/>.

Other course materials (course syllabus, lecture notes, assignments, additional readings, etc.) will be posted on MyCourses. In the case of the slides presented in class, the slides will only be posted after the corresponding lecture.

Course Schedule, Contents and Readings (subject to change)

Week	Topic	Associated Chapter
1	Introduction	N/A
1-2	Articulation and Acoustics	1
3	Phonology and Phonetic Transcription	2
4	English Consonants	3
5-6	English Vowels	4
6-7	English Words and Sentences	5 ¹
8	Airstream Mechanisms	6
9	Consonantal Gestures	7
10	Acoustic Phonetics	8
11	Vowels and Vowel-Like Articulations	9
12	Suprasegmentals	10
13	Linguistic Phonetics	11
14	Phonetics in Conversation	N/A

Note that, as a result of the election, there will be no class on Monday, October 1st.

Evaluation

The final course grade will be based on the following three components:

- 20% Homework assignments (10% each)
- 30% Labs (10% each)
- 50% Final exam

¹ The Intonation section will largely be discussed as part of week 12, rather than weeks 6-7.

Course Rules and Procedures

Conferences

Starting in week 3 (September 21st), Friday sessions will be held as conferences run by our TA. To determine which conference you will attend, you must sign up on Minerva. Sign up will be available after the first class. Once you have signed up for one section, you cannot switch to another. An effort will be made to divide the students evenly between sections. This means that once a section has a certain number of students, no more students will be accepted into that section.

Attendance

You are responsible for the material covered in conferences just as you are responsible for the material covered in lectures. If for some reason you cannot attend a conference or lecture, you should make sure that you get the relevant notes from a classmate. Lecture slides will be posted on MyCourses, but additional information is given verbally during the lecture.

Office hours and appointments

TA office hours will be held every week starting the third week of the course. Outside of office hours, students are encouraged to send content-related questions by e-mail to their TA. If you wish to meet with the TA or the professor outside of scheduled office hours, you can ask for individual appointments and generally these can be arranged.

Tutors

If you feel that you need more individual attention, we encourage you to contact either the Student Tutorial Service (398-6011) or SLUM (the undergraduate linguistics student association: slum.linguistics@mail.mcgill.ca). Of course, it is understood that tutors help with the content of the course but do not help directly with assignments. Make sure that your tutor knows what is being covered in the course this term since the content can change from term to term.

Email

You can expect your TA and instructor to respond to your e-mail questions and comments. However, please do not expect instant responses! We will try to respond quickly (and we will be especially vigilant closer to assignment due dates and exam times). Students often find that the discussions on the MyCourses website helpful and you are encouraged to post questions and answers there, which typically gets excellent responses in a timely manner. The TA and instructor will monitor the Discussion section, both to respond to questions and to ensure that the answers provided are correct.

Homework assignments

Homework Assignments must be done individually. They will be announced in class and on MyCourses, and posted on MyCourses. See the following note on Rules regarding assignments, labs, and exam.

Labs

Labs may be done individually but you are encouraged to work in groups of no more than three. A group may contain a maximum of three students. **A group must hand in only a single lab**

report with all group members' names and student numbers on it. All group members will receive the same grade for the lab. See the following note on Rules regarding assignments, labs, and exam.

Exam

The date and location of the final exam will be announced in class and on MyCourses. Unfortunately, final exams are administered by the university and the TA and instructor therefore do not control the date, time, or location of the exam. We will ensure that at least one of us is present during the exam itself to answer questions.

Rules regarding assignments, labs, and exam

No make-up assignments, labs, or exams will be given to anyone who does not have a certified medical excuse. We must be notified (preferably by e-mail) within 24 hours of a missed assignment, lab or test. According to Senate regulations, instructors are not permitted to make special arrangements for final exams. Please consult the Calendar, section 3.7, General University Information and Regulations. (See <http://www.mcgill.ca/student-records/exam/regulations> for more information on final and deferred exams.)

In the absence of a medical certificate or analogous circumstances, late submission of assignments (homework and lab reports) will incur a penalty of 50% if submitted within 24 hours of the deadline. Later submissions will not be accepted (i.e. will incur a penalty of 100%), but students can choose to submit them for comments nonetheless.

Any problem with grading on an assignment/lab/test must be reported within one week of when the assignment, lab, or test was returned. No answer to any graded assignment, lab or test question will be re-assessed unless the answer was originally written in ink and it has not been written over. We recommend that you always keep a copy of your finished assignment in case the assignment is accidentally lost or damaged, as well as to provide a backup in case of encoding problems for special characters.

Academic integrity

McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the code of student conduct and disciplinary procedures (see www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/ for more information).

L'université McGill attache une haute importance à l'honnêteté académique. Il incombe par conséquent à tous les étudiants de comprendre ce que l'on entend par tricherie, plagiat et autres infractions académiques, ainsi que les conséquences que peuvent avoir de telles actions, selon le Code de conduite de l'étudiant et des procédures disciplinaires (pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez consulter le site www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/).

Right to submit in French

In accord with McGill University's Charter of Students Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded.

Conformément à la Charte des droits de l'étudiant de l'Université McGill, chaque étudiant a le droit de soumettre en français ou en anglais tout travail écrit devant être noté (sauf dans le cas des cours dont l'un des objets est la maîtrise d'une langue).

Copyright: Instructor-generated course materials

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