

**LING 635 Phon4/LING 710 LAP Seminar  
Winter 2024**

**Time:** Wed 11:30-2:30  
**Instructor:** Dr. Meghan Clayards  
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**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Course Topic:** Speech Perception

**Course Description:**

This course will be a joint meeting of PhoneticsPhonology4 and the LAP seminar for Winter 2024. My goal is to give you an overview of the methods, big ideas and basic empirical results of speech perception as well as some discussion of acquisition by adult language learners and children. We will read and discuss research papers that have shaped the field and hopefully try out some experiments ourselves.

**Method of Evaluation Phon 4 (3 credits)**

<i>Type</i>	<i>Weight</i>
Participation in 12 online discussions	30%
Participation in 12 class discussions	30%
Final project	40%

**Method of Evaluation Seminar in Phonology (3 credits)**

<i>Type</i>	<i>Weight</i>
Participation in 12 online discussions	50%
Participation in 12 class discussions	50%

**Method of Evaluation LAP Seminar (2 credits)**

<i>Type</i>	<i>Weight</i>
Participation in 8 online discussions	50%
Participation in 8 class discussions	50%

The LAP seminar is pass/fail. To pass you should participate in 8 classes and 8 online discussions. You are free to choose which 8 classes to join. You must tell the instructor (at least) one week before the class if you will join it so that readings can be assigned. Please participate in the online discussion for that week.

**Reading and discussion format: Jigsaw Discussions**

We will be reading and discussing papers using the jigsaw model. In this model, each session will be guided by a question. There may be a core or background reading for everyone, plus 2-3 research articles related to the same topic. Everyone will be assigned one paper that they are responsible for reading closely and being able to summarize and present the key points to others verbally. You are also encouraged to skim the other articles not assigned to you. *Formal presentations are not required.* Discussion of the paper will happen in small groups, first with others who read the same paper, then with others who read a different paper.

For each session:

1. At the start of class the instructor will present and lead a discussion of the background reading if any
2. Students will meet first in SAME paper group to clarify your understanding of the article's main points/contribution and implications for the question
3. Students will then meet in CROSS paper groups (in each small group there will be one representative for each paper). Each person describes their expert paper to the others. Then the small group aims to answer the question of the day based on the combined results.
4. The session will end with a FULL group discussion where everyone gets back together to see if the small groups came to similar conclusions.

**Online discussion:** Discussion groups will be set up on myCourses. All posting should be finished by Tuesday 7pm so that everyone has a chance to read everything before class. You should aim to post at least twice each week and at least one of those posts should be a reply to something someone else wrote.

**Note on Grading:** As this is a graduate class, for any given assignment or other evaluation, if you meet my expectations you will generally receive the equivalent to an A- grade (this means you did your job). An A grade will be given if you do an excellent job. A grade lower than A- means that something was lacking. I will give feedback using a rubric to efficiently communicate the strengths and weaknesses of your work. If you would like more details please schedule a meeting and I will be happy to go over things.

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**COURSE WORK 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.

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