

General Information

Instructor: Dušan Nikolić
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Office Hours: Tuesday 11-12 am

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Meeting (Classes) Times: online lectures
Meeting Location: Zoom; MWF 10-11 am

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the phonetics of the languages of the world. We will explore this broad topic by (primarily) employing phonetic transcription and acoustic analysis to look at speech cross-linguistically. Readings, lectures and homework exercises provide an extensive survey of the speech sounds of the languages of the world, and an introduction to the basic tools of phonetic science.

Practical training in phonetics is particularly valuable for professions in language education – whether foreign language education, English education or ESL. Phonetic training also benefits students who are interested in human/computer interface technology and students who are in training for certification as speech pathologists or audiologists. Of course, students who major in linguistics should most certainly take this course.

Note on departmental grade requirement: a student may not register in any linguistics course unless a grade of at least C- has been achieved in each prerequisite for that course. The prerequisite for this course is Linguistics 201.

Course Outcomes:

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to transcribe and produce any speech sound used meaningfully in the world's languages. They will also be able to identify the articulatory features of any speech sound, be able to record speech with a computer, and conduct a basic analysis of the primary acoustic features of a recorded sample of speech. Students will also gain an understanding of the basic theories of phonetic science, and the fundamental principles of how phonetic representations of speech reflect and relate to phonological patterns in language.

Lectures and Class Meetings:

The material for this course will be delivered in-person every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Some materials and tutorials will be posted to the course webpage; links for these videos will be provided to students throughout the semester.

Course Web Page: <https://dusannikolic.com/ling341/>

Notes to all of the lecture notes will be posted to the course web page listed above and on D2L. All handouts and homework assignments will be posted to the course website listed above, as well as to the D2L site for the course. Students may check their grades through D2L. Please check these websites on a regular basis if you are interested in having access to these materials.

It is important to keep in mind that we are still operating in extraordinary circumstances which are less than ideal for University-level instruction this semester. In spite of those challenges, I will do my best to deliver the best possible course to you, and in order to make it all work, I suspect that we will all need to be flexible and make adjustments in our expectations from time to time. For that reason, please regard the course outline which follows as a useful guide for the course, the details of which are likely to change over the course of the semester.

Technology Requirements. In order to successfully engage in their learning experience for Linguistics 341, students taking this course will need to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam/Camera (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Stable internet connection

Most current laptops and computers have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

Course Web Page: <https://dusannikolic.com/ling341/>

All lecture notes, handouts and homework exercises—along with updated versions of this syllabus—will be posted to both D2L and the course website listed above. Please check it on a regular basis if you are interested in having access to these materials.

Textbooks

Peter Ladefoged and Keith Johnson (2015), *A Course in Phonetics*, 7th ed. Boston: Wadsworth.

Henning Reetz and Allard Jongman (2020), *Phonetics: Transcription, Production, Acoustics and Perception*, Chichester, 2nd ed. UK: Wiley/Blackwell.

Both of these textbooks are optional (but highly recommended!) for this course. Any further readings will be announced and made available during the course of the semester.

Grading

The course grade will be based on your performance on homework exercises, production exercises, a production exam, course participation, a midterm exam and a final exam

Homework will consist primarily of transcription practice and acoustic analysis exercises. I will expect you to complete these assignments independently, outside of class, as they will be graded for credit. Materials for the transcription exercises will be made available from the course website. These assignments are labeled as (HW) in the course schedule given below. The due date and time for each homework will be provided when that homework is posted online during the semester; homeworks will generally be posted about a week before they are due. Students will submit their completed homework assignments in digital form, online, via D2L. If you are ill or cannot meet a homework deadline due to a personal emergency, please let me know as soon as possible.

Production Exercises. Over the course of the semester, you will be expected to learn how to produce the various sounds of the International Phonetic Alphabet. I will assign production exercises to test your ability to produce the sounds that have been presented in class. These assignments are labeled as (PEX) in the course schedule given below. You will be responsible for making recordings of yourself producing these sounds and sending the sound files to me (via dropboxes on D2L) for grading purposes.

Transcription Exercises. It is relatively easy to learn the basic principles of phonetics (and phonetic transcription), but you will only become better at working with those principles through practice. Lots and lots of practice. Therefore, approximately one transcription exercise per week will be devoted to a review and application of the material covered during the lecture sections that week. These assignments are labeled as (TRES) in the course schedule below.

I will review the answers to these assignments in separate videos that I will post to YouTube throughout the semester. Any student who completes these exercises will receive full credit for them; i.e., points will *not* be taken off if honest (independent) effort yielded incorrect results. However, points will be taken off if a transcription exercise is incomplete or carelessly done.

Exams. The mid-term exam will exclusively focus on material covered in the first half of the term, and the final exam will primarily focus on material covered in the second half of the term. Both exams will be open book.

The mid-term exam will be made available online for one 24-hour window on the date specified in the course schedule below. You will be able to download the exam from a link that I will provide you via e-mail. Once you have downloaded the exam, you will have an hour and a half to complete it and submit it via the appropriate dropbox on D2L.

Similarly, the final exam will be made available online for a five-day window during the first week of the final exam period. You will be able to download the exam from a link that I will provide you via e-mail. Once you have downloaded the exam, you will have three hours to complete it and submit it via the appropriate dropbox on D2L.

Production Exam. The Production Exam will be similar to the Production Exercises that you will have completed throughout the semester. I will give you a script of "words" (written in the IPA) for you to record yourself saying, and you will submit your recordings to me via the appropriate dropbox on D2L. I will send you the script for the Production Exam shortly after the last class meeting day, and you will have two weeks to complete the exam.

If you are ill or cannot take an exam due to a personal emergency during the scheduled time for an exam, please let me know as soon as possible.

These components of the coursework will be weighted as follows in determining your final grade:

Homework exercises (HW):	15%
Production exercises (PEX):	15%
Participation (TRES):	15%
Midterm exam:	25%
Final exam:	25%
Production exam:	5%

The grading scale for the course will be as follows:

97% < A+	71 < C+ < 74
92 < A < 96	66 < C < 70

88 < A- < 91

62 < C- < 65

84 < B+ < 87

58 < D+ < 61

79 < B < 83

50 < D < 57

75 < B- < 78

F < 49

Please note that I will not round up in calculating final grades.

Resources

1. Sound files and exercises from *A Course in Phonetics* (one of the textbooks for this class), may be found on the web at:

<http://linguistics.berkeley.edu/acip/>

An older, but still useful version of the textbook's website may be found here:

<http://www.phonetics.ucla.edu/course/contents.html>

2. Additionally, helpful sound materials may be found here:

<http://www.phonetics.ucla.edu/vowels/contents.html>

3. For this class, you will be required to submit transcriptions that have been coded in LaTeX, a free and open source word processing program. If you do not already have LaTeX installed on your computer, you can download a copy of it from here:

<https://www.latex-project.org/about/>

If you are used to a word processor like Microsoft Word, LaTeX's interface takes awhile to get used to, but it has the crucial benefit of being able to always produce properly formatted IPA text in documents. Since the use of LaTeX will be important for all of the homework assigned in this course, we will walk through how to use LaTeX to produce phonetic transcriptions together, during the first week of class.

4. Praat is a great software package for phonetic analysis. Among (many) other things, you may use Praat to record, edit and play sound files on your computer. You will need to download Praat to complete many of the exercises in this class; you can get it for free here:

<http://www.fon.hum.uva.nl/praat/>

The following books, in the main library, may be of use in providing a deeper perspective on the materials covered in this course.

- Gick, B., Wilson, I. & Derrick, D. (2012) *Articulatory Phonetics* [P221.G48 2013]
- Johnson, K.A. (2012) *Acoustic & Auditory Phonetics*, 3rd ed. [P221.5.J64 2012]
- Ladefoged, P. (1996). *Elements of Acoustic Phonetics*, 2nd ed. [QP306.L33 1996]
- Ladefoged, P. & Maddieson, I. (1995) *Sounds of the World's Languages* [P221.L315 1995]
- Pullum, G.K. (1996) *Phonetic Symbol Guide*, 2nd Ed. [P221.P85 1996]

- Raphael, L.J., Borden, G.J. & Harris, K.S. (2011) Speech Science Primer, 6th ed.
[P95.R37 2011]

Course Schedule

Please note that this schedule is subject to change before the end of the semester.

Wk	Date	Day	Lecture Topic	Reading	Exercises
1	1/10	M	1: Introduction + Overview		
	1/12	W	2: The Phonemes of English + LaTeX	Phon: 24-38 Course: Ch. 2	
	1/14	F			
2	1/17	M	3: English Varieties + Allophony	Phon: 39-50 Course: Ch.3	TREX: Name TREX: Broad Transcriptions
	1/19	W			
	1/21	F			
3	1/24	M	4: Dimensions of Articulation	Course: Ch.1	PEX 1: Name backwards
	1/26	W	5: Cardinal Vowels	Course: 227-234	
	1/28	F			
4	1/31	M	6: Place of Articulation	Phon: 52-59 Course: 173-183	TREX: Narrow Transcription
	2/2	W	7: Airstream Mechanisms	Course: 144-159 Phon: 95-101	
	2/4	F		Phon: 74-86	
5	2/7	M	8: Trills	Phon: 78-86	HW1: Features + Word transcription TREX: Place of Articulation
	2/9	W	9: Basic Acoustics	Phon: Ch. 7.	
	2/11	F	HW and TREX Revision		
6	2/14	M	10: Frequency, Tone, Length		TREX: Airstream Mechanisms HW2: Sentence transcription
	2/16	W	11: Intensity	Course: 264-271 Phon: 246-255	
	2/18	F	Review Session		
7	2/21	M	Reading Days: No Class		
	2/23	W	Reading Days: No Class		
	2/25	F	Reading Days: No Class		
8	2/28	M	MID-TERM EXAM		PEX2: Place + Airstream TREX: Tone
	3/2	W	12: Sonority, Syllables, Stress	Course: 119-124, 253-264;	
	3/4	F		Phon: 234-245	

			13: Harmonics		
9	3/7	M	14: Resonance	Course: 203-208	TREX: Spectrogram Matching I
	3/9	W	15: Vowel Acoustics	Course: Ch. 4 Phon: 206-213	
	3/11	F	TREX review		
10	3/14	M	16: Source/Filter Theory	Phon: Ch. 9 Course 197-199 Course: 234-242	HW 3: Acoustics
	3/16	W	17: Vowels around the World		TREX: Vowels
	3/18	F	HW and TREX review		
11	3/21	M	18: Fricatives, part 1	Course: 185	PEX 3: Vowels + HW 4: Formant measurements
	3/23	W	19: Fricatives, part 2		
	3/25	F	HW and TREX review		
12	3/28	M	20: VOT + Voice Quality	Course: 159-165 Phon: 103-110	TREX: Spectrogram Matching II
	3/30	W	21: Stops Acoustics	Course: 208-213 Phon: 219-221	TREX: Fricatives
	4/1	F	22: Glides + Secondary Articulations	Phon: 63-65; 221-226	
13	4/4	M	23: Nasals	Phon: 213-215	PEX 4: Obstruents
	4/6	W	24: Liquids		(TREX: Spectrogram Reading)
	4/8	F	Review Session		
14	4/11	M			
			FINAL EXAM Time and Place TBA		

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

1. **Plagiarism** is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. Plagiarism exists when:

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted." Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

2. **Cheating** at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.

3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright

(<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws->

[lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html](https://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html)) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy>.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for

Students with Disabilities

(<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>).

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising

- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy · Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102 Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca

Website: arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts:

arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca,

arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Cellular telephones, laptops, palmtops and smartbooks, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted in class and must be switched off.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

A link to required information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources, can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.