



Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

LING 303
Phonology I
Fall 2021

Class time: MWF 10:00 – 10:50 AM
<https://ucalgary.zoom.us/>
(id and passcode in D2L)

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Darin Flynn

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays 10:30-11:30 AM or by appointment (Zoom info in D2L)

E-MAIL: dflynn@ucalgary.ca (I will respond to e-mails within 48 hrs during weekdays)

DESCRIPTION

"Phonology I: Theory and practice of phonological analysis: the classical phoneme; distinctive features and their organisation; methods of analysis; underlying and surface representations; rules and derivations." (Calendar)

Prerequisite: LING 201 or equivalent

OBJECTIVES

This course focuses on "what", "where" and "when" questions in phonology: what are the basic elements of phonology, what happens to them, where does it happen, and when? (LING 403 focuses on the deeper questions: "why and how does it happen?")

LING 303, which is obligatory for both majors and minors in linguistics, familiarizes the student with basic analytical skills, notably identifying sound patterns in data sets drawn from diverse languages and the structural elements and processes behind them. Students are also introduced to phonological argumentation focusing on motivating basic analyses (e.g., does A change to B in context C, or does B change to A in context D?), all major structural elements (distinctive features, phonological segments, and prosodic structures), frequent phonological processes (deletion, assimilation, etc.), and simple formalisms (derivations, etc.).

OUTCOMES

On completion of this course, you will have gained insights into language—"what some might call the "human essence," the distinctive qualities of mind that are, so far as we know, unique to man" (Noam Chomsky). In particular, you will know all distinctive phonological features and prosodic elements and be able to figure out their distribution and interactions in spoken languages. You will also better understand the difference between phonology and phonetics. Your general problem-solving skills will also improve.

Skills

- students should have developed advanced problem-solving skills: This is one of the key objectives of all phonology courses. Beginning with LING 303 and through the subsequent courses in phonology, assignments/quizzes/exams contain datasets drawn from languages other than English which require the application of core concepts to new data, with the aim of recognizing patterns and extrapolating an analysis.



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- students should have developed good communication and presentation skills. They will be articulate and accurate in describing linguistic phenomena and in presenting arguments, orally and in writing: Students in LING 303 are not expected to make oral presentations. In LING 303, an emphasis is placed on brevity of expression in written work: students need to be able to describe and/or analyze an example of a phenomenon and concisely explain what it shows.
- students should have good skills in analyzing data. In LING 303, there is an emphasis on how phonological data should be analyzed – recognizing structures and processes behind sound patterns.
- students should have good skills in theoretical argumentation: This is a core focus of LING 303; contemporary theory is introduced in stages through a series of revisions as new data are encountered.

Knowledge

- students should know what is meant by “scientific method” and know how it applies in linguistic research: This is emphasized heavily in all phonology courses; the development of argumentation in LING 303 (and LING 403) proceeds through several cycles of observation, generation of a hypothesis, the testing of that hypothesis against new data, and revising the hypothesis as needed.
- students should have a good grasp of basic concepts, terminology, principles, formalisms appropriate to the various subfields. They should have awareness of the breadth of the discipline, should have good core knowledge of subfields as well as a good understanding of interfaces, i.e. of how the components of grammar interact with each other: Core terminology, formalisms and processes are introduced in LING 303, with additional formal machinery introduced in LING 403. Interface issues both with phonetics, morphology, and syntax are introduced in all phonology courses.
- students should have some historical awareness of the discipline: The history of phonology is implicitly built into the development of argumentation in LING 303 and is more directly addressed in LING 403.
- students will have developed an appreciation of linguistic diversity; they will be aware of/have been exposed to a wide range of linguistic phenomena in all domains (phonology, phonology, morphology, historical linguistics, syntax): LING 303 and 403 cover English as the language of study, but phenomena are studied across many other languages, and phonological theory is extended to other languages throughout the course sequence. Data sets in LING 303 deal with a wide range of languages.

Linguistics in the broader context

- students should have an awareness of the contribution of Linguistics to advancement of human knowledge: As phonology deals directly with questions of universal grammar (prosodic hierarchy, inviolable constraints, etc.), key connections to overarching statements on universal human cognition are presented in LING 303.
- students should know how to articulate and explain Linguistics as a field of inquiry based on unconscious knowledge: Phonological generalizations are treated as potential evidence of unconscious knowledge; phonological theory is presented from the ground up as a model of a phenomenon (the generation of sound patterns) which cannot be directly observed (e.g., there are no syllables in phonetics, and even relatively concrete elements like distinctive features are regularly obscured by the phonetics).
- students should have understanding of Indigenization and reconciliation efforts and should engage with Indigenous lgs: Territorial acknowledgments at the beginning of courses highlight diverse local languages that become increasingly familiar to students as these languages are used repeatedly to illustrate relevant phonological phenomena in LING 303.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

None. Readings will be shared via D2L.



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RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS

n/a

COURSE NOTES

- All lectures will be synchronous and conducted by Zoom: MWF 9:00 – 9:50 AM
- There will be some group work in Zoom’s breakout rooms; your interactions with other students must be patient and respectful.
- Attendance is not required but strongly recommended — the exercises practiced in class will help you succeed on assignments and exams. If you must miss a class, please watch the recording in D2L as soon as possible, to keep up with the course.
- Because we will be recording classes (to be uploaded in D2L after each class), please keep your microphone muted unless you have a question, in which case please use the icon to put up your hand and/or unmute yourself, or else send a message in the chat.
 - Technology requirements:
 - 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
- There is a holiday (no class) on Monday, October 11.
- There is a term break (no classes) November 7–13
- All homework assignments and exams will be made available in D2L (Assessments Dropbox) one week before your answers are due. The due dates for each item are listed below. Requests for an extension in advance of the deadline will be considered and if approved, will incur no penalties. Late submissions without advance notice will incur a 10% deduction per day late.
- The final exam will be cumulative; it will build on the topics and material covered before the midterm exam is posted.
- 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.

ASSESSMENT

- 4 assignments: 40% (10% each: Sep. 24, Oct. 13, Nov. 19, Dec. 1)
- Takehome midterm exam: 30% (due on Oct. 29)
- Cumulative take-home final exam: 30% (due on Dec. 17)

GRADING SCALE

Course grades will be assigned on a distribution that is NOT more restrictive than the one below:

A+ 97-100%	B+ 84-88%	C+ 69-73%	D+ 54-58%
A 93-96%	B 79-83%	C 64-68%	D 50-53%
A- 89-92%	B- 74-78%	C- 59-63%	F 0-49%

- As stated in the University Calendar, it is at the instructor’s discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades.
- To determine final letter grades, final percentage grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (e.g., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90% = A, but 89.4% will be rounded down to 89% = A-).



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Criteria for Letter Grades

- A+ grade: Exceptional Performance. An A+ grade indicates near perfect performance on multiple choice and short answer exams. For research papers/essays/course projects/presentations, an A+ grade is awarded for exceptional work deserving of special recognition and is therefore not a common grade.
- A, A- Range: Excellent Performance. Superior understanding of course material. Written work is very strong in terms of critical and original thinking, content, organization, and the expression of ideas, and demonstrates student's thorough knowledge of subject matter.
- B Range: Good Performance. Above average understanding of course material. Written work shows evidence of critical thinking and attention to organization and editing but could be improved in form and/or content.
- C Range: Satisfactory Performance. Adequate understanding of course material. Knowledge of basic concepts and terminology is demonstrated. Written work is satisfactory and meets essential requirements but could be improved significantly in form and content. Note: All prerequisites for courses offered by the Faculty of Arts must be met with a minimum grade of C-.
- D range: Marginally meets standards. Minimal understanding of subject matter. Written work is marginally acceptable and meets basic requirements but requires substantial improvements in form and content. Student has not mastered course material at a level sufficient for advancement into more senior courses in the same or related subjects.
- F grade: Course standards not met. Inadequate understanding of subject matter. Written work does not meet basic requirements. Student has not demonstrated knowledge of course material at a level sufficient for course credit.

INTEGRITY AND CONDUCT

All members of the University community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the Statement on Principles of Conduct, and to comply with the University of Calgary Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures (available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>).

Academic misconduct

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit: <https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>, and <https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. 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>) 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



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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://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>.

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

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

Links to 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>.