

LING 4040/5300 Phonetics and Phonology

FALL 2025

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Sadaf Munshi

OFFICE: NTDP B201E

E-MAIL: sadafmunshi@unt.edu

CLASS MEETS: Tue/Thu 2:00-3:20 in GATE 049

Teaching Assistant: Matthew Finegan

Email: MatthewFinegan@my.unt.edu

Office Hours: by appointment

DESCRIPTION

In this course, we will get to learn the basic concepts as well as practical skills and the conceptual framework in phonetics and phonology. We will talk about the production and perception of speech sounds and discuss their physiological and acoustic aspects. Among other things, we will learn how different languages of the world can be written and read with the help of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA). We will learn how to transcribe languages that we do not speak or understand. The class will look at data from a broad sample of languages. We will study the basic principles governing the behavior of sounds in different languages. Taking a broad typological view in our approach, we will look at how the sound patterns of individual languages are similar, and how they vary across different languages.

GRADING

The final grade for the course will be based on:

Attendance: 10%

Homework assignments/problem solving: 50% (a total of 10)

Student-led reading presentations (graduates only) and summaries: 10% (2 selected readings each)

Mid-term test: 15%

Final exam: 15%

Attendance and Participation:

Student attendance and participation in class is very important. Regular and consistent attendance is required to earn full credit for the course. **DO NOT** miss a class unless you have a genuine excuse to do so. Unexcused absences will be penalized. Your grades will be affected by your attendance record and by how you conduct yourself in the class. The students who have few absences, come to class prepared and contribute regularly to discussion and in-class problem solving will be awarded full credit.

Important: Please switch off your cell phone or other electronic devices before class starts.

Textbook

Zciga, Elizabeth C (2013). *The Sounds of Language: An Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology*. Wiley-Blackwell.

Other Suggested Readings and References

Peter Ladefoged & Keith Johnson. (2011) *A Course in Phonetics*. 6th Ed. Cengage.

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

Keith Johnson. (2003) *Acoustic and Auditory Phonetics*. 2nd Ed. Blackwell.

Course Resources

Additional course readings and other resources will be available in Canvas. Students are advised to visit the course canvas regularly for updates and announcements.

AI, Plagiarism, and Academic Integrity at UNT

For information on the University's policies regarding AI, plagiarism, academic integrity and dishonesty, see <https://guides.library.unt.edu/plagiarism/at-unt>

Notice of Non-Discrimination

The University of North Texas System is firmly committed to equal opportunity and does not permit -- and takes actions to prevent -- discrimination, harassment (including sexual violence, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking) and retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status in its application, employment practices and facilities; nor permits race, color, national origin, religion, age, disability, veteran status, or sex discrimination and harassment in its admissions processes, and educational programs and activities, facilities and employment practices. The University of North Texas System promptly investigates complaints of discrimination, harassment and related retaliation and takes remedial action when appropriate. The University of North Texas System also takes actions to prevent retaliation against individuals who oppose any form of harassment or discriminatory practice, file a charge or report, or testify, assist or participate in an investigative proceeding or hearing. (For more see: <https://titleixeo.unt.edu/index.html#notice-of-non-discrimination>)

Disability Accommodation

In accordance with university policies and state and federal regulations, the university is committed to full academic access for all qualified students, including those with disabilities. To this end, all academic units are willing to make reasonable and appropriate adjustments to the classroom environment and the teaching, testing, or learning methodologies in order to facilitate equality of educational access for persons with disabilities. (For more information see: <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/16-001>)

Additional information and important contact information is available at: <https://titleixeo.unt.edu/index.html>

Student Support

The University of North Texas cares about student success, not only academically, but also emotionally and physically. In an effort to assist students in distress, UNT has a network of professionals from across campus that are committed to a caring, confidential program of identification, intervention and response in order to provide our students with the greatest chance of success and our community with the greatest level of protection. Please check the link below for details:

<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/dean-of-students/programs-and-services/care-team/>

SPECIAL NEEDS

If you need any accommodations associated with learning or physical disability, please see me as soon as possible. You may be required to provide documentation from the Office of the Dean of Students-- Services for Students with Disabilities.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

You are expected to do your own work and acknowledge use of anyone else's work or ideas. Academic dishonesty includes: (a) copying another student's work or allowing another student to copy yours, (b) using prohibited aids during exams, and (c) copying passages or ideas from another source and passing them off as your own (that is, without properly referencing them). If you are discovered committing academic dishonesty, you will be reported to the Dean, and you will receive a zero for that homework or exam. In addition, you may fail the course, be placed on academic probation, or be expelled from the University.

QUESTIONS AND COMPLAINTS

First, see me with any concerns about grades, assignments, policies, or other matters; please tell me (in person or by e-mail) as soon as possible if you have any problem. Issues that we can't resolve should be directed to the Chair of the Department of Linguistics. Be prepared to present your complaint in writing along with copies of your work or any other appropriate documentation.