

CAS LX 403 / GRS LX 703: Phonological Analysis

Fall 2017

MWF 12:20–1:10, CAS 218

Instructor: Charles Chang
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Office Hours: Tue 12p–3p (in person),
Thu 10:30a–11:30a (Slack),
or by appointment

Course Website: <on Blackboard Learn>

Course Description: The aim of this course is to provide an overview of cross-linguistic phonological phenomena and their interaction with phonetics and morphology, using standard generative phonology, autosegmental phonology, and Optimality Theory as the primary analytical frameworks. It will survey data from many different languages and address questions related to both the representation and manipulation of phonological (and morphological) structure. With regard to representation, the course proceeds from representations of segments as unordered bundles of features to hierarchical representations whose organization makes theoretical claims about feature interaction. With regard to manipulation, the course proceeds from rules of derivational phonology to the constraints of non-derivational, Optimality-Theoretic phonology. The course addresses both phonological and morphological patterns in the world's languages, and a recurring theme will be the interface between these two components of grammar.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will learn to see and describe patterns in phonological data and to use a theory to capture those patterns.
2. Students will learn to assess how well a theory works, compare and contrast different accounts of the same data, and argue for a particular analysis.

Prerequisites: CAS LX 301 / GRS LX 601 (Phonetics & Phonology) or equivalent, or instructor approval. It will be assumed that you know the basics of speech production and perception, basic features of sound (what a fricative is, what voicing is, etc.), and the International Phonetic Alphabet. (If you feel rusty on any of these topics, please see the instructor.)

Requirements: regular attendance and participation, background reading, in-class exercises, homework assignments, midterm examination, final examination.

Grading: 45% homework assignments [best 5 scores of 6]
(CAS LX 403) 15% midterm examination
30% final examination
10% participation

Grading: 57% homework assignments
 (GRS LX 703) 13% midterm examination
 30% final examination

Grade components will be weighted according to the above percentages to calculate a final grade out of 100, which will correspond to a grade for the course as follows:

<i>Course Grade Scale</i>	≥ 93.00	= A	78.00–79.99	= C+
	90.00–92.99	= A–	73.00–77.99	= C
	88.00–89.99	= B+	70.00–72.99	= C–
	83.00–87.99	= B	60.00–69.99	= D
	80.00–82.99	= B–	< 60.00	= F

Required Textbook: Hayes, Bruce. (2009). *Introductory Phonology*. [ISBN-10: 1405184116, ISBN-13: 978-1405184113]

Other Readings: Aronoff, Mark, and Kirsten Fudeman. (2011). *What is Morphology?* [ISBN-10: 1405194677, ISBN-13: 978-1405194679]

Goldsmith, John A., Jason Riggle, and Alan C. L. Yu, eds. (2011). *The Handbook of Phonological Theory*, 2nd edition. [ISBN-13: 978-1405157681]

Helpful: McCarthy, John J. (2008). *Doing Optimality Theory: Applying Theory to Data*. [ISBN-10: 1405151366, ISBN-13: 978-1405151368]

Expectations for Students:

Background Reading: Classes will refer to concepts described in the reading, so it will be most helpful to you to complete the assigned reading *before* coming to class. Class is meant to supplement the reading, and assignments or exams may draw upon data or examples in the reading not explicitly discussed in class. Any required readings beyond the required textbook will be provided via the library’s electronic course reserves or the course website. Please see the Copyright Notice below regarding reading and other course materials.

Homework Assignments: Assignments will typically consist of a mix of data analysis and interpretation in light of phonological theories and frameworks discussed in class. In writing up your responses, keep in mind that these are exercises in applying knowledge. Also, because possible responses to assigned questions may be discussed in class on the day that the homework is due, **homework must be submitted—typed, in electronic copy (via Blackboard)—by the beginning of class (i.e., by 12:20, not 12:30), and late homework cannot be accepted.** (For undergraduates, the lowest homework grade will be dropped.)

Examinations: There will be two sit-down exams. The midterm exam will be given in the seventh week of classes during the regularly scheduled time for this course. The final exam is scheduled for **Wednesday, December 20, 12:30pm–2:30pm**, and it will be comprehensive. Make-up exams

are given at the discretion of the instructor only in exceptional circumstances (e.g., medical emergency, religious obligation). In the case of a known conflict such as a religious holiday, please provide the instructor with written notice of the conflict well in advance.

Participation: Active and constructive participation in class is expected, and will be factored into course grades for undergraduates (students registered for CAS LX 403). Given that you cannot participate in class if you are absent, chronic absence from class will affect your final grade. If you find yourself suffering from illness, please (a) go to the doctor, and then (b) alert the instructor.

Copyright Notice: All class materials are copyrighted and may not be reproduced for anything other than personal use without written permission from the instructor.

Academic Integrity and Support: You are responsible for understanding and complying with the BU Academic Conduct Code in this course (to review the Academic Conduct Code, please see <http://www.bu.edu/academics/resources/academic-conduct-code/>). Graduate students, take note of the GRS Academic Conduct Code: <http://www.bu.edu/cas/students/graduate/forms-policies-procedures/academic-discipline-procedures/>. It is assumed, unless you indicate otherwise, that your work in this course is your own. **Work found to be the product of academic dishonesty can receive no credit, and such misconduct must be reported to the university.** If you are experiencing difficulties in keeping up with the academic demands of this course, please consider contacting your academic advisor (or CAS's Office of Academic Advising: 100 Bay State Rd., Room 401, casadv@bu.edu, 617-353-2400).

Collaboration Policy: Although you are welcome to brainstorm about the homework with your classmates in a study group, **your written work should be entirely your own.** That is to say, regardless of whether or not you participate in a study group, you are expected to **write up your responses separately (and to explicitly acknowledge any and all collaboration and/or sources consulted)**, in accordance with the Academic Conduct Code. This policy should be unambiguous, but just to prevent any misunderstanding, writing up your responses separately does not include:

1. writing up your responses during a study group meeting
2. writing up your responses after a study group meeting while talking back and forth remotely to one or more of your collaborators (over the phone, via text, via IM, etc.)
3. writing up your responses while consulting a collaborator's write-up "for reference"
4. drafting a joint write-up during a study group meeting and then later individually "fleshing out" that joint write-up

Writing up your work separately does not mean using separate computers. It means putting your thoughts into words on your own—that is, without simultaneous discussion with your collaborators, without later discussion with your collaborators, without consultation of minutes taken during a study group meeting that are so detailed they basically constitute a joint write-up. In short, at the time you produce the written work you hand in, you should not be in the physical or virtual presence of any collaborators and should have nothing other than a computer, your homework sheet, and your textbook plus any class notes. Note that if you elect to collaborate on homework and do not feel confident that you can distinguish between jotting down a few notes and creating a joint write-up, you are advised to refrain from taking any written notes during a

study group meeting and just pay close attention to your group's discussion. Any collaboration should help you to think, not to write. Please see the instructor if you have any questions.

Arrangements for Students with Disabilities: If you require course material in an alternative format or need special accommodations due to a disability, please contact the instructor and the Office of Disability Services (<http://www.bu.edu/disability/>) as soon as possible.

Communication: Announcements regarding class cancellation, room change, and other timely news will be communicated via Blackboard to the email address you are registered with (so make sure you are able to receive email messages from Blackboard!). In addition, you are very welcome to come with any questions to the instructor's office hours, including a weekly online "office" hour (in Slack, a group communication tool to which you will be invited at your BU email address), and you may also make an appointment outside of these times if you cannot make it to office hours.

A Note on Technology: Students are encouraged to bring their personal computers or tablets to class, but are expected to use any technology respectfully—that is, *for the sole purpose of aiding in the learning of course material while not distracting fellow students*. Although it is tempting when you have a computer to multitask and, e.g., switch between Word, Facebook, and email, note that this is very likely to be detrimental not only to your own learning, but also to the learning of those around you (for more, see Sana et al., 2013, "Laptop multitasking hinders classroom learning for both users and nearby peers," *Computers & Education*, 62, 24–31; <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.compedu.2012.10.003>). Consequently, the instructor reserves the right to ban the use of computers in class if they become a hindrance. You will almost never need your cell phone for note-taking, so please silence it and put it away during class.

Schedule (with Due Dates)

DATES	TOPIC & READING	WORK DUE
09/06–09/08	Goals of phonology Reading: Hayes, Ch. 1	
09/11–09/15	Representations and processes Reading: Hayes, Ch. 2–3	
09/18–09/22	Features, rules, and opacity Reading: Hayes, Chs. 4 & 7	Homework 1 due 09/22
09/25–09/29	CV phonology Reading: Hayes, Ch. 12	
10/02–10/06	Syllables and moras Reading: Hayes, Ch. 13	Homework 2 due 10/06
10/10–10/13	Autosegmental phonology Reading: Hayes, Ch. 15	
10/16–10/20	Metrical phonology Reading: Hayes, Chs. 14 & 9	MIDTERM EXAM on 10/20
10/23–10/27	The phonology-morphology interface Reading: Hayes, Chs. 6 & 8	Homework 3 due 10/27
10/30–11/01	Inflection, derivation, and productivity Reading: Hayes, Ch. 5 NO CLASS ON 11/03 (BUCLD 42)	
11/06–11/10	Inflectional paradigms Reading: A&F, Ch. 6	Homework 4 due 11/10
11/13–11/17	Lexical phonology and morphology Reading: Hayes, Ch. 10	
11/20	Prosodic morphology Reading: TBD	Homework 5 due 11/20
11/27–12/01	Phrasal morphology & OT Reading: TBD	
12/04–12/08	Flex week Reading: TBD	Homework 6 due 12/08
12/11	Course wrap-up	
12/13–12/15	STUDY PERIOD	
12/16–12/21	EXAM PERIOD	FINAL EXAM on 12/20