LIN229H1S: Sound Patterns in Language
Winter 2019 Syllabus

Instructor	Dr. Aleksei Nazarov
Office	100 St. George St., Sidney Smith Hall, room 4089
	(Linguistics Department, 4th floor)
Office hours	Thursday 2-4 pm, weeks 3-12 (Aleksei Nazarov)
	TBA (Patrick Murphy)
	TBA (Kaz Bamba)
	TBA (Robert Prazeres)
Email	aleksei.nazarov@utoronto.ca (see Email policy below)
Lectures	Monday 10 am–12 pm (Ramsay Wright Laboratories 117)
Tutorials	T0101 Wednesday 10–11 am (Ramsay Wright 143)
	T0201 Wednesday 11 am–12 pm (Ramsay Wright 143)
	T0301 Wednesday 11 am–12 pm (Sidney Smith 1088)
	T0401 Wednesday 12–1 pm (Ramsay Wright 143)
Teaching assistants	Patrick Murphy (T0101, T0201)
	Kaz Bamba (T0301)
	Robert Prazeres (T0401)

Course description and goals

Prerequisites: LIN100Y1, LIN228H1

Phonology is interested in how sounds are organized and used in natural languages. This course provides an overview of common sound patterns in various languages. A great deal of attention is given to how segments interact with one another. These segmental alternations are often intertwined with other alternations, and with syllable structure, stress and morphology. The data is analyzed using three major theories within Generative Phonology: classical rule-based phonology, Feature Theory, and Autosegmental Phonology. The focus of the course will be on data analysis, not memorization.

By the end of this course, students are expected to be able to: (i) understand basic phonological concepts (operations, representations), (ii) analyze segmental alternations, (iii) identify common sound patterns, (iv) understand how sound patterns of individual languages work, and (v) model interacting sound patterns using rules. A large part of this course is devoted to developing problem-solving skills and critical thinking.

Textbook and readings

① David Odden. 2013. *Introducing Phonology.* Second Edition. Cambridge Introductions to Language and Linguistics. New York: Cambridge University Press. ISBN: 978-1-107-62797-0

The book is available at the bookstore. Please make sure to get the second edition. The first edition is significantly different. Crucially, the problem sets in that edition are different and use a different transcription system.

The following two readings (2–3) will be made available on Quercus:

② Iggy Roca and Wyn Johnson. 2000. *A course in phonology.* Oxford: Blackwell Publishers. ISBN: 978-0-631-21345-1. Chapter 9 only (pages 233–260).

③ Hayes, Bruce. 2009. *Introductory Phonology.* Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell . ISBN: 978-1-405-18411-3. Chapters 14 & 15 only (pages 271–314).

Course website

The course website is available on Quercus (http://q.utoronto.ca). You will need your UTORid and password to log in. Presentations (slide printouts), handouts, homework assignments and announcements will be made available via the website.

For selected lectures, handouts will be made available on the course website. Please make sure to print them out beforehand and bring them to class. The handouts will be posted by Saturday, 23.59 pm, two days before class.

Important dates

https://fas.calendar.utoronto.ca/sessional-dates

Course requirements

You should attend course lectures and tutorials. The primary goal of tutorials is to provide (essential) practice with solving phonological problems. Tutorials start in the second week.

Homework assignments (14%)

There will be 8 homework assignments, each constituting 2% of the final grade, for a total of 14%, with the lowest graded homework assignment dropped. One assignment (5–6, due in week 9) will count as two homework assignments and cannot be dropped. (If you do not submit assignment 5–6, you will automatically lose 4% of the final grade.) All assignments will be available on the course website on Quercus. You can start working on homework assignments as soon as they become available (typically a week before they are due).

Homework assignments are due at the beginning of the lecture on Monday. Late assignments will incur a lateness penalty of 25% per day. Homework assignments cannot be redone.

Homework must be printed or written in ink, printed double-sided and stapled. Illegible, unstapled, single-sided homework will not be accepted.

> Homework is done in groups of 1–3 students. Each group submits one (1) homework assignment together, and they will all receive the same grade. Groups can change from one assignment to another and do not need to stay the same throughout the term. **Absolutely no communication about the content of the homework assignments is allowed between groups.** Each group must write their assignment independently. Any communication outside your group will constitute a violation of the academic integrity policy in the sense of the *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters.*

Language project (12%)

Each student will pick a language and submit a phonological description of the language. Your language project will be graded for completion and quality.

The following components should be submitted on Quercus:

#	Component	Due
1	Choose a language	Jan 30 (week 4)
2	Segmental inventory	February 6 (week 5)
3	Syllable structure	February 28 (week 7)
4	Rule interactions	March 20 (week 11)
5	Stress and tone	April 3 (week 13)

The project will be done entirely online. All tasks will be graded for completion, as indicated above (for a total of 8% of the final grade). In addition, one task will *also* be graded for content (4%). The content grade will be selected at random from tasks 2–5. The grade for content will not be revealed until after the final assignment is graded.

To summarize, marks for the language project will be computed as follows:

#	Component	% of grade
1	Choose a language (completion)	1%
2	Segmental inventory (completion)	1%
3	Syllable structure (completion)	2%
4	Rule interactions (completion)	2%
5	Stress and tone (completion)	2%
	One of 2-5 (content)	4%

Each of the components of the project is due at the beginning of your tutorial on Wednesday. Late submissions will incur a lateness penalty of 25% per day (for completion and content). This means that submitting just after the beginning of tutorial will already give you a lateness penalty of 25%.

The language project is done in groups (fixed throughout the semester), for which you will be able to sign up on Quercus. You should consult written sources (papers and books) to complete your project. You can pick any language you like, but keep in mind that describing an underdocumented language may be extremely challenging, particularly if you are not a native speaker of the language.

Tutorial and lecture participation (10%)

Participation will be graded based on students' engagement and attendance in both lectures and tutorials. The criteria will be communicated to you at your first tutorial in week 2.

You are required to attend your assigned tutorial session. Changing tutorials is not feasible in a class of this size, and would require extensive administrative support. You are not able to enroll into a tutorial that has a scheduling conflict with one of your other classes.

Experiment participation (2%)

The requirements for the course include *one of two* research-based activities: (i) participation in a linguistic experiment for up to 1 hour, <u>or</u> (ii) reading a linguistics research article approved by the instructor and answering a number of questions about it in writing. Engaging in one of these activities is expected to help your understanding and appreciation of how linguists study language and linguistic behaviour.

The research participation component is worth 2% of the final grade. A link to the website where you can sign up for experiments will be posted on Quercus by January 21. It is advisable to plan your experiment participation early in the term, rather than wait until the end. You must sign up for a time slot in an experiment (or, if you choose the second option, meet with the instructor

to receive your instructions) by March 11. Your participation must be completed by April 5. To receive the 2%, students must fully complete either of the two components; no partial marks are given.

For further questions concerning your experiment participation, please contact the *Linguistics Department Participant Pool coordinator* at: linguisticspool@gmail.com

Two term tests (24%)

There will be two tests during the lectures (see schedule). The tests will cover all previous material (lectures, tutorials, readings, homework), including the lectures and tutorials in the preceding week. The first test will count towards 10% of your course grade and will be 55 minutes long, whereas the second will count towards 14% of your grade and will be 95 minutes long. The location of the tests will be announced within the first three weeks of the semester.

Students can bring two letter-sized, double-sided cheat sheets, provided that the following conditions are met: (i) cheat sheets must be signed, (ii) cheat sheets must not be copied (from another student), and (iii) cheat sheets must be surrendered together with the test. No other aids are allowed.

If you have to miss the test because of illness or injury, you are required to contact to me before the test by email. You are also required to provide an official *Verification of Student Illness or Injury*, within one week of the test. The form is available at:
    http://www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca/

Final exam (38%)

The final exam lasts three (3) hours and constitutes 38% of your course grade. The final exam will be in April (exact time and location TBA). Note that University regulations require that the final exam be worth at least one third (and at most two thirds) of the final grade.

Students can bring two letter-sized, double-sided cheat sheets, provided that the following conditions are met: (i) cheat sheets must be signed, (ii) cheat sheets must not be copied (from another student), and (iii) cheat sheets must be surrendered together with the exam. No other aids are allowed.

If you have a conflict with the tests for another class at the same date and time, it is your responsibility to reschedule that other test, pursuant to the School of Arts and Science regulations.

Evaluation summary

Component	% of grade	Due
Homework assignments (best 7 out of 8 × 2%)	14%	about weekly
Language project (completion 8% + content 4%)	12%	about fortnightly
Participation	10%	twice a week
Experiment participation	2%	once, scheduled individually
Test I	10%	February 4 (week 5)
Test II	14%	March 11 (week 9)
Final exam	38%	final examinations

Please note that passing the course is conditional upon passing the final exam.

The Department of Linguistics follows the University Assessment and Grading Practices Policy, which states that "the cumulative scores [for course work] may not be directly identified with the final grade." (http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/uniassgpp.htm) Rather, raw cumulative scores are used by the instructor as the basis for arriving at the refined letter scale category (e.g. B+, B, B−, etc.) that represents best the student's overall course performance.

Class schedule (subject to change)

Wk	Date	Lecture (M)	Reading (M)	Tutorial (W)	HW due (M)	Tests (M)	LgDesc due (W)
1	1/7	Introduction	Odden § 1 (p. 1–13)	No			
2	1/14	Syllables	Roca & Johnson	Yes			
3	1/21	Distributions	Odden § 2 (p. 15–38)	Yes	① Syllables		
4	1/28	Feature Theory	Odden § 3 (p. 39–78)	Yes	② Distributions		Language
5	2/4	Phonetics and Phonology	Odden § 7 (p. 205–235)	Yes		Test I	Inventory
6	2/11	Representations and rules	Odden § 4 (p. 79–146)	Yes	③ Features		
	2/18	No class (Reading Week)		No			
7	2/25	Rules and their interactions	Odden § 5 (p. 115–146)	Yes	④ Rules		Syllables
8	3/4	Complex rule interactions	Odden § 6 (p. 147–204)	Yes	⑤+⑥ Interactions		
9	3/11	Introduction to tone	Hayes § 15 (p. 291–314)	Yes		Test II	
10	3/18	Autosegmental Phonology	Odden § 9 (p. 285–322)	Yes			Rules
11	3/25	Stress and weight	Hayes § 14 (p. 271–290)	Yes	⑦ Tone		
12	4/1	Feet. Conclusions		Yes	⑧ Stress		Prosody

Miscellaneous course policies

1. Students are expected to attend all lectures and tutorials. Please make sure to arrive on time.

2. Lectures will contain material not covered in the textbook. Students are expected to take their own notes. Slides and handouts will contain all the information given orally in the lecture. Exams and homework will be drawn from the material covered in class or tutorials, as well as from the textbook.

3. You may not use any electronic devices during class unless required for note-taking.

4. You are not allowed to record lectures in any form, except by explicit case-by-case approval, and under the condition that you will use the recording exclusively for accessibility reasons. You must obtain written consent from the course instructor before recording. Please, email the instructor (with "LIN229 Recording Name Surname" in the subject line) and provide grounds for recording.

5. Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Toronto is a strong signal of each students individual academic achievement. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. Any work submitted for course credit must be your own. Homework and language descriptions must be done independently or within your group, with no communication outside the group (see Homework assignments above). All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. Possible penalties include failure of the course and suspension

from the university. For more on academic integrity at the University of Toronto, please see:
http://academicintegrity.utoronto.ca
http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/osai

Email policy

Due to the large size of the class, all course-related email communication will be limited in the following ways:

1. Unfortunately, I will not be able to answer your email outside of regular business hours (9-5) on business days. Please allow up to 2 (two) work days for a reply.

2. Emails about the course content or grades unfortunately cannot be answered. The best time to ask such questions is during lectures, tutorials, or office hours.

3. Clarification questions on the homework assignments should be asked under Discussions on Quercus (there will be separate FAQ rubrics made for each assignment).

4. Before writing, please consult this syllabus, course website, lecture notes, slides, and handouts.

5. Emails that require more than a few sentences will not be answered.

6. Please, put "[LIN229 Name Surname]" at the beginning of subject line (replace Name with your name and Surname with your surname), followed by the topic of the email.

7. If you figure out the answer to your email before receiving my response, let me know right away by sending me an email with the subject line "[LIN229 Name Surname] Answer found". No content is required.

8. Only signed emails from your *mail.utoronto.ca* address will be considered.

9. Instead of email, you may send me a message through the messaging service in Quercus. The same policies apply to email and Quercus messages.

Frequently asked questions

When will the lectures be posted?
   The lecture slides will be posted within 24 hours after then end of the lecture. The handouts will be posted by Saturday 11.59 pm before the lecture.
I cannot come to the lecture. How can I still submit the assignment?
   You are required to attend lectures, and you will not be able to obtain full participation marks if you do not. You can, however, still submit the assignment by dropping in the course dropbox in the Department of Linguistics (located next to Sidney Smith 4073).
I cannot come to the tutorial. How can I still submit the description?
   You are required to attend tutorials, and you will not be able to obtain full participation marks if you do not. All language descriptions will be submitted online, so you can still do that if you are not on campus. Note that the same deadlines apply.
I will have to miss a lecture or tutorial. Do I need to email you?
   I understand that you might want to let me know. However, due to the large volume of email I receive, I would like to ask you not to email me if you cannot attend the lecture.

I would like to attend a different tutorial session. Can I reschedule?

You are required to attend your assigned tutorial session. Unfortunately, changing tutorials is not feasible in a class of this size, and would require extensive administrative support. Scheduling conflicts with other classes are avoided automatically by the enrollment system, and I am afraid we cannot accommodate any other scheduling conflicts.

Is additional support available for students with a disability or health consideration?

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or Accessibility Services at (416) 978 8060 or accessibility.utoronto.ca.

If you have an existing arrangement with Accessibility Services, the office will contact me directly, so don't worry about having to let me know about this. However, if you have any specific requests, please do let me know.

I am struggling with the course content. How can you help?

I would be happy to help you during office hours (see page 1 of this syllabus). You can also contact the department tutoring service at http://linguistics.utoronto.ca/undergraduate/tutoring.html

Will there be any additional help sessions?

There will be help labs before each test and before the final exam.

Can I email TAs?

Unfortunately, I will have to ask you not to email TAs, because TAs are not compensated to answer email. You can ask your TA questions during or after your tutorial. Note that TAs also hold office hours (see page 1 of this syllabus).

I cannot complete an assignment on time.

You have several options. You can submit the assignment late, but you will lose 25% of the grade per day. There is a grace period of 1 hour. If you have a personal or medical emergency, you should let me know as soon as possible, and before the deadline. Unfortunately, after the deadline has passed, we will not be able to grant any extensions.

I think my assignment/test was not graded correctly.

You will have to submit a regrading request form. The form will be posted on Quercus (under Syllabus) by week 2.

How can I get my assignments back?

Homework will be handed back in tutorials, generally 10 days after a homework assignment was due. If you miss a particular tutorial session, you can get the homework from me at the office hours two weeks after the original homework was handed back. For instance, if you would receive the homework back at the tutorial in week 7, you can pick it up at the Thursday office hours in week 9.

Will I get feedback on my language project assignment?

Unfortunately, we will not be able to provide any explicit verbal feedback on the language project. However, we will assess one part of the language project numerically.

Can I bring a cheat sheet to the tests and the final exam?

Students can bring two letter-sized, double-sided cheat sheets, as long as the following conditions are met: (i) cheat sheets must be signed, (ii) cheat sheets must not be copied (from another student), and (iii) cheat sheets must be surrendered together with the test/exam.

Can I bring the same cheat sheet to the tests and the final exam?

Yes, as long as the cheat sheet meets the conditions outlined above. You can also keep one sheet and add another sheet, or modify it.

I will have to miss a test. What should I do?

Term tests are during lectures. As such, you will have no scheduling conflict. If another course has a term test during our lecture, it is your responsibility to reschedule the other test, per University policy.

I would like to audit the course.

You are encouraged to do so. However, you will have to agree to the Auditor Policy, which will be posted on Quercus (under Syllabus). To gain access to Quercus, please email me your UTORid, with "LIN229 Auditor Name Surname" in the subject line. You cannot audit tutorials. If you do not have a UTORid, you will not be able to access Quercus.

I did not receive a reply to my email.

I reply to email within 2 business days - so do not worry if your message is not answered earlier than that. Unfortunately, I cannot reply to email (i) that is about course content, (ii) that is about an issue mentioned in this syllabus or slides, (iii) that is not sent from your UofT email address, not signed and does not contain "LIN229" in the subject line, or (iv) that asks about matters that may require a long reply (more than a couple of sentences). For questions that do require a long reply, please come by my office hours or make an appointment with me.

I would like to record the lectures and/or tutorials.

You are not allowed to record lectures in any form, except by explicit case-by-case approval, and under the condition that you will use the recording exclusively for accessibility reasons (and not, for instance, to dispute a grade). You must also obtain written consent from the course instructor before recording. Please, email the instructor (with "LIN229 Recording Name Surname" in the subject line) and provide grounds for recording. For tutorials, speak to your TA before recording.