

# LING 4010/6010: Introduction to Phonetics & Phonology

Fall 2010

Tuesday/Thursday 9:10–10:30

Social Work 137

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**Office:** LNCO 2305  
**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 1:00–3:00

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## Course Content

This course focuses on the physical and linguistic aspects of speech sounds. We will examine these sounds from articulatory, acoustic, and perceptual points of view. These topics are at the heart of phonetics and are fascinating in their own right, but they are also essential topics as preparation for studying phonology, which seeks an understanding of how speech sounds are organized in languages. By the end of the course we will have shifted our focus onto these language-specific patterns.

The skills developed in this course include the ability to:

- Identify the parts of the vocal tract and their roles in speech production
- Transcribe English and non-English speech using the IPA
- Provide evidence and arguments for the role of the syllable in speech
- Analyze the acoustic properties of speech using acoustic analysis software
- Describe the processes involved in speech perception
- Provide evidence and arguments for levels of representation in phonology (phonemes and allophones)
- Describe phonological patterns using phonological rule format and feature specifications
- Identify and pursue a novel research question in phonetics and phonology (LING 6010 students)

## 1 Course Requirements

**Prerequisites:** The prerequisite for this course is ENGL/LING 1200. Without having passed ENGL/LING 1200, you are at a serious disadvantage in the present course—from the very beginning we will assume as background material from ENGL/LING 1200.

**Reading & Homework:** There is no textbook for this course. Consequently, you will not be able to pass the course without attending class, and you should be sure to take good

notes. Some material will be posted on WebCT (<http://webct.utah.edu/>). If you miss class, it is your responsibility to get the material you missed from a classmate. In addition, there will occasionally be handouts posted on WebCT that you will need to print out and bring to class. I'll announce these ahead of time.

There are three required assignments and three optional assignments (think of the optional ones as extra credit); see the schedule below for due dates. These exercises will require a significant amount of work outside of class. Assignments must be turned in at the beginning of class on the day they are due. All work must be typed and stapled. To avoid plagiarism, always cite your references carefully—this often means attaching a works cited page to the assignment. Late homework will not be accepted unless you've made specific arrangements with me.

If you don't have access to special symbols as you type your homework, feel free to replace them with other similar-looking characters—just make sure you are consistent in your replacement, and please define your notation at the beginning of your write-up. You can download IPA fonts at the SIL website:

[http://www.sil.org/computing/catalog/show\\_software.asp?id=91](http://www.sil.org/computing/catalog/show_software.asp?id=91)

**Experiment Participation:** You must participate in one experiment in the Speech Acquisition Lab over the course of the semester. This will typically take up to one hour. If for any reason you are not comfortable participating in an experiment for credit in this course, you must tell me **before October 1, 2010**, so that an alternative assignment can be arranged.

After you participate in the experiment, you must write a one-page (double-spaced, 12-point font, 1-inch margins) typed description of the experiment:

- What were you asked to do?
- How do you think it relates to topics we are covering in class?

This is due at the beginning of the final exam (not before!). For more information and to sign up for experiments, please visit the Speech Acquisition Lab website at:

<http://www.linguistics.utah.edu/speechlab/expsignup.html>

**Exams:** There will be two exams—see below for their dates.

**Final Project:** Students enrolled in 6010 will each complete an individual original research project. The paper will be on a topic related to the content of this course. It must report novel research and make a contribution to knowledge in the field of phonetics and/or phonology.

You must make an appointment with me to discuss your topic. Please bring your topic and an outline of your paper to the meeting. While no rough draft is required, you are strongly encouraged to submit rough drafts for feedback at least one week before the due date. More information about final projects will be provided later in the semester.

## 2 Grading

We will use the following grading scale.

4	=	A
3	=	B
2	=	C
1	=	D
0	=	E

Final grades will be computed as follows:

<u>LING 4010 students</u>		<u>LING 6010 students</u>	
Homework problems	45%	Homework problems	40%
Experimental Participation	5%	Experimental Participation	5%
Midterm Exam	25%	Midterm Exam	15%
Final Exam	25%	Final Exam	20%
		Final Project	20%

## Academic Honesty, Access

Cheating will not be tolerated. While you are encouraged to discuss course material with each other, your write-up must be done independently. If you have questions about what is allowed, please ask the instructor. See this website for more information about academic integrity: <http://www.regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.html>

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations.

## Schedule

Here is a **very tentative** schedule for the quarter.

<i>Week</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Topics</i>	<i>Assignment</i> (date due)
1	Aug. 24	introduction; human speech apparatus	
	Aug. 26	human speech apparatus	
2	Aug. 31	Articulation of vowels	
	Sept. 2	Articulation of consonants	
3	Sept. 7	Transcription	
	Sept. 9	Transcription practice	
4	Sept. 14	Units of speech	
	Sept. 16	Sounds of the world's languages	
5	Sept. 21	Properties of sound	Opt. Assignment A
	Sept. 23	Acoustic analysis	
6	Sept. 28	Acoustic analysis with PRAAT	
	Sept. 30	Acoustics of English sounds	
7	Oct. 5	Midterm exam review	Assignment 1
	Oct. 7	Midterm exam	
	Oct. 12 Oct. 14	<i>Fall Break</i>	
8	Oct. 19	Introduction to speech perception	
	Oct. 21		
9	Oct. 26	Phonemics	
	Oct. 28	Features	
10	Nov. 2	Features	
	Nov. 4	Rules	
11	Nov. 9	Rules	Opt. Assignment B
	Nov. 11	Rules	Assignment 2
12	Nov. 16	Syllables	
	Nov. 18	Sonority	
13	Nov. 23	Neutralization	Opt. Assignment C
	Nov. 25	<i>Thanksgiving</i>	
14	Nov. 30	Neutralization	
	Dec. 2	Derivations & rule ordering	Assignment 3
15	Dec. 7	Presentations for 6010	
	Dec. 9	Review	

*Final exam: Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2010, 8–10am*