**English** **424: Phonology & Morphology (T 5:10-7:55)**

**Instructor**: Jenny Lederer

**Email**: lederer@sfsu.edu

**Office**: HUM 430, (415) 338-7464

**Office Hours**: Tues. 11-12; Thurs. 11-1; or by appointment. (Please sign up on the Google Doc if you plan to attend office hours. Telephone and/or Skype communication easy to arrange as well.)

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0Aho9XFckMu8IdGR6ZW5uSHR2bS1FNlNNSlp3UE5hNHc>

**Course Description**: We will learn about the range of speech sounds used in human language, from both practical (production/transcription) and research-oriented (articulatory and acoustic) points of view. We will also examine fundamental issues surrounding speakers' abstract knowledge of sound patterns in language (i.e. phonological grammars) and word composition processes (morphological grammar) drawing on data from languages around the world.

**Workload**: Ungraded problem sets, weekly readings, 2 comprehensive exams, 1 production exam, 5 take home assignments.

**Required Text (PLEASE BRING TEXTS TO EACH CLASS PERIOD)**:

**CiP** = Ladefoged, Peter. 2001. A Course in Phonetics, 4th ed. Harcourt College Publishers. (Please note this is an older addition only available for purchase online.)

Readings uploaded to iLearn website.

**BH** – Hayes, Bruce. 2009. Introductory Phonology. Wiley-Blackwell. (Purchase online. DO NOT purchase Kindle edition.)

**Software:** We will use the free software program PRAAT to do acoustic phonetics. You can download it onto your computer from http://www.praat.org

**Hardware:** Please bring a personal laptop to each class session in possible. We will perform small group activities using the Praat software in class.

**Teaching Method**: Lecture, discussion, small group work. (Please be mindful of any food you are eating during class as to not disturb your fellow classmates. Laptops should be used for note-taking and group work ONLY. No cell phone use.)

**Grading**:

* 2 Exams: **15% of total grade each,** 5 take-home assignment: **12% of total grade each (each is required!!!)**; 1 production exam: **5% of total grade**; participation: **5% of total grade**.
* All submitted work must be hard copy, and it must be submitted in class, on or before the due date. No late or e-mailed submissions will be counted. No make-up exams or extensions[[1]](#footnote-1). There is no extra credit.
* Attendance and participation will be noted every class period. More than 1 absence may result in a lower participation grade. Active participation in class discussion is expected.

**Communication**: It is extremely important to keep abreast of ALL email communication you receive from the instructor. I will use email to communicate any changes in the syllabus, so make sure to check your SFSU email consistently!

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| **Date** | **Topic** | **Readings:**  (Readings should be completed by date assigned) | **Assignment/Exam**  (Assignments to be turned in as a hard copy only on corresponding date) |
| T, Aug 29 | Introduction to articulatory phonetics | CiP ch. 1 & BH ch. 1 |  |
| T, Sep 3 | Consonants & Vowels | CiP ch. 2 & ch3 & ch. 7 |  |
| T, Sep 10 | Consonants and Vowels Continued | CiP ch. 4 & 9 |  |
| T, Sep 17 | Acoustic Phonetics | CiP ch. 6 & ch. 8 | HW1 Due |
| T, Sep 24 | Acoustic Phonetics  What is phonology? | BH Ch. 2 |  |
| T, Oct 1 | **Production Exam** (5:10pm-6:15pm)  Phonemes and allophony | BH Ch.2-3  BH preview ch. 4 | HW2 Due |
| T, Oct 8 | Underlying and surface representations  Exam Review |  |  |
| T, Oct 15 | **Exam #1** (5:10pm-6:15pm)  Morphology Basics | BH Ch 5  English Morphology Ch 3-4 (iLearn) | Exam 1 |
| T, Oct 22 | Distinctive features | BH ch 4 | HW 3 Due |
| T, Oct 29 | Syllable structure | CiP Ch. 10, BH ch. 13 & 14 |  |
| T, Nov 5 | Autosegmental phonology I: Tone and metrics | BH Ch. 15 | HW4 Due |
| T, Nov 12 | More Morphology/  Morphology-phonology interface | English Morphology Ch 5-7 (iLearn)  Review BH Ch. 4 (and 8) |  |
| T, Nov. 19 | Rule ordering and opacity | BH Ch. 6 & 7 | HW 5 Due |
| T, Nov. 26 | Fall Recess |  |  |
| T, Dec 3 | Optimality Theory  Exam Review | Kager Ch1 (posted on iLearn) |  |
| T, Dec 10 | **Exam 2** |  | Exam 2 |

**SFSU POLICIES AND RESOURCES**

**Cheating and Plagiarism:** Cheating is the actual or attempted practice of fraudulent or deceptive acts for the purpose of improving one’s grade or obtaining course credit; such acts also include assisting another student to do so. Typically, such acts occur in relation to examinations. However, it is the intent of this definition that the term ‘cheating’ not be limited to examination situations only, but that it include any and all actions by a student that are intended to gain an unearned academic advantage by fraudulent or deceptive means.

**Plagiarism** is a specific form of cheating. Plagiarism occurs when a student misrepresents the work of another as his or her own. Plagiarism may consist of using the ideas, sentences, paragraphs, or the whole test of another without appropriate acknowledgement, but it also includes employing or allowing another person to write or substantially alter work that a student then submits as her or his own. Any assignment found to be plagiarized will be given an “F” grade. All instances of plagiarism in the College of Humanities will be reported to the Dean of the College, and may be reported to the University Judicial Affairs Officer for further action. (Quotation taken from the College of Humanities Plagiarism Resources, www.sfsu.edu/~colhum/plagiarism.html)

**Information** on the University’s policy regarding cheating and plagiarism, is located in the *Schedule of Courses* (‘Legal Notices on Cheating and Plagiarism’) or the *University Catalog* (‘Policies and Regulations’). See also the student code of conduct at the following website: <http://www.sfsu.edu/%7Ehelpdesk/docs/rules/conduct.htm>

**For help** with plagiarism,see the following web-based resources:

(1)http://online.sfsu.edu/~dcohler/stu\_resource.html#plagiarism

(2) http://www.sfsu.edu/~colhum/plagiarism.html

(3) http://online.sfsu.edu/~rone/StudentHelp/Plagiarism.html

**Accessibility:** I wish to make this courses as accessible as possible to students with disabilities or medical conditions that may affect any aspect of course assignments or participation. You are invited to communicate with me at the outset of the course or at your discretion about accommodations that will improve your experience of or access to the course. Also contact the Disability Resource Center at 338-2472 (Voice/TDD).

**Americans with Disabilities Act (AD) Accommodation:** The University is committed to providing reasonable academic accommodation to students with disabilities. The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities provides university academic support services and specialized assistance to students with disabilities. Individuals with physical, perceptual, or learning disabilities as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact Service for Students with Disabilities for information regarding accommodations. Please notify your instructor so that reasonable efforts can be made to accommodate you. If you expect accommodation through the Act, you must make a formal request through Services for Students with Disabilities.

**Computer/Internet Access Requirement:** At SFSU, computers and communications links to remote resources are recognized as being integral to the education and research experience. Every student is required to a computer or have other personal access to a workstation (including modem and printer) and access to on-line educational resources.

**Classroom Behavior:** The classroom is a special environment in which students and faculty come together to promote learning and growth. It is essential to this learning environment that respect for the rights of others seeking to learn, respect for the professionalism of the instructor, and the general goals of academic freedom are maintained. Differences of viewpoint or concerns should be expressed in terms which are supportive of the learning process, creating an environment in which students and faculty may learn to reason with clarity and compassion, to share of themselves without losing their identities, and to develop an understanding of the community in which they live. Student conduct which disrupts the learning process shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

1. Please contact instructor PRIOR to exam if you are severely ill. Doctor’s note will be required to take make-up exam. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)