
LIN 825: Phonological Theory II

Spring 2021

Instructor

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Meetings

by Regular Off. hours:
Mon/Tue/Wed/Thur, 12:00 - 12:45pm
on the class Zoom link

Class Schedule

Tuesday/Thursday 10:40 - 12:00pm

Class Location

Zoom link: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/97515569662>

Zoom password: Phon

Note 1: It's best to email me a day or two BEFORE you plan to be there during my office hours, so that I can let you know if I am free at the time you plan to come.

Course Goals

The goal of the course is to enable students to critically evaluate phonological theories through standard phonological argumentation, and through experimental means wherever possible. In this course, we will look at two topics that have intrigued phonologists over the last few decades: (a) Reduplication, (b) Harmony. As with other topics, the literature is simply too large to cover in one course, so the emphasis will be on building intuitions about the larger landscape and skills to be able to do the necessary research.

Recommended Text

- Kager, René (1999). *Optimality Theory*. Cambridge University Press.
- Materials may be
 - (a) distributed in class.
 - (b) posted on the course website (D2L).
 - (c) placed on reserve in the library.
- Very useful websites
 - (a) [Rutgers Optimality Archives](#)
 - (b) [LingBuzz](#)

Course Requirements

Attendance

Students are expected to attend and participate in all classes. It is important to attend all classes since materials that are not covered in the textbook maybe be presented. Please be sure to get the notes from any class you may miss. Some materials maybe be sent via email, but you should also check with me or a classmate regarding material you may have missed.

Readings

Students are expected to do all the assigned readings. You must do the reading before the day it is discussed in class. This will make the lectures easier to follow, and you will be in a better position to ask questions about things that might not be clear to you. It will also help with your homework.

Homework

Each homework will be announced a week before it is due.

In-class Discussion

If you are under-prepared for a class, you will receive a 0% for that day's in-class discussion grade. Please come to class having read the assigned readings and having thought about the relevant issues carefully.

Grading

Along with the homework and readings during the semester. You will present your final research topic, and will submit a final paper based on the research presentation. The final paper should focus on either reduplication or (dis)harmony.

Grading Weight		Grading Scale	
Homework	25%	4.0	93% or higher
In-class Discussion	15%	3.5	85% - 92.9%
Research Proposal	10%	3.0	77% - 84.9%
Final Paper Presentation	10%	2.5	69% - 76.9%
Final Paper	40%	2.0	61% - 68.9%
Total	100%	1.5	53% - 60.9%
		1.0	45% - 52.9%
		0.0	44.9% or lower

Spartan Code of Honor Academic Pledge

As a Spartan, I will strive to uphold values of the highest ethical standard. I will practice honesty in my work, foster honesty in my peers, and take pride in knowing that honor is worth more than grades. I will carry these values beyond my time as a student at Michigan State University, continuing the endeavor to build personal integrity in all that I do.

Course Schedule

This schedule is subject to variation, particular given we are still in the midst of a pandemic and classroom discussion via Zoom might proceed slower than planned. So if you miss a class, be sure to check with me or a classmate.

Read Jurgec
(2011)

Wk	Date	Lecture Topic
1	January 19	Course organisation General review of Phon. Theories 1. 1a-SPE Phonology 2. Kager (1999) - Chapter 1
	January 21	Intro to OT; Kager (1999) - Chapter 2 .
2	January 26	Case-studies in OT; Kager (1999) - Chapter 3-4.
	January 28	More case-studies in OT; prosodic morphology in OT.
3	February 2	Challenges: Opacity, Saltatory alternations and Morphology before Phonology.
	February 4	Reduplication in OT; Kager (1999) - Chapter 5 <i>Optional Reading: Kiparsky (2010)</i>
4	February 9	Continued discussion of Reduplication in OT.
	February 11	Reduplication in serial phonology: Raimy, E. (2000). Remarks on Backcopying. Linguistic Inquiry, 31(3), 541-552. Raimy, E. 2009. Deriving reduplicative templates in a modular fashion. In E. & C. Cairns (eds) Contemporary views on architecture and representations in phonology. MIT Press. [E-book available through the library.]
5	February 16	Review of vowel harmony.
	February 18	Variant analyses for harmony in OT Walker, R. (2012), Vowel Harmony in Optimality Theory . Language and Linguistics Compass, 6: 575-592. <i>Optional reading: McCarthy (2003)</i>

6	February 23	<p>Hungarian Vowel Harmony</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Vago, R. (1976). Theoretical Implications of Hungarian Vowel Harmony. <i>Linguistic Inquiry</i>, 7(2), 243-263. Jensen, J. (1978). Reply to “Theoretical Implications of Hungarian Vowel Harmony”. <i>Linguistic Inquiry</i>, 9(1), 89-97. <p><i>Optional reading: Ringen (1978)</i></p>
	February 25	<p>Analysis of Hungarian Harmony in OT.</p> <p><i>Optional reading: Ozburn, A. (2019). A target-oriented approach to neutrality in vowel harmony: Evidence from Hungarian. <i>Glossa</i> 4(1), 47.</i></p>
7	March 2	Break Day
	March 4	No Class
8	March 9	<p>Mailhot, F. & Reiss, C. (2007). Computing Long-Distance Dependencies in Vowel Harmony. <i>Biolinguistics</i> 1, 28-48.</p>
	March 11	<p>Harrison, K., Kaun, A., 2001. Patterns, pervasive patterns, and feature specification. In: Hall, T. (Ed.), <i>Distinctive Feature Theory</i>. Mouton de Gruyter, Berlin, pp. 211–236. [get the e-version of the published paper from the MSU library, not the ms version floating on the intertubes.]</p>
9	March 16	<p>Benus, S. & Gafos, A. I. (2007). Articulatory characteristics of Hungarian ‘transparent’ vowels. <i>JPhon.</i>, 35(3), 271–300.</p> <p><i>Optional Reading: Dye, Amanda. 2015. Vowel Harmony and Coarticulation in Wolof and Pulaar: An Ultrasound Study. PhD thesis, New York University.</i></p>
	March 18	<p>Final paper discussion. Have a list of relevant papers, and come prepared to talk about your topic and what you have done so far.</p>

10	March 23	Hyman (2002). Is there a right-to-left bias in vowel harmony? In <i>Phonologica 2002</i> , John R. Rennison, Friedrich Neubarth, and Markus A. Pochtrager (eds.). Berlin and New York: Mouton de Gruyter.
	March 25	Consonant Harmony: Rose, S., & Walker, R. (2004). A Typology of Consonant Agreement as Correspondence. <i>Language</i> , 80(3), 475-531 Due: 2-page abstract of the final paper with relevant data/patterns.
11	March 30	Consonant Harmony (continued)
	April 1	Blocking in consonant harmony: Hansson, G. O.. (2007). Blocking effects in agreement by correspondence. <i>Linguistic Inquiry</i> 38 (2): 395-409. <i>Optional Reading: Hansson (2020)</i>
12	April 6	TBD
	April 8	TBD
13	April 13	Walker, R., Byrd, D., & Mpiranya, F. (2008). An articulatory view of Kinyarwanda coronal harmony. <i>Phonology</i> , 25(3), 499-535
	April 15	Vowel-Consonant Agreement: Rose, S. (2004). Long-distance vowel-consonant agreement in Harari. <i>Journal of African Languages and Linguistics</i> 25:41-87. <i>Optional Reading: Craioveanu & Godfrey (2014)</i>
14	April 20	Vowel Harmony in ABC: Rhodes, R. (2012). Vowel Harmony as Agreement by Correspondence. UC Berkeley Phonology Lab Annual Report.