Phonology & Morphology
ENG 424/824

Course Information

San Francisco State University, Spring 2021
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 12:30pm-1:45pm
Online, synchronous

Instructor

Bonnie Krejci
bkrejci@sfsu.edu
Office hours: Thursdays 1:45pm-2:45pm, and by appointment

Course Description

ENG 424/824 is an introductory course in *phonology*—the study of the sound systems of particular languages, and *morphology*—the study of word structure and word formation. Together we will (i) learn the fundamentals of phonetic transcription, which will enable us to analyze phonological systems of languages and gain insight into how sounds are represented in the minds of speakers; (ii) study phonological rules and processes and how sound systems of languages are organized; (iii) study rules by which morphemes combine to form words and how the word formation system interacts with phonology. The work in this course should sharpen your skills of analysis, show you new ways of thinking, and open new perspectives on your own language(s).

Course Goals

In this course, you will:

- Observe, describe, and explain sound patterns using the tools of phonemic analysis
- Perform morphological analysis: identify morphemes in a given data set and explain how they are combined to form words
- Gain an appreciation of the morphological and phonological diversity and systematicity found in languages of the world
- Research and effectively present an original project applying phonological and morphological analysis to a topic of real-world relevance

Textbooks

- *Introductory Phonology*. Bruce Hayes, 2009. Wiley-Blackwell.
- *Understanding Morphology*. Martin Haspelmath & Andrea Sims, 2010 (second edition). Hodder Education.

Assessment

- **Homework assignments** (60% total)

  There will be 8-9 homework assigments to be submitted through iLearn. They are due before class begins on the day that they are due. In the assignments, you are asked to provide an accurate, concise description of the linguistic data and a clear argument for a specific proposal that accounts for the data.

  Homework assignments are open note and open book. Working together on homework assignments is both allowed and encouraged—but, while you may discuss your answers and your reasoning with each other, each student's assignment must be written up entirely independently, without help. If you discuss your work with others, note their names at the top on your assignment to give them credit.

- **Midterm** (20%)

  The midterm exam will be a short, open book, open note exam, to be submitted through iLearn. This exam is scheduled for Week 5 (early!) and it will test your understanding of topics in phonology. The midterm is to be completed individually.

  There is no final exam for undergraduate students.

- **Research project** (20% total)

  Together with another student, you will research a topic of your choosing concerning the phonology and/or morphology of a particular language and present your results to the class at the end of the semester. The research project has a few milestones; see the course schedule. Graduate students will write up their research findings as a paper, submitted in lieu of the final exam.

Class policies

- **Attendance and participation**

  Attendance at class meetings and active participation are critical components of this class; attendance is taken at each class session. This class involves extensive in-class analysis and discussion of language data and theoretical concepts; students will frequently work together in small groups and pairs. Please come to class prepared to participate with questions and insights about assigned readings and ready to collaborate with your peers.

  If you have to miss class, let me know as soon as you can (via email).

- **Late work**

  Late assignments are accepted, but they are subject to a penalty of one full letter grade per

day. Please talk with me (via email) if you need an extension due to illness or emergency.

- **Communication**

  Please email me or talk to me during office hours to get in touch. For my part, I will try to answer every email within 1 business day. (This means that if you have a detailed question about an assignment, email me sooner rather than later.)

- **Technology policy**

  During class, please refrain from checking email or doing unrelated online tasks. All cell phones need to be inaccessible.

- **Academic honesty**

  I will hold you to high standards of academic honesty, in accordance with the university's guidelines. You are encouraged to work together on homework assignments, and you may work out the technical details together. However, the prose writing of your assignment must be completely your own. To learn more about SFSU policy on academic dishonesty, please visit: `http://conduct.sfsu.edu/plagiarism` or talk to me.

- **Our community**

  SF State fosters a campus free of sexual violence including sexual harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and/or any form of sex or gender discrimination. If you disclose a personal experience as an SF State student, the course instructor is required to notify the Dean of Students. To disclose any such violence confidentially, contact:

  The SAFE Place - (415) 338-2208; `sfsu.edu/∼safe_plc/`

  Counseling and Psychological Services Center - (415) 338-2208; `psyservs.sfsu.edu/`

  For more information on your rights and available resources see: `titleix.sfsu.edu`

- **Students with disabilities**

  Students with disabilities who need reasonable accommodations are encouraged to contact the instructor. The Disability Programs and Resource Center (DPRC) is available to facilitate the reasonable accommodations process. The DPRC is located in the Student Service Building and can be reached by telephone or by email. `dprc@sfsu.edu`; (415) 338-2472

- **Land acknowledgment**

  I acknowledge that we are located on the territories of the Ohlone people, the traditional custodians of this land on which SF State University is built.

Course Schedule

Tuesday	Thursday
1/26 Course Introduction	1/28 Phonetics *read IP, Ch. 1.1-1.4*
2/2 Phonetics *read IP, Ch. 1.5-1.8*	2/4 Phonemic Analysis *read IP, Ch. 2.1-2.5* *HW 1 due*
2/9 Phonemic Analysis *read IP: Ch. 2.6-2.10*	2/11 Phonemic Analysis *HW 2 due*
2/16 Features *read IP: Ch. 4.1-4.4*	2/18 Features *read IP: Ch. 4.5-4.9* *Research project partner and topic due*
2/23 Review day *HW 3 due*	2/25 Midterm *no class*
3/2 Morphology *read IP: Ch. 5.1-5.6*	3/4 Morphology *read IP: Ch. 5.7-5.9*
3/9 Phonological Alternation *read IP: Ch. 6.1* *HW 4 due*	3/11 Phonological Alternation *read IP: Ch. 6.2*
3/16 Phonological Alternation *read IP: Ch. 7.1* *HW 5 due*	3/18 Phonological Alternation *read IP: Ch. 7.2*
3/22-3/26 Spring Break	

3/30 Morphological Rules *read UM: Ch. 3.1* *HW 6 due*	4/1 Morphological Rules *read UM: Ch. 3.2*
4/6 The Lexicon *read UM: Ch. 4.1* *HW 7 due*	4/8 The Lexicon *read UM: Ch. 4.2-4.3* *Progress report due: meet with instructor*
4/13 Inflection and derivation *read UM: Ch. 5.1-5.2*	4/15 Inflection and derivation *read UM: Ch. 5.3*
4/20 Productivity *read UM: Ch. 6.1-6.3* *HW 8 due*	4/22 Inflectional Paradigms *read UM: Ch. 8.1-8.2*
4/27 Inflectional Paradigms *read UM: Ch. 8.3-8.4*	4/29 Review day *HW 9 due*
5/4 Research project presentations	5/6 Research project presentations
5/11 Research project presentations	5/13 Research project presentations

Finals week:

Grad students only: Research paper due 5/20, 2:30pm