

LING 330 Phonetics I: Introduction to phonetics

Course description and objectives

Description of speech sounds; transcription systems; articulation; acoustics of speech sounds; perception of speech sounds; cross-linguistic diversity and phonetic universals; the role of phonetics in grammar.

Prerequisite(s): LING 201, or permission of the instructor.

Lectures three hours a week.

Specific course objectives:

- Offer the student an opportunity to develop a phonetic analysis through hands-on experience with data;
- Becoming familiar with articulatory, acoustic and perceptual aspects of speech;
- Learning to classify and transcribe speech sounds used in the world's languages;
- Learning to generate and to interpret oscillograms and spectrograms;
- Learning about the phonetic grounding of phonological concepts, including distinctive features.
- Acquire basic research and technical writing skills.

Instructor: Peter Milne

Office: 1085 Dr. Penfield, 121

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Teaching Assistants:

Guilherme Garcia

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Rooms and Times

Lectures

MW(F) – Mon, Wed, (Fri) 11 : 35 – 12 : 25 Maass Chemistry Building, 10

Conferences

003 F – Friday, Hye Young Bang 08 : 35 – 09 : 25 PE1085, 002

004 F – Friday, Hye Young Bang 11 : 35 – 12 : 25 PE1085, 002

005 F – Friday, Guilherme Garcia 11 : 35 – 12 : 25 SH688, 391

006 F – Friday, Guilherme Garcia 13 : 35 – 14 : 25 PE1085, 002

Course materials

Textbook (required; available from the Campus Bookstore):

Ladefoged, Peter & Keith Johnson. 2011. *A Course in Phonetics*. Stamford, CT: Cengage Learning.

Be sure to read the textbook chapters before the lecture for which they are listed on the schedule. Audio files, interactive quizzes and other supplementary materials can be accessed via the textbook companion website:

<http://www.cengagebrain.com>

An interactive demonstration of the sounds of language can also be found at:

<http://www.uiowa.edu/acadtech/phonetics/>

Other course materials (course syllabus, lecture notes, assignments, etc.) will be posted on myCourses.

Evaluation

The final course grade will be based on the following components:

Quizzes (10)	10%
Homework assignments (8)	40%
Midterm exam	20%
Final exam	30%

Course rules and procedures

Conferences

Starting in Week 3 (Friday, January 23rd), Friday sessions will be held as conferences run by a TA. To determine which conference you will attend, you must sign up on Minerva. Sign up will be available after the first class. Once you have signed up for one section, you cannot switch to another. An effort will be made to divide the students evenly between sections. This means that once a section has a certain number of students, no more students will be accepted into that section.

You are responsible for the material covered in conferences just as you are responsible for the material covered in lectures. If for some reason you cannot attend a conference or lecture, you should make sure that you get the relevant notes from a classmate.

Office hours and appointments

TA office hours will be held regularly before assignments and midterms. Outside of office hours, students are encouraged to send content-related questions by e-mail to their TA. If you wish to meet with the TA or the professor outside of scheduled office hours, you can ask for individual appointments and generally these can be arranged.

Tutors

If you feel that you need more individual attention, we encourage you to contact either the Student Tutorial Service (398-6011) or SLUM (the undergraduate linguistics student association: slum.linguistics@mail.mcgill.ca). Of course, it is understood that tutors help with the content of the course but do not help directly with assignments. Make sure that your tutor knows what is being covered in the course this term since the content can change from term to term.

Email

You can expect TAs and professors to respond to your e-mail questions and comments. However, please do not expect instant responses. We will try to respond quickly (though we will be more vigilant closer to assignment due dates and exam times). Students often find that the discussions on the MyCourses website helpful.

Homework assignments

Assignments may be done alone or in groups. A group may contain a maximum of three students and all group members must be from the same conference. A group may hand in a **single assignment** with all group members' names and student numbers on it – all group members will receive the same grade for the assignment. You are **not required** to work in a group – you may hand in an assignment alone if you wish.

Midterm exam

The midterm exam is scheduled for **TBD**. It will take place in **TBA**. A make-up midterm will be arranged only for students who have a conflict with the midterm as scheduled. To be eligible, students must be registered in a conflicting course with a higher priority than LING 330. **Students who qualify must let me (Peter Milne) know in writing no later than Tuesday, January 27th, one week after the add/drop deadline.**

Rules regarding assignments, quizzes and exams

No make-up assignments, quizzes or midterm exam will be given to anyone who does not have a certified medical excuse. We must be notified within 24 hours of a missed assignment, quiz or midterm exam. You may leave messages at (514) 398-4222, even on weekends. According to Senate regulations, instructors are not permitted to make special arrangements for final exams. Please consult the Calendar, section 3.7, General University Information and Regulations. (See <http://www.mcgill.ca/student-records/exam/regulations> for more information on final and deferred exams.)

Any problem with grading on an assignment/quiz/exam must be reported within one week of when the assignment, quiz, or exam was returned. No answer to any graded assignment, quiz or exam question will be re-assessed unless the answer was originally written in ink and it has not been written over.

We recommend that you always keep a copy of your finished assignment in case the assignment is accidentally lost.

Academic integrity

McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the code of student conduct and disciplinary procedures (see www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/ for more information).

L'université McGill attache une haute importance à l'honnêteté académique. Il incombe par conséquent à tous les étudiants de comprendre ce que l'on entend par tricherie, plagiat et autres infractions académiques, ainsi que les conséquences que peuvent avoir de telles actions, selon le Code de conduite de l'étudiant et des procédures disciplinaires (pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez consulter le site www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/).

Right to submit in French

In accord with McGill University's Charter of Students Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded.

Conformément à la Charte des droits de l'étudiant de l'Université McGill, chaque étudiant a le droit de soumettre en français ou en anglais tout travail écrit devant être noté (sauf dans le cas des cours dont l'un des objets est la maîtrise d'une langue).

Copyright: Instructor-generated course materials

Instructor-generated course materials (e.g., slides, handouts, conference materials, assignments, quizzes, exam questions, answer keys, etc.) are protected by law and may not be copied or distributed in any form or in any medium without explicit permission of the instructor. Note that infringements of copyright can be subject to follow up by the University under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures.

Course Content

	Topic	Reading(s)	Homework
00	Introduction		
01	Articulation & Acoustics	Ch. 1	1 (Recording)
02	Phonology & Phonetic Transcriptions	Ch. 2	2 (Transcription)
03	Consonants of English	Ch. 3	3 (Consonants)
04	English Vowels	Ch. 4	4 (Vowel Plot)
05	English Words & Sentences	Ch. 5	5 (Pitch)
06	Airstream Mechanisms	Ch. 6	6 (VOT)
07	Consonantal Gestures	Ch. 7	
08	Acoustic Phonetics	Ch. 8	7 (Transitions)
09	Vowel-Like Articulations	Ch. 9	
10	Suprasegmentals	Ch. 10	
11	Speech Perception	TBD	8 (Perception)
12	Phonetics in Phonology	TBD	