



**Faculty of Arts**  
**School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures**

Linguistics 341  
Phonetics I  
Fall 2017

COURSE OUTLINE

**INSTRUCTOR'S NAME:** Stephen Winters

**OFFICE LOCATION:.** Craigie Hall C (CHC) 122

**OFFICE HOURS:** Mon. 2-3 + Thu. 1-2

**TELEPHONE NUMBER :** 403-220-7230

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**TEACHING ASSISTANT:**

**Name:** Mingyu Qiu

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**Office Hours :** Tu 11-12

**DESCRIPTION**

This course is an introduction to the phonetics of the languages of the world. We will explore this broad topic by (primarily) employing phonetic transcription and acoustic analysis to look at speech cross-linguistically. Readings, lectures and homework exercises provide an extensive survey of the speech sounds of the languages of the world, and an introduction to the basic tools of phonetic science.

Practical training in phonetics is particularly valuable for professions in language education – whether foreign language education, English education, or ESL. Phonetic training also benefits students who are interested in human/computer interface technology, and students who are in training for certification as speech pathologists or audiologists. Of course, students who major in linguistics should take phonetics.

Note on departmental grade requirement: a student may not register in any linguistics course unless a grade of at least C- has been achieved in each prerequisite for that course. The prerequisite for this course is linguistics 201.



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**DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES**

Homework exercises (HW):	15%
Production exercises (PEX):	15%
Participation (TRES):	15%
Midterm exam:	25%
Final exam:	25%
Production exam:	5%

**FINAL EXAMINATION:**

The Final Examination will be scheduled by the Registrar during the Examination Period. Requests for pre-assignment of examinations to special dates for whatever cause or reason cannot be accommodated. Similarly, changes in the dates of scheduled examinations cannot be approved. No expectations will be made to the Examinations Timetable.

**GRADING SCALE**

97% ≤ A+	71 ≤ C+ < 75
92 ≤ A < 97	66 ≤ C < 71
88 ≤ A- < 92	62 ≤ C- < 66
84 ≤ B+ < 88	58 ≤ D+ < 62
79 ≤ B < 84	50 ≤ D < 58
75 ≤ B- < 79	F < 50

**Grading**

The course grade will be based on your performance on homework exercises, production exercises, a production exam, course participation, a midterm exam and a final exam.

**Homework** will consist primarily of transcription practice and acoustic analysis exercises. I will expect you to complete these assignments independently, outside of class, as they will be graded for credit. Materials for the transcription exercises will be made available from the course website. These assignments are labeled as (HW) in the course schedule given below. Late homeworks will only be accepted in cases of documented medical or family emergencies.

**Production Exercises.** Over the course of the semester, you will be expected to learn how to produce the various sounds of the International Phonetic Alphabet. I will assign production exercises to test your ability to produce the sounds that have been presented in class. These assignments are labeled as (PEX) in the course schedule given below. You will be responsible for making recordings of yourself producing these sounds and sending the sound files to me



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for grading purposes. If you do not own a computer with which you can record yourself, you may use the facilities of the Phonetics Lab (see below) to do so.

I will provide you with more details regarding the production exam as the semester proceeds.

**Participation** grades will primarily be based on the completion of assignments in and for each Friday discussion section. These assignments are labeled as (TREX) in the course schedule below. Since these assignments will be discussed in class, points will *not* be taken off if honest (independent) effort yielded incorrect results. However, points will be taken off if an assignment is incomplete or carelessly done.

In borderline cases, class participation in the traditional sense may be used when assigning final grades.

**Exams.** The final exam will be cumulative. Make-up exams will not be given except in the case of dire, documented medical emergencies.

**RECOMMENDED TEXTS AND MATERIALS**

Peter Ladefoged and Keith Johnson (2014), *A Course in Phonetics*, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. Boston: Wadsworth.

Henning Reetz and Allard Jongman (2009), *Phonetics: Transcription, Production, Acoustics and Perception*, Chichester, UK: Wiley/Blackwell.

**COURSE NOTES**

**Course Web Page:** [uofclinguistics.org/341/](http://uofclinguistics.org/341/)

All lecture notes, handouts and homework exercises—along with updated versions of this syllabus—will be posted to the course website. Please check it on a regular basis if you are interested in having access to these materials.

**Discussion sessions**

It is relatively easy to learn the basic principles of phonetics (and phonetic transcription), but you will only become better at working with those principles through practice. Lots and lots of practice. Therefore, each Friday will be devoted to a review and application of the material covered during the lecture sections that week. During these discussion sessions you will have an opportunity to practice your skills at phonetic transcription, work on in-class phonetic analysis projects, and to discuss the assigned reading(s) for that week.

**Resources**

1. The Department of Linguistics Phonetics Lab is located in Education 259 (EDC 259; phone: 220-3598). The lab is set up to make high quality acoustic recordings of speech, which you are more than welcome to use for your production exercises for this class. If you would like to use



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the resources of the Phonetics Lab at any time, please contact me or the TA to set up an appointment.

2. Sound files and exercises from *A Course in Phonetics* (one of the textbooks for this class), may be found on the web at:

<http://linguistics.berkeley.edu/acip/>

An older, but still useful version of the textbook's website may be found here:

<http://www.phonetics.ucla.edu/course/contents.html>

3. Additionally, helpful sound materials may be found here:

<http://www.phonetics.ucla.edu/vowels/contents.html>

4. For this class, you will be required to submit transcriptions that have been coded in LaTeX, a free and open source word processing program. If you do not already have LaTeX installed on your computer, you can download a copy of it from here:

<https://www.latex-project.org/about/>

If you are used to a word processor like Microsoft Word, LaTeX's interface takes awhile to get used to, but it has the crucial benefit of being able to always produce properly formatted IPA text in documents. Since the use of LaTeX will be important for all of the homework assigned in this course, we will walk through how to use LaTeX to produce phonetic transcriptions together, during the first week of class.

5. Praat is a great software package for phonetic analysis. Among (many) other things, you may use Praat to record, edit and play sound files on your computer. You will need to download Praat to complete many of the exercises in this class; you can get it for free here:

<http://www.fon.hum.uva.nl/praat/>

6. Just for (educational) fun: I have a homemade IPA Scrabble set, which you are welcome to borrow at any time. All you have to do is ask!



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#### **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

1. **Plagiarism** is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. Plagiarism exists when:

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted." Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

2. **Cheating** on tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.

3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

#### **DISABILITIES AND ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services office at 403-210-6019 or [access@ucalgary.ca](mailto:access@ucalgary.ca); SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/)

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at [http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy\\_0.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf)

#### **EMERGENCY EVACUATION ASSEMBLY POINTS**

Craigie Hall: Professional Faculties food court (alternate: Education Block food court)  
Education Block and Tower: Scurfield Hall atrium (alternate: Professional Faculties food court)  
Kinesiology: north courtyard, MacEwan Student Centre (alternate: University Theatres lobby)  
For the complete list of assembly points please consult <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>



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#### **FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES**

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contact for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

[arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)

#### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT**

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it.

Please see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

#### **INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

The use of laptops or cell phones, tablets, etc., is only allowed for the purpose of taking notes or reviewing course-related materials during class. In other words, surfing the internet, texting, logging onto social media, etc., is not allowed, as it is a waste of your time in class, and distracts other students around you, too. In general, the best approach for you to take during classtime will be to put your gadgets away and focus on the lecture or the phonetic task at hand. Your mind will be better off for it!

#### **SAFEWALK**

To request a Safewalk escort anywhere on campus, 24 hours a day and seven days a week, please call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help Phones.

Web: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

#### **STUDENT UNION INFORMATION**

Representatives and contact details: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/home/contact.html>

Student Ombudsman: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>

#### **WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM**

Writing skills should cross all disciplines. Students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their courses and, where appropriate, instructors can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office (<http://www.efwr.ucalgary.ca/>) can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.