LIN322H1F: Phonological Theory
Syllabus

Instructor	Dr. Peter Jurgec [ˈjuɾɡəts ∼ ˈjʊɹɡəts] (Please, call me Peter)
Office hours	Monday after class ⋆ Wednesday after class ⋆ by appointment
Office	suppressed
Email	suppressed (see Email policy below)
Lectures	Monday noon–1 pm (Muzzo Family Alumni Hall AH 107)
	Wednesday noon–2 pm (Muzzo Family Alumni Hall AH 107)
	Location: https://goo.gl/dzOX9z (East of Queen's Park)
Grader	suppressed

Course description and goals

Prerequisite: LIN229H1 Sound Patterns in Language (or equivalent)

Phonology concerns sound patterns in natural languages. This course provides an overview of contemporary phonological theory, with a focus on Optimality Theory. The major predictions of the theory will be discussed and sometimes compared to alternative approaches. A substantial part of the course will deal with writing a squib length paper analyzing a particular pattern using Optimality Theory.

By the end of this course, students are expected to be able to: (i) understand how Optimality Theory works, (ii) write a short paper on phonology, (iii) analyze complex segmental and prosodic patterns. A large part of this course is devoted to writing a phonological analysis of a particular pattern or a typological comparison across languages.

Course website

The course website is available on *Blackboard* (http://portal.utoronto.ca). You will need your UTORid and password to log in. Presentations (slide printouts), handouts, homework assignments and announcements will be made available via the website.

Readings

There are no obligatory readings. Copies of optional readings will be provided in class.

Important dates

☞ http://goo.gl/WfeVcc

September 14	Classes in F section code courses begin
September 27	Last day to add courses with S section codes
November 8	Last day to drop courses with F section codes from academic record and GPA
December 8/9	Classes end in F section code courses

Course requirements

You should attend course lectures and tutorials. Generally, the tutorial is scheduled on Monday and the lecture is on Wednesday. However, I will not strictly separate the two, so both sessions will feature a lecture and tutorial component.

Homework assignments (50%)

There will be 5 homework assignments, each counting 10% of the final grade, for a total of 50%. All assignments will be available on the course website. You can start working on homework assignments as soon as they become available (typically a week before they are due).

Homework assignments are due at the beginning of the lecture on Monday or Wednesday (see *Class schedule* for due dates). Late assignments will incur a lateness penalty of 20% per day. Please note that if the assignment is turned in during or after class on the due date, a lateness penalty of 20% will apply. Homework assignments cannot be redone.

Homework must be printed or written in ink. Illegible homework will not be accepted. If your homework contains multiple pages, please staple them together.

Homework must be done independently. While students can discuss the homework in most general terms, no joint work is allowed. Examples of illicit behavior include solving the homework together, copying the homework from another student or from published work in any form, sharing any part of your homework with a fellow student, and copying any part of the text from a written or digital source without properly citing the source. These cases constitute a violation of the academic integrity policy in the sense of the *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters.*

Paper (50%)

You are expected to focus on a particular issue, topic, problem, or language. A comprehensive list of topics will be available in early October. The paper should be at most 9 double-spaced pages long (not including references or any appendices).

Before draft version (5%)

You should have a tentative topic by October 7 (1%), and write a short, 300-word summary by October 19 (4%). The topic may change.

Draft version (15%)

The draft version of the paper should be as close to the final version as possible. At the very least, the first version should contain the introduction and conclusion, all the data, the discussion and the bulk of the analysis. The due date is November 13. See *Final version* below for grading criteria.

Two peer reviews (10%)

You will peer review two other students' papers using an online interface.

Your peer reviews will be graded based on the following criteria:

- Did the review accurately summarize the paper?

- Did the review accurately evaluate the paper?

- Is the review well-structured and clear?

- Did the review recognize the main contribution(s) of the paper?

- Did the review raise valid objections or alternative solutions?

- How detailed is the review? (Are minor comments also included?)

- Was the tone of the review appropriate?

Final version (20%)

The final version of the paper should contain a full (theoretical) account and addressing the comments. The paper is due on December 9.

Your paper will be graded based on the following criteria:

- Is the paper and well-organized and clearly written?

- Did the paper raise new questions, observations, generalizations?

- Is the empirical coverage of the paper sufficient?

- Did the paper accurately summarize previous research?

- Is the argumentation solid?

- Is the theoretical account clearly motivated and well-suited?

- Did you integrate the reviewers' and instructor's comments? You may provide a separate letter with a point-by-point response to the reviewers.

Evaluation summary

Component		Share	Due
Homework	Five assignments	50%	Fortnightly
Paper	Topic	1%	10/7
	Short summary	4%	10/19
	Draft version	15%	11/18
	Two peer reviews	10%	11/25
	Final version	20%	12/9

Grading policy

The Department of Linguistics follows the University Assessment and Grading Practices Policy, which states that "the cumulative scores [for course work] may not be directly identified with the final grade." (http://goo.gl/VDGGWF) Rather, raw cumulative scores are used by the instructor as the basis for arriving at the refined letter scale category (e.g. B+, B, B−, etc.) that represents best the student's overall course performance.

Class schedule (subject to change)

Dates	Title	HW due	Paper
M 9/14	Introduction		
W 9/16	Basic Optimality Theory		
M 9/21	Basic Optimality Theory		
W 9/23	No class (Review and HW)		
M 9/28	Correspondence Theory	① 9/28	
W 9/30	The Syllable		
M 10/5	Homework review		
W 10/7	Alignment		Ⓟ 10/7 Choose topic
M 10/12	No class (Thanksgiving)		
W 10/14	Stress	② 10/14	
M 10/19	Homework review		
W 10/21	Stress		Ⓟ 10/19 Short summary
M 10/26	Reduplication	③ 10/26	
W 10/28	Reduplication		
M 11/2	Homework review		Ⓟ 11/2–11/6 Meetings
W 11/4	How to do an analysis		Ⓟ 11/2–11/6 Meetings
M 11/9	No class (Fall break)		
W 11/11	How to write a paper	④ 11/11	
M 11/16	Homework review		
W 11/18	Language typology & universals		Ⓟ 11/18 Draft paper
M 11/23	Opacity		
W 11/25	Opacity		Ⓟ 11/25 Peer reviews
M 11/30	Paper feedback		
W 12/2	Challenges & extensions	⑤ 12/2	
M 12/7	Conclusions		Ⓟ 12/9 Final paper

Course policies

1. All homework is due at the start of the lecture on the due date.

2. The students are expected to attend all lectures. Please, arrive on time.

3. Plagiarism is a serious offense, and it cannot be tolerated. Any work submitted for course credit must be your own. Homework must be done independently or within your group, with no communication outside the group (see Homework assignments above). If a student is found guilty of plagiarism (or any other form of academic dishonesty) on an assignment or exam, the student will receive a zero grade for the work in question. Additional penalties include failure of the course and suspension from the university. For more on academic integrity at the University of Toronto, please see:
http://academicintegrity.utoronto.ca
http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/osai

Email policy

Due to the large size of the class, course-related email communication will be limited in the following ways:

1. I generally reply to emails on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings. All emails received before 9 am on those days will replied to on the same day.

2. Emails about the course content will not be answered. There are numerous other venues to ask your questions, including during the lectures and office hours.

3. Before writing, please consult this syllabus, course website, lecture notes, slides, and handouts.

4. Emails that require more than a few sentences will not be answered.

5. In your email, please include your full name. Only signed emails from your *mail.utoronto.ca* address will be considered.