

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF LINGUISTICS AND APPLIED LANGUAGE STUDIES

**MASTER OF ARTS
LALS 562 PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY
15 POINTS**

TRIMESTER 2 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 13 July to 15 November 2015

Teaching dates: 15 July to 7 October 2015

Mid-trimester break: 24 August to 6 September 2015

Last assessment item due: 16 October 2015

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Wednesday 12-2pm, von Zedlitz 204

Names and contact details

Course coordinator

Dr Sasha Calhoun

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In office: by appointment

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Course Administrator

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Communication of additional information

Lecture slides and other course information will be posted on Blackboard, <http://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz>. Blackboard is Victoria's online teaching and learning system. Notices will also be emailed to students.

Prescription

Advanced study in an area of the analysis of sound structure.

Course content

| Week | Date | Topic |
|------|------|--|
| 1 | 15/7 | Intro: What is phonetics and phonology? Articulatory phonetics |
| 2 | 22/7 | Acoustic phonetics |
| 3 | 29/7 | Acoustic phonetics practical |
| 4 | 5/8 | Connected speech patterns |
| 5 | 12/8 | Connected speech practical |
| | | <i>Study week and mid-trimester break</i> |
| 6 | 9/9 | Phonemes and contrast |
| 7 | 16/9 | Distinctive features |
| 8 | 23/9 | Autosegmental phonology |
| 9 | 30/9 | Prosodic hierarchy |
| 10 | 7/10 | L2 speech production and perception |

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. describe accurately the sounds of English from articulatory, acoustic and auditory perspectives, and demonstrate an awareness of the sounds of the world's languages
2. use acoustic phonetic analysis to analyse connected speech processes, and relate this analysis to findings in the literature on the nature of these processes
3. understand fundamental phonological structures, from the segmental to the suprasegmental level, and describe them in formal terms
4. evaluate different theoretical accounts of given phonetic and phonological phenomena on the basis of new data

Teaching format

The content of LALS562 will be delivered through seminars as above, including practical sessions, and through students' own reading.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must attend at least 7 of the 10 classes. Attendance in MA classes is expected and important. This is in order to be able to develop and practice the linguistic analysis skills covered in the CLOs. It is also important as class sizes are small and so all students need to contribute to the class discussion. However, it is acknowledged that sometimes students will not be able to attend due to circumstances such as illness or injury, so 100% attendance is not required. If you cannot attend class, please let the course coordinator know in advance.

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet the MCR because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

Workload

Course members should expect to spend at least 150 hours across the course on LALS 562 (including class time). This includes approximately 80 hours doing the assignments, and 50 hours reading and reviewing course material.

While the course requires a considerable amount of independent work, course members are also encouraged to study cooperatively by forming study and discussion groups and sharing ideas and resources with one another. Course members must prepare for classes by completing set readings in advance of the classes.

Assessment

| <i>Assessment</i> | <i>Date Due</i> | <i>Value</i> | <i>CLOs</i> |
|---|-----------------|--------------|-------------|
| 1. Acoustic Phonetics Analysis (1500 words) | 19/8 | 30% | 1,2 |
| 2. Phonological Analysis (1000 words) | 23/9 | 20% | 3 |
| 3. Research Project (2500 words) | 16/10 | 50% | 4 |

All assessments are due at **12pm** on the due date.

Marking criteria will be distributed with each assessment. Students should also make themselves familiar with the general MA grade descriptors (which will be posted on Blackboard). These will be particularly relevant for the research project.

Submission and return of work

Assessments should normally be submitted **BOTH** in hardcopy in class on the due date, **and** electronically through Blackboard. Instructions on how to use the BB assignment tool are on the BB website. Late hardcopies of assessments may be submitted to the School office.

Marked assessments will be returned within approximately two weeks of the due date.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

If you require an extension for good reasons, ask the course coordinator ahead of the date for handing in the assignment. Evidence of exceptional circumstances, such as a medical certificate, may be required.

Penalties

Any assignment for which an extension has not been arranged, which is handed in after the due date, will receive a one grade penalty (e.g. if it is worth an A-, it will get a B+) for each working day

between the due date and when it is handed in. Assignments handed in more than a week after the due date will not receive a grade.

Students must adhere to the word limits for assignments. Assignments that are slightly excessive in length (more than 10% over the limit) will be marked down one grade, e.g. from a B+ to a B, or from a B to a B-. Assignments that are far over the word limit (more than 25%) will be marked down one full grade, e.g. from B+ to C+, or A- to B-.

Set texts

Zsiga, Elizabeth (2013). *The Sounds of Language: An Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology*. Hoboken: Wiley-Blackwell.

Recommended reading

Other readings will be recommended during the course.

Textbooks can be ordered online at www.vicbooks.co.nz

Class representative

There is one class representative for the MA programme. Details are posted on Blackboard.

Student feedback

Enhancements made to the course based on the feedback of previous students will be covered during the course. For example, previously students have noted that they found the acoustic phonetics content in the course particularly valuable. There is therefore more emphasis on that this year. Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz