



Intermediate Phonology

Module Outline 2021-22

Module Details

Module code: PLIN0066	Credits: 15	Level: 5 (UG), 7 (PG)
Lecturer	Dr Florian Breit (florian.breit.12@ucl.ac.uk)	
Teaching Assistants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr Liz Eden (elizabeth.eden.11@ucl.ac.uk)	
Description	<p>This module addresses fundamental theoretical and empirical questions arising from the scientific study of languages' sound systems. The focus this year is on the principles and parameters that determine the structural aspects of a language's sound system, e.g. syllable structure, stress, morphophonology. We will also take some time to look at the encoding of melody (e.g. voice contrast, place of articulation) and how they interact with the structural aspects of a language's phonology. Participants will gain hands-on experience of theory development and the analysis of phonological data from a variety of languages.</p>	
Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10 lectures• 10 tutorials	
Prerequisites	Familiarity with entry-level phonology and general phonetics.	
Moodle	https://moodle.ucl.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=7158	
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assignment 1: 1,000 words. Due: 9 March 2022, 12noon.• Assignment 2: 1,000 words. Due: 4 May 2022, 12noon.	
Timetable	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecture: Tue 4-6pm, G15.• Tutorials:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Tue 12noon-1pm, B01.○ Tue 1pm-2pm, G15.	

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ No tutorial in Week 1.• For specific times and group allocations please refer to your personal timetable. |
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Syllabus

Week 1: Introduction and review of phonological rules, features, URs, alternation and derivation.

Week 2: Different approaches to phonology. Principles and parameters in phonology.

Week 3: Phonological constituents, parameters for onsets, nuclei and rhymes, phonological government, the onset licensing principle and the binarity theorem.

Week 4: Further restrictions on phonological structure, the projection principle, word-final onsets, coda-onset sequences and transconstituent government, limits on government.

Week 5: Metrical lengthening, sC(C)-sequences, strong and weak uniformity principles, licensing in phonology, empty categories in phonology, the end of the word, proper government, the empty category principle and “magic” licensing in sC(C)-sequences.

Week 5: Vowel systems across languages. The representation of melody in Element Theory as an alternative to traditional equipollent feature systems.

Week 6: Formalising Element Theory, principles of melodic representation, representing place of articulation, vowel-consonant unity, representing manner of articulation, laryngeal realism, generative capacity.

Week 7: Phonological processes: prosodic domain-building and phonological derivation. Licensing constraints, vowel harmony in Turkic languages.

Week 8: Emptiness in phonology: More on alternations with zero.

Week 9: Morphophonology, the morphosyntax–phonology interface, phonologically conditioned allomorphy and morphologically conditioned phonology, the principle of syntax-free phonology.

Week 10: Current developments in Government Phonology.

Reading

There is no set textbook for this course, we will make use of a variety of resources and often read papers from the primary literature.

During the first two weeks, we will use the following text:

Kaye, Jonathan (1989) *Phonology: A cognitive View*. Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.

There are limited numbers of this available in the library, so if you are not purchasing this text you should plan ahead to have access to the material. You will have to read Chs. 1-3 for Week 1, and Chs. 4-5 for Week 2. You should try your best to complete these readings *before lecture 2 takes place*.

Weeks 4-10 will be based on individual readings, which will be available either via moodle or digitally through the library. Readings for these weeks can be done before or after the lecture, to suit your own timetable. However, it is assumed that the reading will be completed *before the tutorial* takes place (recall that the tutorials happen one week after the respective lecture).

Optionally, students may additionally find the following text on Element Theory helpful for reference purposes, as it contains a more comprehensive overview than what we can address in the lectures, although we won't make much explicit reference to the text in the course:

Backley, Philip (2012) *An Introduction to Element Theory*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.

Assessment

Students on this module are assessed through two written coursework assignments of approximately 1,000 words in length each:

- The first assignment will be released during reading week and is due on the 9 March 2022, 12noon.
- The second assignment will be released in the last week of term and is due on 4 May 2022, 12noon.

Your assignments **must** be submitted as a PDF file. Other file formats, such as Word's .doc or .docx, cannot be accepted. The file, including all tables, diagrams, rules, etc. must be prepared with appropriate word- or graphics-processing software. Hand-drawn diagrams are not acceptable and may not be awarded any marks. Your submission should be formatted professionally in the style one might expect for a submission to a professional journal in linguistics.

You will be provided with a pre-formatted Word template which you can use to ensure that your submission meets the styling criteria. Your work must be fully referenced, and reference must be formatted in line with current APA guidelines.

Submitting your assignments

You must submit your all your assessment components via the appropriate submission inbox on the *Assessment* tab on the module's moodle page.

All submissions on this module have a grace period for submission until 1 minute before midnight on the due date. However, no support can be provided in the event that any problems are encountered with submitting after the official 12noon deadline, so this is at your own risk.

If you encounter any issues with the submission process or need an extension on a piece of coursework, please get in touch with the linguistics teaching Linguistics Teaching Office Team (pals.lingteachingoffice@ucl.ac.uk). The lecturers and teaching assistants on this module do not handle the granting of extensions or deal with late submission issues.

Florian Breit
10 January 2022