

**Introduction to Phonetics/Elements of Phonetics**  
**SLHS 30600/LING 31500 - Fall 2012**

Instructor:	Alexander L. Francis
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Lecture Time:	MW 12:30-1:20
Classroom:	WTHR 160
Labs:	Tuesday 11:30-1:20 (GRIS 276); Thursday 9:30-11:20 (GRIS 276)
Teaching Assistants:	Erin Coffey (ecoffey@purdue.edu), Danielle Yu (adyu@purdue.edu)
Graders/Assistant TAs:	Yuanyuan Wang (wang861@purdue.edu); Ashley Kentner (akentner@purdue.edu)
Instructor Office Hours:	Tuesday and Wednesday 1:30-2:30, and by appt.
TA Office Hours/Location:	TBD/TBD

**TEXTBOOK**

**Required textbook**

Ladefoged, P. & Johnson, K. (2011). *A Course in Phonetics, 6<sup>th</sup> Ed.* Wadsworth/Cengage Learning

**Supplementary references**

Reetz, H. & Jongman, A. (2009). *Phonetics.* Wiley-Blackwell.

PDFs as assigned and posted to Blackboard.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

This course is an introduction to the study of phonetics, the study of the production and perception of speech, with special emphasis on using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) as a tool for manually recording aspects of speech as it is produced. The study of phonetics is relevant to a variety of disciplines, from linguistics, audiology and speech/language pathology to sociology, law, music, and human-computer interface design. The course is intended primarily for undergraduate majors in linguistics and speech/language pathology and audiology, but other disciplines will be referenced when possible.

By the end of the semester you should be able to:

- Explain the mechanisms of speech sound production
- Understand the rationale, benefits and shortcomings of phonetic transcription
- Relate the production of speech to its perception
- Describe speech sounds in terms of linguistic phonetic features
- Discriminate and produce common speech sounds from English and other languages
- Transcribe typical and disordered English and selected non-English speech sounds using the IPA

## COURSE POLICIES

**Students with Disabilities:** If you believe you have a disability, medical condition or other special circumstances that may affect your participation in this course please contact the Dean of Students Office (Schleman 207, 4-1747, [www.purdue.edu/odos/drc/welcome.php](http://www.purdue.edu/odos/drc/welcome.php)) so that suitable arrangements can be made.

**Time commitment:** Learning phonetics is time-consuming. It requires considerable memorization and repetitive practice. In addition to the hours you spend in class, you should plan on spending *at least 6-8 hours per week* on reading, reviewing your notes, and other assigned activities (homework, using CD-ROMs, downloading and applying software packages, and visiting suggested websites). The teaching assistant and I also commit time to working with you. If there is any material that you do not understand, please contact the TA for help or come to my office hours. Do this sooner rather than later. Like a foreign language, learning phonetics, and especially becoming proficient at transcription, requires a great deal of highly repetitive practice. Do not wait until the week before the exam to start studying!

**Attendance:** Students are expected to attend all lectures and all assigned labs. In my experience, students who attend class regularly understand the material better and consequently earn better grades. If you must be absent from lecture or lab you are still responsible for all of the material covered during that class period. I recommend you make arrangements with your colleagues to borrow their notes if you miss class. Your TA and I are not responsible for keeping you up-to-date on classes that you miss (except under exceptional circumstances, see below). **Note** that lectures and labs may not cover all material presented in the textbook, and will cover material that is not in the textbook. You are expected to know and understand all material covered in the course, whether presented in lecture, lab or assigned readings.

**Reading assignments:** All reading assignments for a given day should be completed before you come to class on that day. Readings will follow the attached schedule unless stated otherwise in lecture.

**Homework:** Written homework is a valuable form of active learning that helps students understand the materials covered in lecture and labs. Homework will be assigned regularly. Some assignments may require you to download and run various free computer programs. These may be done on your computer or in one of the ITaP labs on campus. You are encouraged to work with colleagues on homework assignments. However, you should not turn in work that you did not do. Do not simply copy work done by others. It is in your best interest to be sure that you can do the work on your own. There will be a total of 9 homework assignments, but the lowest score will be dropped. **Late homework will not be accepted except under exceptional circumstances (see below).**

**Quizzes:** Short quizzes will be given in lab each week to ensure that you are keeping up with and understanding course material. Reviewing the course material regularly (e.g. after every lecture) and making sure you can do your homework *on your own* will help you be prepared for these quizzes and will make it easier to prepare for the exams. There will be a total of 9 quizzes, but the lowest score will be dropped. **No make-up quizzes will be given except under exceptional circumstances (see below).** Quizzes may include transcription of live or recorded speech.

**Examinations:** There will be two written exams scheduled during regular class time (see the course schedule), plus a final exam scheduled according to the campus-wide final exam schedule. Each in-class exam will comprise 12% of your final grade. Exams may include transcription of live or recorded speech.

**Final Exam:** The final exam will be cumulative, will comprise 22% of your final grade, and will address information from the entire course. Part of the final exam may involve transcription of live or recorded speech.

You are expected to take the exams and quizzes on the days and times scheduled. Make-up exams are only allowed under exceptional circumstances (see below). Note that it is entirely possible that we will have an exam

on the afternoon of the last Saturday of finals week. **DO NOT** schedule your trip home before the final exam date has been determined – Early final exams will not be scheduled except as necessary under the conflict exam policy!

**Conflict Exam Policy:** Because this is a large class, there are usually a few students entitled to a conflict exam (see ODoS policies on conflict exam eligibility). This conflict exam will be scheduled according to the needs of eligible students, and location will be determined by space available at that time. If there is additional space in the scheduled conflict exam room, other students may be given the option of taking the conflict exam at the same time as the eligible students. Priority for this option will be determined by cumulative grade on the first 2 exams (higher averages receive priority). If none of the eligible students elect to take the conflict exam, none will be offered.

**Exceptional circumstances:** Exceptional circumstances include religious obligations, serious personal illness or injury, sudden hospitalization or death of an immediate family member, and illness requiring home-stay of a dependent. If the absence can be anticipated (e.g. religious obligation), you must notify me at least one month prior to the date of absence. Unanticipated absences may be excused only within 1 week following the date of the absence/your return to campus, and upon presentation of verifiable written documentation confirmed by the Office of the Dean of Students. If you have questions about this policy, please ask. You may also refer to the website [www.purdue.edu/odos/services/classabsence.php](http://www.purdue.edu/odos/services/classabsence.php)

**Grading:** Course grade will be based on performance on the items described in the following table:

Item	Points	Percentage
Exam 1	60 points	12 %
Exam 2	60 points	12 %
Final Exam	110 points	22 %
Transcription Exam	50 points	10 %
Quizzes	8 quizzes * 15 points each = 120 points	24 %
Homework	8 assignments @ 10 pts each = 80 points	16 %
Class participation	20 points	4 %
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>500 points</b>	<b>100%</b>

The final grade will be scored: A+ (100-97%), A (96-93%), A- (92-90%); B+ (89-87%), B (86-83%), B- (82-80%); C+ (79-77%), C (76-73%), C- (72-70%); D+ (69-63%), D (62-56%), D- (55-50%); F ( $\leq$  49%). Grades will be posted via Blackboard Learn.

**Classroom atmosphere:** Please feel free to raise your hand to ask questions during lectures. I will do my best to answer your question in a timely manner. Please come to class prepared to participate. I often ask impromptu questions during lecture, and I expect you to be able to work with me when called upon to do so. Please be respectful of your instructors and your colleagues. If you must discuss something while someone else is talking, please do so quietly. If your discussion *appears to be* disruptive to the instructor or to other students you will be asked to quiet down. If you must be asked to quiet down more than once, you will be asked to leave class for the day. If you must leave early or arrive late, please make sure you enter or leave as quietly and unobtrusively as possible. I appreciate being notified of such occasions in advance, but understand that this is not always possible.

**Wireless Devices:** Please remember to turn off the ringer on all wireless devices (phones, pagers, Blackberries, iPhones, etc.) before class begins. If your phone is disruptive you may be asked to leave class. Use of any communication device during exams will result in a 0.

**Student Academic Misconduct** (a.k.a. cheating): If you work together with colleagues, make sure you can also do the work on your own when your colleagues are not there to help you. You may not collaborate with anyone on quizzes or exams. On all assignments, copying answers from classmates, allowing others to copy your answers, and all other forms of plagiarism and cheating as given in the university guidelines will result in a failing grade for the assignment, and the incident may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action. **Do not present the work of others as your own.** Please review carefully the brochure “Academic Integrity: A Guide for Students” available at the Dean of Students Office (Schleman 207) or online at: <http://www.purdue.edu/odos/aboutodos/academicintegrity.php>

**Student Rights and Complaints:** The official policies of the University concerning student rights and complaints, honesty and academic misconduct can be found in the *Academic Procedure Manual*, and in *University Regulations*, available from the Office of the Dean of Students or at: <http://www.purdue.edu/univregs/>

*Any concerns about grades given on a particular assignment must be put in writing and given to your TA. Your written statement should include a description of why you believe the grade to be incorrect, and what you believe the grade should be. The course instructor is the final arbiter on all such decisions. The only exception to this rule is obvious errors in arithmetic, which may be brought to your TA’s attention directly.*

In general, any problems should be brought first to your TA. If you feel you cannot discuss the problem with your TA, please talk to the course instructor. You may also contact one of the department Ombudspersons before going to the department Head or the Dean of Students. The SLHS Ombudspersons are Dr. Anne Smith (email: [asmith@purdue.edu](mailto:asmith@purdue.edu)) and Hope Gulker (email: [hgulker@purdue.edu](mailto:hgulker@purdue.edu)). The Head of SLHS is Professor Keith Kluender (email: [kkluender@purdue.edu](mailto:kkluender@purdue.edu)). You can also talk with the SLHS undergraduate advisor, Michelle Mullen ([mmull@purdue.edu](mailto:mmull@purdue.edu)).

**Campus Emergency:** In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances. Here are ways to get information about changes in this course: Blackboard Learn web page (<https://blackboard.purdue.edu/>), the course mixable group, <http://www.purdue.edu/mixable/Feed>, my email address: [francisa@purdue.edu](mailto:francisa@purdue.edu), and my office phone: 494-3815.

**Honors option:** There is no honors option for this class this semester.

**Policy on letters of recommendation for graduate school:** I am usually unable to write a letter of recommendation for a student who has not worked in my lab or taken a seminar-style course with me (e.g. SLHS 444 *Research Methods in Communication Sciences and Disorders*).