

Course Manual Phonology

Credits:	6 ECTS
Entry requirement:	First-year course Phonetics of the BA Linguistics
Time period:	Semester 1, block 2 (October 28 through December 20 2019)
Part of...	BA Linguistics
Time & Location:	Lectures: Mondays 13:00-15:00, PCH 1.04 Seminars: 2 x per week, check timetable
Teachers:	Silke Hamann (silke.hamann@uva.nl): lecture Marijn van 't Veer (b.m.vantveer@uva.nl): seminar group 1 Klaas Seinhorst (seinhorst@uva.nl): seminar groups 2 & 3

This course is the first of three in the second year that deal with the structure of language, the others being Syntax (in block 3) and Semantics and Pragmatics (in block 2 of the second semester). During these courses, you will either work with your *Language X* (if you continue language classes in this language) or with a language from a grammar assigned to you in this course. We call the latter *Language Y*. In the structure courses, you will investigate the structure of language X or Y in detail and will compare it to the structure of other languages. At the same time, you will acquire basic concepts and theoretical approaches in the linguistic subfields of phonology, syntax, semantics and pragmatics. This knowledge is brought together in the final course of the year, Linguistic Theories, where you will compare three current linguistic frameworks, and derive and evaluate a hypothesis on the basis of one of these frameworks.

Objectives:

After taking this course, you will

- have an understanding of the most often occurring phonological phenomena in the languages of the world;
- be aware of various theoretical accounts of these phenomena;
- have acquired skills to perform phonological research on a specific language, reporting your results orally and in writing;
- be able to analyse phonological data from typologically diverse languages.

Contents:

The course will cover the following topics:

- the syllable and the mora
- phonotactic restrictions
- phonological features
- phonemes and allophones
- tone
- stress
- levels of phonological representation
- phonological rules and their ordering relations
- Optimality Theory

Study material:

Carlos Gussenhoven & Haike Jacobs (2016) *Understanding Phonology*. London and New

York: Routledge, fourth edition.

Please note that you need to get the **fourth** edition of this book.

If you do not continue with your language X in the second year of your study, you will choose a language Y in the week before the course starts. A list of languages to choose from (with a map indicating where these languages are spoken) can be found on Canvas. You will need to indicate three choices for your language Y in quiz 0 (see "How to get started" on Canvas).

The grammars for the languages Y are in the library. These grammars cannot be taken out of the library under any circumstances because your fellow students need to be able to access them. Please do not ask the library staff to make an exception for you, because they won't.

How to spend your time:

By finishing this course you will earn 6 ECTS, which corresponds to $6 \times 28 = 168$ hours of work. As the course lasts eight weeks, this means you can spend $168/8 = 21$ hours a week on this course. You will take 3 classes of 2 hours a week, except for in the first and the last week, which means that besides attending classes, you have 16.5 hours per week for preparing class/doing your homework $((168 - 6 \times 3 \times 2)/8 = 16.5)$.

Types of classes:

Each week, the classes divide up between one lecture (all students together) and two seminar group meetings (groups of approximately 25 students). While the lectures will mostly give you background and additional information on your reading, the seminars are more focused on exercises where you will receive personal feedback.

Homework:

You will have to prepare homework for the lecture on Monday and for the second seminar group meeting (i.e. the meeting on Wednesday/Thursday) each week. This homework needs to be handed in via Canvas. The deadline for the lecture homework is Sunday, 6 p.m. Seminar group 1 has to hand in the seminar homework by Tuesday 11 p.m., while seminar groups 2 and 3 have to hand it in by Wednesday, 6 p.m.

Your grade:

Your final grade will be a weighted average of the following components:

- the homework assignments (25%; weeks 1-7),
- a group presentation on language X or Y (10%; week 6),
- a midterm exam (25%; week 5, 1 hour),
- the final exam (40%; week 8, 2 hours).

The homework assignments consist of:

- assignments specific to your language X/Y (7 in total; 15% of grade)
- assignments on book chapters (quizzes and exercises; 11 times; 10% of grade)

Resit:

If your final grade is lower than 5.5, you will have the opportunity to do a resit of the final exam in January. You can do the resit only if you attended all original exams (or were absent with a very good reason, which you explained to the teachers before the exams) and handed in most home assignments (you can miss out homework for two sessions). The resit replaces the grade of the final exam only.

Syllabus: Don't forget to read the footnotes on the next page!

Week	Session	Topic	Homework Book* & Quizzes	Homework Language X/Y**
0***			Make quiz 0	
1****			Read chapter 1, make quiz 1	1. inventory
2	a	Syllables, phonological alternations and rules	Read chapter 3 and sections 4.1, 4.2, 4.3.2 and 4.4.1, make quiz 2	2. gaps and syllabic structure
	b	Exercises on the syllable		
	c	Phonotactic restrictions	Read chapter 5, make quiz 3	
3	a	Phonological rules and distinctive features	Read chapter 6, make quiz 4	3. vowel features
	b	Exercises on distinctive features and rules		
	c	Distinctive features	Read chapter 7, make quiz 5	4. consonantal features
4	a	Representations and autosegments	Read chapter 9, make quiz 6	5. allophones
	b	Exercises on phonol. processes, rule ordering		
	c	Moras, syllables, autosegments		
5	a	Midterm Tone	Read sections 10.1 to 10.5, make quiz 7	6. processes
	b	Exercises on tone		
	c	Midterm discussion Tone	Read chapter 11, make quiz 8	
6	a	Optimality Theory and word stress	Read chapter 12, sections 4.4.2 to 4.6, make quiz 9	
	b	Group presentations Exercises on OT and stress		
	c	Group presentations	Read chapter 13, make quiz 10	
7	a	Feature Geometry; what to expect in the final	Read sections 14.1 to 14.5, make quiz 11	7. tone/stress
	b	Exercises on FG		
	c	Transparency and opacity		
8	Final exam on Monday December 16, from 5 to 7 p.m.			

* For each homework on a book chapter, you are expected:

- to read the text thoroughly and make notes,
- to answer the questions in the text and compare your answers to the key given on Canvas,
- to make the quizzes (which sometimes also contain additional exercises) that we provide on Canvas.

** **Language X/Y:** After you give your three preferences for language Y in quiz 0, we will let you know by Tuesday in the first week what your language Y is. Please be aware that it might be one that you did not list in your preferences!

*** **Week 0:** is the week before the course starts (i.e. the exam week of the previous block)

**** **Special status of week 1:**

During week 1, you will not have any lecture or seminar group meeting. You are, however, expected to work for the course during this week. You will have to:

- read the first chapter of the course book,
- make the exercises in this chapter and check whether you did them correctly with the key on Canvas,
- make quiz 1 (to be found on Canvas),
- go to the library to start reading on your language Y or consult your grammar on language X from the previous academic year, and make language assignment 1 (to be found on Canvas) and hand it in (via Canvas).

Plagiarism:

The BA Linguistics has an active policy against plagiarism and fraud. By handing in your work you implicitly give us the right to check your work for plagiarism and/or fraud.