

## Syllabus: Phonological Theory III

<b>Instructor:</b> Bruce Hayes bhayes@humnet.ucla.edu	<b>Office Hours:</b> by email appointment  <b>Classroom:</b> Online, look on CCLE (login) to get the current Zoom code
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**Prerequisite:** Linguistics 201A or consent of the instructor. I will give consent if you've had at least Linguistics 200A or equivalent.

### Requirements:

- Doing the readings
- Class participation — you may use the Raise Hand button
- **Assignments:** about 5 homeworks, some of them small. The bigger assignments will be due on Tuesdays. 35% of grade.
- A **term paper**, on any topic in phonology, due 6/15 (Monday after finals week). 55% of grade.
  - Interested in revising/extending earlier work? Possible, but please consult with first.
- Preliminary term paper **appointment** with me, graded credit/no credit, in which we talk about your term paper project. Due by end of 5th week, 5/1, 5% of your grade. (This formal appointment is obligatory, but of course other informal appointments are possible.)
- Give a **talk with audience of one** (me), on the topic of your term paper. Please bring a handout. This should take place before the middle of Finals Week, 6/10, but ideally earlier. 5% of your grade.<sup>1</sup>

Collaborating on homeworks is encouraged, but you have to write up your own version.

**Description:** This is the third course of the UCLA graduate sequence in phonological theory. As such it is the most open-ended, directed to helping you find research topics as well as commanding the research literature. See List of Topics at end of syllabus for what I hope to cover. Lobbying re. topics is possible.

**Talking to me:** You are encouraged to talk with me by Zoom with your questions and discussion. These can include questions on the problem sets if you've already made a serious attack on them first. For short questions, I can (often) answer emails (though on weekends I do not attend to my email regularly). For longer discussions, please make a Zoom appointment. Since it is impossible to drop in on me I am not doing office hours, but readily make appointments.

**Readings and other materials:** I will place them on the CCLE site, <https://ccle.ucla.edu/course/view/20S-LING219-1?section=1>.

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<sup>1</sup> If there is lots of support for a mini-conference I will do one. Let me know.

## Rules and regulations

- Please communicate with me if you need to hand anything in late.
- Kindly use **12 point font** for assignments and papers.
- Format:
  - If you send me a copy saved in the **old Word .doc format** I can comment easily in digital form. This is not required.
  - I hope to upgrade my old home computer during the quarter and then normal .docx will work.
  - If you are not a Word person please send me a pdf instead.
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## Tentative schedule of topics

Not set in stone. Please comment if you like when we go over it at the first meeting.

### 1. Frameworks for constraint-based phonology

- Arguments that the framework should be stochastic: variation both in outputs and lexicon
- Basics of **frameworks**: Stochastic OT, Noisy Harmonic Grammar, maxent
  - Intuitive characterization
  - Ask me if you want more on the math of maxent
  - The excess power counterargument
- Phonotactics
  - Exercise on consonant clusters
  - Elsewhere issues: Wilson and Gallagher (2017)
  - The failure of Observed/Expected: Wilson and Obdeyn (2009)
- The theory of **knobs**: Coetzee and Kawahara's work
  - Three knobs: style, rate, frequency
- A possible case study (if data available): syntax-phonology interfacing in maxent; why letting winners be harmonically bounded might be the key.

### 2. Acquisition

- Basics: every tot has two phonologies (Lise Menn, Neilson Smith)
- Learnability properties (bad and good) of various frameworks
- Hidden structure and why it makes things hard
  - Expectation-Maximization — learning UR's
- The struggle to learn both words and general patterns: Zuraw, Pater/Moore-Cantwell, Zymet

### 3. The role of paradigm uniformity in phonology

- Classical work by Paul Kiparsky on language change
- Modern interpretations in Output-Output Correspondence and Stratal OT
- Steriade's work on phonetic paradigm uniformity
- Experimental work: White, Jo, Do

**4. Phonetics in phonology: the case of syllable weight and phonetics**

- Theme: role of phonetics in phonology
- Quick survey of what syllable weight is for
- We will particular cover the work of Kevin Ryan, who has a whole new book about it.

**5. Maxent generative phonetics (grammar all the way to production/from perception)**

- An ancestor, now formalizable in maxent: the “window model” of Keating (1990)
- Harmonic grammar in generative phonetics: Flemming (2000)
- Outright maxent: Lefkowitz, Braver
- If time: Boersma’s bidirectional system

**6. Things I feel ambivalent about but would be ok teaching if you ask me**

- Delaware school phonology
- Gradient symbolic representations