Phonology II: Exceptional Sound Systems

The aim of modern phonological theory is to reveal underlying principles that explain language sound structure in the world’s languages. Research in phonological theory has traditionally limited the field of inquiry to normal adult language sources. In this course we will extend the domain of phonological theory to include more exceptional speech data -- data from language learners and from other atypical sources.

We will analyze phonological data from nine exceptional language sources: child first language acquisition, speech disorders, adult second language acquisition, pidgin and creole languages, aphasic speech, slips of the tongue, language games, speaking in tongues, and weird text language, like alien language from science fiction. These types of speech behaviors are not willy-nilly sound productions, rather they all appear to abide by the same underlying principles that normal languages do.

Prerequisite: LING 690
Text: Compiled reading packet (see required reading list)
Requirements:
1. I expect everyone to be prepared to discuss all of the assigned readings.
2. There will be homework assignments. Students are encouraged to try out new hypotheses and to work together on these assignments, but each student will ultimately turn in original work.
3. Each student will do a short research paper. (students can also work in pairs, if they wish) The project can be theoretical and/or empirical. For instance, you may choose to re-analyze some of the data from any of the assigned studies and formulate your own theory, or you may wish to test a phonological hypothesis by gathering data from some other exceptional source. The project must develop an intersection of phonological theory with exceptional language behavior. Final papers should be approximately 15-20 pages in length. You will develop your project in steps:
   a. A 1-page paper proposal will be required from each student. The proposal should be a concise, original, focused research topic on any issue derived from the readings or from class discussions. You are encouraged to look ahead in the syllabus for research ideas. The proposal must include a tentative bibliography. Students may revise proposals and re-submit.
   b. An outline of your paper is required. It should be no more than 2-pages long. It should have the section headings of your proposed paper. For example: Introduction, Review of the literature, The data, Analysis, Conclusion.
   c. A first draft of at least 2 major headings from your outline is to be turned in.
   d. Everyone will be required to present a preliminary report on their project to the class. A short, suitable handout is expected.
due dates:
proposals due on or before 20 march
outline due on or before 3 april
first draft due on or before 17 april
presentations due 24 april, 1 may
final project due: 8 may

homeworks 20%
participation 20%
project proposal 5%
project outline 5%
project draft 5%
presentation 5%
final paper 40%

COURSE OUTLINE

DATE READING

Part I: Phonological Theory

23 january Introduction and review
Language Segments

The IPA Chart
Maddieson 1986;
Lindblom, 1990

30 january Syllable structure

Blevins 1996

6 february The SSC

Clements 1982

13 february The OCP

Yip 1988

Part II: Phonological Development

20 february First Phonology Acquisition

Jusczyk, et. al 2002

27 february Child Phonological Disorders

Barlow and Dinnsen 1998

6 march Creole Phonology

Holm 1988

13 march no class
20 march  Adult Second Language Phonology  cluster problems  Tropf 1986;  Eckman and  Iverson 1993;  Carlisle 1992

27 march  Adult Second Language Phonology  more syllable structure  Broselow et.al. 1998  Bhatt and Bhatt 1997

Part III: Phonological Corrosion

3 april  Aphasic Phonology  neologisms in aphasia  Robson, et. al 2003

10 april  Speech Error Phonology  Fromkin 1988;

Part IV: Phonological Innovation

17 april  Constructed Phonologies  Weinberger, ms.

24 april  Glossolalia  Motley 1981;  Goodman 1972

1 may  Phonological Games  Bagemihl 1996;  Davis and Hammond 1995

8 may  papers due  (by 5:00 pm in my office)

Required Readings


Weinberger, S. 2000. (ms.) Alien Phonology: Science or Fiction?

ADDITIONAL READINGS

External Evidence

General Phonology


**Segments**


**Feature Geometry**


**Underspecification Theory**


**Phonological development**


Phonological Disorders in Children
ASL Phonology
Creole Phonology
L2 Phonology


**Pathological Phonology**


**Slips of the Tongue**

**Play Languages**

**Glossolalia**

**Constructed Phonologies**