

Phonology C (LING 213)

The Syllable and the Mora: Phonology, Phonetics, and Morphology

Spring 2010
MW 11 – 12:45
The Cave

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and by appointment

course overview

This course investigates two suprasegmental properties of spoken language (the syllable and the mora) and their role in phonology and morphology. While the syllable and the mora are referred to in a variety of analyses, their status as linguistic units is controversial. Our goals are thus to understand the role of syllables and moras in prosodic phonology as well as to explore the linguistic facts that have led some linguists to question the necessity and or usefulness of these units. We will also extend these ideas to the morphological processes of infixation and reduplication.

web-ct

All readings are posted on web-ct. Discussion boards on web-ct will also be used (see below).

course requirements

- regular readings
 - each reading should be completed by the start of class (see schedule below)
 - this is a reading-intensive class; when applicable I will indicate which portions of the reading should be read more closely than others
- regular participation in class discussion
- interacting with web-ct discussion board
 - a discussion board will be set up for every reading
 - each student is required to post at least one comment/question about the reading for the upcoming class by 10 am on the day of class
 - students may of course continue to use the discussion board to answer posted questions or provide further commentary
- presenting one reading in class (seminar practice!)
 - each student should pick one paper and prepare a handout that includes a summary and set of discussion questions to go over in class that day
- 2 short assignments
 - each assignment will be given out 1-2 weeks before it is due and will require a in-depth write-up
- a final paper
 - on a topic of your choosing, relevant to prosodic theory
 - a paper topic (a couple of sentences) and a paper proposal (about a page plus references) are due at various stages
 - a 20 minute presentation of your paper should be given on June 2
 - page length of final paper will depend on topic, but 5-10 pages is desirable
 - papers are due June 9; they can be turned in as a hard copy or emailed as a pdf

course schedule

subject to change (with appropriate advance notice)

		specific topic	reading	assignments
syllables	Mon, Mar 29	introductions		
	Wed, Mar 31	syllable structure	Blevins 1995, Kager 1999	
	Mon, Apr 5	do we need the	Blevins 2003	
	Wed, Apr 7	syllable?	Gerfen 2001	
	Mon, Apr 12	sonority	Clements 1990	
	Wed, Apr 14		Zec 1995	
	Mon, Apr 19	epenthesis	Ito 1989	
moras	Wed, Apr 21	moraic structure	Broselow 1995	assignment 1
	Mon, Apr 26		Hayes 1989, Campos-Astorkiza 2004	
	Wed, Apr 28	weight	Gordon 2004	
	Mon, May 3		Davis 2003	paper topic
	Wed, May 5	mora-sharing	Broselow et al. 1997	
	Mon, May 10		Cohn 2003, Frazier 2006	
	Wed, May 12		Lin 1997	
morphology	Mon, May 17	reduplication	Kennedy 2005	paper proposal
	Wed, May 19		Kirchner In prep	assignment 2
	Mon, May 24	infixation	Crowhurst 1998, 2001	
	Wed, May 26		Yu 2004	
	Mon, May 31	<i>no class</i>		
	Wed, Jun 2	in class presentations of final papers		

Wed, Jun 9: final papers due

reading list

- Blevins, Juliette. 1995. The Syllable in Phonological Theory. In John A. Goldsmith (ed.), *The Handbook of Phonological Theory*, 206-244. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell.
- Blevins, Juliette. 2003. The Independent Nature of Phonotactic Constraints: An Alternative to Syllable-Based Approaches. In *The Syllable in Optimality Theory*, Caroline Féry and Ruben van de Vijver (eds.), 375-403. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Broselow, Ellen. 1995. Skeletal Positions and Moras. In John A. Goldsmith (ed.), *The Handbook of Phonological Theory*, 175-205. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell.
- Broselow, Ellen, Su-I Chen, and Marie Huffman. 1997. Syllable Weight: Convergence of Phonology and Phonetics. *Phonology* 14: 47-82.
- Campos-Astorkiza, Rebeka. 2004. Faith in moras: A new approach to prosodic faithfulness. In Keir Moulton and Matthew Wolf, eds., *Proceedings of NELS 34*. Amherst, MA: GLSA.
- Clements, G. N. 1990. The Role of the Sonority Cycle in Core Syllabification. In *Papers in Laboratory Phonology I: Between the Grammar and Physics of Speech*, John Kingston and Mary E. Beckman (eds.), 283-333. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Cohn, Abigail C. 2003. Phonological Structure and Phonetic Duration: The Role of the Mora. *Working Papers of the Cornell Phonetics Laboratory* 15: 69-100.
- Crowhurst, Megan J. 1998. *Um* Infixation and Prefixation in Toba Batak. *Language* 74: 590-604.

- Crowhurst, Megan J. 2001. Coda Conditions and *um* Infixation in Toba Batak. *Lingua* 111: 561-590.
- Davis, Stuart. 2003. The Controversy over Geminate and Syllable Weight. In *The Syllable in Optimality Theory*, Caroline Féry and Ruben van de Vijver (eds.), 77-98. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Frazier, Melissa. 2006. Output-Output Faithfulness to Moraic Structure: Evidence from American English. In *Proceedings of NELS 36*, v. 1, Christopher Davis, Amy Rose Deal and Youri Zabbal (eds.), 1-14. Amherst: GLSA.
- Gerfen, Chip. 2001. A critical view of licensing by cue: Codas and obstruents in Eastern Andalusian Spanish. In Linda Lombardi, ed., *Segmental Phonology in Optimality Theory*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 183-205.
- Gordon, Matthew. 2004. Syllable weight. In *Phonetically Based Phonology*, Bruce Hayes, Robert Kirchner, and Donca Steriade (eds.), 277-312. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press,
- Hayes, Bruce. 1989. Compensatory Lengthening in Moraic Phonology. *Linguistic Inquiry* 20: 253-306.
- Ito, Junko. 1989. A Prosodic Theory of Epenthesis. *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* 7: 217-59.
- Kager, René. 1999. *Optimality Theory*. Chapter 3. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Kennedy, Robert. 2005. The Binariness Effect in Kosraean Reduplication. *Phonology* 22: 145-168.
- Kirchner, Jesse. In preparation. Kwak'waka. Chapter of Ph.D. dissertation. University of California, Santa Cruz.
- Lin, Yen-Hwei. 1997. Syllabic and Moraic Structures in Piro. *Phonology* 14: 403-436.
- Yu, Alan. 2004. Reduplication in English Homeric Infixation. In *Proceedings of NELS 34*, Keir Moulton and Matthew Wolf (eds.), 619-633. Amherst: GLSA.
- Zec, Draga. 1995. Sonority constraints on syllable structure. *Phonology* 12: 85-129.