

Spring 2023

Syllabus: 11120LING500200 Phonology (II)

- Class:** T 3:30-6:20, CHSS Building, C519
- Instructor:** Feng-fan Hsieh
ffhsieh@mx.nthu.edu.tw
HSS Building, A430, x3-4633
- TA:** Kye Shibata
kye.shibata@gmail.com
- Office hours:** by appointment
- Prerequisites:** 10LING500100 Phonology (I)
- Required text:** Kager, René. 1999. *Optimality Theory*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- References:** McCarthy, John. J. 2008. *Doing Optimality Theory: Applying Theory to Data*. Malden: Blackwell Publishing.

Course description:

This course is an introduction to the current dominant theory of phonology, Optimality Theory (OT). You will learn how to do a phonological analysis in OT. Some important issues and recent developments in phonological theory will also be addressed.

Course requirements:

Assigned readings
Class participation (10%)
Weekly problem sets (40%)
Term project (50%)

Written assignments:

There will be four problem sets, generally handed out on Tuesdays and due on the following Tuesday. Late homework will not be accepted except for compelling reasons (e.g. in documented case of emergency) and with prior permission of the instructor. Handwritten homework will not be accepted. You are strongly encouraged to work together, and to discuss readings and your solutions to the written assignments with each other.

Term project:

15 pages (minimum), excluding references (and appendices), 1.5 spaced, at font size of 12 pt, 1 inch (or 2.54 cm) margin on all sides. You are supposed to i) describe the phenomenon in question in detail and ii) give an OT-based analysis. **You are required to figure out your topic** (which means, make an appointment with the instructor and/or TA as soon as possible) and **hand in a brief note on your project (around 1~3 page(s)) by Week 9** (btw, this counts as one homework assignment). Finally, you must write up your term project individually.

If you are having problems with any assignments, term project, etc. please do not hesitate to get in touch with the instructor or TA – in person or by email. We are more than happy to help.

Schedule of topics (subject to revision)

WEEK	TOPIC	READING
Week 1	Rules and constraints: Why OT?	MK 9.13-9.15
Week 2	Conflicts in grammars	RK Chap. 1
Week 3	The typology of structural changes	RK Chap. 2
Week 4	Syllable structure and economy	RK Chap. 3
Week 5	Syllable structure and economy (cont.)	RK Chap. 3
Week 6	Metrical structure and parallelism	RK Chap. 4
Week 7	Metrical structure and parallelism (cont.)	RK Chap. 4
Week 8	No class	RK Chap. 4
Week 9	Correspondence in reduplication	RK Chap. 5
Week 10	Correspondence in reduplication (cont.)	RK Chap. 5
Week 11	Output-to-output correspondence	RK Chap. 6
Week 12	Output-to-output correspondence (cont.)	RK Chap. 6
Week 13	Opacity, absolute Ungrammaticality and Free Variation	RK 9.1~9.4
Week 14	Positional faithfulness vs. Positional markedness	RK 9.5, Beckman 2002 and Zoll 2002
Week 15	Learning OT grammars	RK Chap. 7
Week 16	Student presentation	