

CLPS1310 Course Syllabus
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Why are the sound systems of different languages so similar to one another? Though languages can be very different from one another, it seems that all languages obey a rich set of constraints that forbids the appearance of certain possible languages and favors the appearance of others. This course offers an introduction to the articulation and perception of sounds in language, and to the rules that organize those sounds. Students will study the behavior of sound systems in many languages, and learn how to describe sound systems.

Topics

Introduction to phonetics
Phonemic analysis
Descriptive phonology
Explanatory phonology
Introduction to Optimality Theory (OT)

Requirements

Home assignments
Each class participant will submit a language sketch which examines and solves the phonological behavior of some human language.
Final exam

Books and materials

Hayes. Introductory Phonology.
Ladefoged and Johnson. A Course in Phonetics, 6th edition – SELECTED READINGS

Grading

Homework assignments 50%
Final exam 30%
Language sketch 20%