

Phonetics in Communication Disorders
GISW CSD 3120 (51C:111)
Syllabus

MEET YOUR INSTRUCTOR

Dr. Lauren K. Nelson

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Dr. Nelson is an Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. She grew up in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and received her B.S. from Northern Michigan University with a major in communication disorders. She received her M.A. from Central Michigan University, majoring in speech-language pathology, and her Ph.D. in speech-language pathology from the University of Memphis.

Dr. Nelson has been a faculty member in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders since 1990 and became department head in 2016. She has taught Phonetics in Communicative Disorders and Disorders of Speech Sounds in the undergraduate program in communication disorders, and Research Methods in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Treatment of Child Language Disorders in the graduate program in speech-language pathology. Dr. Nelson also participates in supervision of clinical practicum in the Roy Eblen Speech and Hearing Center at the University of Northern Iowa.

Contact Information:

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COURSE OVERVIEW

I have divided the course into 12 assignments that correspond to topics in the fields of phonetics and communication disorders. These assignments correspond to chapters or sections of chapters in your Small (2016) textbook. The textbook includes practice questions within each chapter that prepare you to complete the assignments at the end of the chapter. You will be most successful if you work through this material in a sequential way, completing the practice questions and checking your answers using the answer keys in the appendices of your text. Each topic also has a prepared presentation similar to the notes you might take in class. These presentations highlight the information I consider most important from the

text and also provide some additional content not found in your text. Because phonetics involves listening to spoken English and many concepts are difficult to understand unless you hear as well as read about them, I have supplemented the information in the textbook with video lectures that illustrate and provide examples of important concepts. You should view these lectures in the order indicated for each assignment, and you may find that the lectures are most useful after you read about the corresponding topic in your text.

For many of the topics, you will have self-assessments that enable you to check your learning prior to completing an assignment or taking a listening quiz. Completing self-assessments is optional, but may better prepare you to take quizzes and examinations. Answer keys are provided for the practice questions in your text (in the appendices) and for the practice listening quizzes I provide. For maximum benefit, you should try to answer questions based on your own knowledge and understanding before looking up the answers in the key.

An important component of this course in phonetics is learning how to transcribe using the consonant and vowel symbols, and selected diacritics from the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA). Your transcription learning provides for multiple practice opportunities and you will master the symbols gradually as your progress through the course (e.g., vowel symbols first, followed by consonants and diacritics). All transcription activities are cumulative and as you master new components of the phonetic alphabet, you will continue to use previously mastered symbols. In learning to transcribe with the IPA, you will first complete an assignment over selected symbols from your text and submit this assignment for feedback. Please note that many of the assignments include speech samples from your audio CDs. Be sure to listen to those files when doing those exercises and assignments. You need to transcribe words and sentences the way the speaker on the CD says them, not the way you would say them. You will have an opportunity to revise and resubmit any assignment that falls below an 82% correct. After receiving your corrected assignment, you should plan to take and grade a practice listening quiz for self-assessment, and then complete a listening quiz that you will submit to your instructor. Over the course of the semester, the assignments from your textbook lead to six different listening quizzes. The practice listening quizzes are very similar in format to the graded quizzes, but use different word and sentence stimuli.

Required Textbook and Audio CDs:

Small, L. H. (2016). *Fundamentals of phonetics: A practical guide for students* (4th ed.). Boston: Pearson.

Small, L. H. (2016). *Audio CDs for fundamental phonetics: A practical guide for students* (4th ed.). Boston: Pearson.

Technology Requirements

Technologies that will be utilized for this course are:

- Internet access/connection – high speed connection recommended (not dial-up)
- [Microsoft Silverlight](#) for Panopto lecture capture videos.

Course Objectives:

This course is an introductory course in phonetics. By the conclusion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the significance of phonetic transcription.
 - a. define concepts and terminology from phonetics which are important for understanding speech sound production;
 - b. Use appropriate terminology to describe phonetic features of American English vowels and consonants;
2. Transcribe normal and disordered speech using broad & narrow transcription.
 - a. Use the symbols of the International Phonetic Alphabet and selected diacritics;
 - b. Understand and transcribe variations in consonant and vowel productions as they occur in single words versus connected speech
 - c. Identify and transcribe selected suprasegmental characteristics of American English
 - d. Recognize variations in the production of speech associated with speech sound disorders
3. Use broad transcription to transcribe speech of non-native English speakers;
4. Use broad transcription to transcribe dialectal speech and speech of non-native English speakers;
 - a. Recognize variations in the production of speech sounds associated with dialects and speaking English as a non-native speaker.

Course content will draw on assigned readings from your textbook, written presentations, and video lectures. The written presentations will highlight the most important concepts from your text, as well as present a few additional concepts not covered in your text. I suggest you begin with the assigned readings from your text and progress to the written presentations and video lectures. Grades will be based upon your knowledge of conceptual material (through unit quizzes and two examinations) and on your transcription skills (through transcription assignments, listening/transcription quizzes, and exam transcription items). The transcription portions of the first and second examinations will be comprehensive.

Knowledge and Skills Acquisition Statement:

For students seeking the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology, this course contributes toward completion of the following standard on the Knowledge and Skills Acquisition (KASA) document: Standard III-B Basic Human Communication Processes – Linguistic, and Cultural Bases.

Formative Student Outcome Assessment:

Throughout the course students will be asked to demonstrate knowledge and skills associated with important concepts in phonetics. You will be able to assess your own learning by completing the self-assessment questions in your text and the practice listening quizzes. You will be able to demonstrate your mastery of course objectives through successful completion of assignments, listening quizzes, quizzes and examinations. Students who do not achieve satisfactory performances on these assessments will be offered an opportunity to complete a remediation plan before advancing to future coursework.

COURSE ORGANIZATION

This course will be delivered over the World Wide Web, utilizing web pages and a learning management system (**eLearning**). This course is divided into 12 written assignments, 6 Video Listening/Transcription Quizzes, 2 online quizzes, and 2 examinations. All written assignments will be submitted via **eLearning**. You will be able to type some assignments using a word processing program and save them as a file. Some students prefer to type their assignments and find the phonetic transcription tool at the following website helpful: <http://ipa.typeit.org/full/>. You also can have write your responses for assignments, e.g., workbook questions, and then scan and upload the file.) If you are using a word processing program other than Microsoft Word, then please save the file in docx format.

Submit your assignments by clicking on the **Assignment Submission** link in the **Course Content** menu on the left and uploading your assignment. **Need help?** See the [eLearning Tutorials](#) for instructions on how to submit an assignment.

Written Assignments:

There will be 12 written assignments, which will be worth 20% of your final grade. The assignments from the workbook and the supplemental assignments are graded on a percentage basis. You should aim to achieve at least an 82% accuracy to assure that you are meeting the course objectives measured by each assignment. You will have one opportunity to correct and resubmit assignments that are less than 82% accurate.

Quizzes:

There will be 2 quizzes worth 20% of your final grade. The quizzes are located under **Course Content** and will be released to you when the prerequisite requirements have been met.

Listening Quizzes:

There will be 6 listening quizzes worth 20% of your final grade. The listening quizzes are located under **Course Content** and will be released to you when the prerequisite requirements have been met.

Exams:

There will be 2 proctored exams worth 40% of your final grade. In your eLearning course page under 'content,' click on 'Exam 1 request' to arrange to take the exam (or 'Exam 2 request'). If you have any difficulty with this procedure, call the Office of Continuing and Distance Education, 319-273-2123.

GRADING

Course Requirements: UNI Guided Independent Study requires that you complete all written assignments and exams to earn a grade in the course.

- 12 Written Assignments 20%
- 6 Listening Quizzes 20%
- 2 Quizzes 20%
- Exam 1 20%
- Exam 2 20%

You will be graded on a percentage basis as determined by your scores on the assessment procedures listed above. The grading scale for this course is as follows:

- 92-100% A
- 90-91% A-
- 88-89% B+
- 82-87% B
- 80-81% B-
- 78-79% C+
- 72-77% C
- 70-71% C-
- 68-69% D+
- 62-67% D
- 60-61% D-
- Less than 59% F

When you complete the transcription assignments, transcription quizzes, and unit quizzes, you will be able to use your textbook and class notes. However, you should not use these materials during your mid-term and final exams. You will need to arrange a proctor for these exams or complete the exams at a testing center.

Academic Ethics Statement:

It is expected that student work for this course will be consistent with the University of Northern Iowa policy on [Academic Ethics/Discipline](#). If you have any questions, access the policy on Academic Ethics on the university website or contact me for more information

Table Summarizing Course Objectives, Units, and Assessments

Course Objective	Unit	Assessment	Points
Understand the significance of phonetic transcription; define concepts and terminology from phonetics which are important for understanding speech sound production	1. Introduction to Phonetics and Phonetic Transcription	Assignment 1	10
	2. Spoken versus Written English	Assignment 2	10
	3. Speech Production System	Assignment 3 Quiz 1	30
Use appropriate terminology to describe phonetic features of vowels and consonants Transcribe normal and disordered speech using broad & narrow transcription; use the symbols of the International Phonetic Alphabet and selected diacritics	4. English Vowels Part I: Front and Back Vowels	Assignment 4	10
	5. English Vowels Part II: Central Vowels and Diphthongs	Listening Quiz 1	20
	6. Consonants Part I: Nasals and Stops	Assignment 5	10
		Listening Quiz 2	20
	Mid-Course Assessment	Assignment 6	60
	7. Consonants Part II: Fricatives, Affricates, and Approximants	Listening Quiz 3	10
		Exam 1	20
		Assignment 7	
		Listening Quiz 4	
Understand and transcribe variations in consonant and vowel productions as they occur in single words versus connected speech Identify and transcribe selected suprasegmental characteristics of American English	8. Sounds in Connected Speech	Assignment 8	10
			10
	9. Suprasegmentals	Assignment 9	20
	10. Allophonic Variation and Transcription	Listening Quiz 5	10
			20
		Assignment 10 Listening Quiz 6 Quiz 2	30
Use broad transcription to transcribe speech of non-native English speakers and dialectal speech; recognize variations in the production of speech sounds associated with dialects and speaking	11. Clinical Phonetics	Assignment 11	10
	12. Dialect Variation	Assignment 12	10
	Final Course Assessment		60
	Total Points	Exam 2	420

Course Objective	Unit	Assessment	Points
English as a non-native speaker			