

LING 21000: Morphology

Autumn 2015

Instructor: Mike Pham
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Teaching Assistant: Ksenia Ershova
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Meeting times and venues

Lectures: MWF 11:30 – 12:20, Wieboldt 102

TA Sections: F 13:30 – 14:20, Harper 150

Instructor office hours: M 12:30 – 13:30; W 10:30 – 11:30; by appointment

TA office hours: T 10:30 – 11:50; by appointment

Course description

This course is an introduction to natural language morphology, the study of word(-internal) structure. Looking at data from a wide range of languages, we will consider the nature of the elements out of which words are built, the principles that govern their combination, and the role of morphology within the architecture of grammar. The interaction of word structure with syntax, semantics, and phonology will be examined by looking at case studies at these interfaces. We will think critically about the concepts of morpheme, inflection, derivation, and indeed, the concept of word itself. We will consider different perspectives, ranging from both descriptive and theoretical views, as well as quantitative and computational approaches.

Pre-requisites

Ling 20001 Introduction to Linguistics; or equivalent

Textbook and resources

Required textbook: Martin Haspelmath & Andrea D. Sims. 2010. *Understanding Morphology*. 2nd edition. Routledge.

Additional readings, assignments and class materials available on Chalk site: <http://chalk.uchicago.edu> and/or course website: <http://www.mikettpham.com/courses>

Evaluation

Attendance and participation	10%
Assignments	30%
Midterm	30%
Final assignment	30%

Attendance at *all* TA sections is mandatory.

Assignments

Assignments are weekly problem sets for the first half of the course up until the midterm; assignments in the second half of the course are to post a short comment and/or question in response to two of the readings. Collaboration on assignments is acceptable (please acknowledge collaborators on assignment), but assignments must be produced and submitted individually.

All submitted assignments must be typed unless otherwise stated. Assignments are due in hard copy at the beginning of class on Monday – no late submissions.

The final assignment is to identify some morphological phenomenon, preferably in a language other than English. You are to explicitly provide and describe these data. You are not required to have a fully fleshed out analysis of the data, but you are to outline what approach/framework you think is appropriate and/or best-suited to providing an analysis of the data, and why. Do not put this off! You should meet with me at least once as soon as possible in order to discuss your final assignment.

Schedule (subject to change)

H&S = Haspelmath & Sims text

Week	Topic	Readings
1	Course overview; basic concepts no class on Fri, Oct 2	H&S ch. 1, 2
2	Representations and units of analysis	H&S ch. 4, 9
3-4	Derivation and inflection Guest lecture: Emily Hanink	H&S ch. 5 Dahlstrom ch. 4
4	Productivity	H&S ch. 6, 7
4-5	Theoretical issues Guest lecture: Ksenia Midterm: Fri, Oct 30	H&S ch. 3.2, 8 Hockett (1954)
6	Morphophonology	H&S ch. 10 McCarthy and Prince (1998); Ussishkin (2007) (Jurgec, 2014)
7	Morphosyntax	H&S ch. 11 Pylkkänen (2002) (ch. 1-2), Marantz (1997) (Sadock, 1980)
8	Morphosemantics	Bale and Khanjian (2009) Sauerland et al. (2005); Piñón (2001)
9	Frequency effects no class on Fri, Nov 27	H&S ch. 12 Albright (2010)
10	Diachronic morphology; review Guest lecture: Andrea Beltrama	Beltrama (2014)

References

Albright, Adam. 2010. Lexical and morphological conditioning of paradigm gaps. In *Modeling ungrammaticality in optimality theory*, ed. Curt Rice and Sylvia Blaho, Advances in Optimality

- Theory, chapter 5, 117–164. London and Oakville: Equinox.
- Bale, Alan, and Hrayr Khanjian. 2009. Classifiers and number marking. In *Proceedings of Semantics and Linguistic Theory 13*, ed. T. Friedman and S. Ito, 73–89. Ithaca, NY: CLC Publications.
- Beltrama, Andrea. 2014. Scalar meaning in diachrony: the suffix -issimo from Latin to Italian. In *NELS 44*.
- Hockett, Charles F. 1954. Two models of grammatical description. *Word* 10:210–234.
- Jurgec, Peter. 2014. Morphology affects loanword phonology. In *NELS 43: Proceedings of the 43rd Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society*, ed. Hsin-Lun Huang, Ethan Poole, and Amanda Rysling, volume 1.
- Marantz, Alec. 1997. No escape from syntax: Don't try morphological analysis in the privacy of your own lexicon. *UPenn Working Papers in Linguistics* 4:201–225.
- McCarthy, John J., and Alan S. Prince. 1998. Prosodic morphology. In *The handbook of phonological theory*, ed. Andrew Spencer and Arnold Zwicky, 283–305. Oxford: Basil Blackwell.
- Piñón, Christopher. 2001. A finer look at the causative-inchoative alternation. In *Proceedings of Semantics and Linguistic Theory 11*, ed. Rachel Hastings, Brendan Jackson, and Zsofia Zvolenszky. Cornell University, Ithaca, NY: CLC Publications.
- Pylkkänen, Liina. 2002. Introducing arguments. Doctoral Dissertation, MIT.
- Sadock, Jerrold M. 1980. Noun incorporation in Greenlandic: a case of syntactic word formation. *Language* 56:300–319.
- Sauerland, Uli, Jan Anderssen, and Kazuko Yatsushiro. 2005. The plural is semantically unmarked. In *Linguistic evidence: Empirical, theoretical and computational perspectives*, ed. Stephan Kesper and Marga Reis. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.
- Ussishkin, Adam. 2007. Morpheme position. In *Handbook of phonology*, ed. P. de Lacy. Cambridge University Press.