



LING3390

Phonological Analysis

Session 2, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2026

Department of Linguistics

Contents

<u>General Information</u>	2
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	2
<u>General Assessment Information</u>	3
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	5
<u>Delivery and Resources</u>	8
<u>Unit Schedule</u>	8
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	9

Disclaimer

Macquarie University has taken all reasonable measures to ensure the information in this publication is accurate and up-to-date. However, the information may change or become out-dated as a result of change in University policies, procedures or rules. The University reserves the right to make changes to any information in this publication without notice. Users of this publication are advised to check the website version of this publication [or the relevant faculty or department] before acting on any information in this publication.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff Convenor / Lecturer Anita Szakay anita.szakay@mq.edu.au
Credit points 10
Prerequisites 50cp at 2000 level or above including (LING2217 or LING217)
Corequisites
Co-badged status
Unit description Phonology is the study of sound patterns in language - which sounds are used by different languages, how they are organized, and how sounds are represented in the mind. In this unit we will examine phonological theory, phonological organisation of speech, acquisition of phonology and issues relevant to phonological disorders. Topics to be addressed include: variation in sound structure between languages (e.g., English and Indigenous Australian languages), the phonology of tone languages (such as Chinese), sound change, and prosody (stress and rhythm in language), and morphophonology. Our focus will be on phonological data analysis (i.e. logic puzzle solving) using two approaches: Rule-Based Phonology and Optimality Theory.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

ULO1: Communicate an understanding of fundamental phonological concepts including feature, phoneme, syllable, gesture, rule, constraint, underlying representation and surface form.

ULO2: Explain and illustrate phonological processes, and their role in shaping language sounds.

ULO3: Analyse the phonological structure of a language from example data.

ULO4: Analyse phonological phenomena, and explain how they can be described under different phonological frameworks.

General Assessment Information

Grade descriptors and other information concerning grading are contained in the [Macquarie University Assessment Policy](#).

All final grades are determined by a grading committee, in accordance with the Macquarie University Assessment Policy, and are not the sole responsibility of the Unit Convenor.

Students will be awarded a final grade and a mark which must correspond to the grade descriptors specified in the [Assessment Procedure](#) (clause 128 and 129).

To pass this unit, you must demonstrate sufficient evidence of achievement of the learning outcomes, meet any ungraded requirements, and achieve a final mark of 50 or better.

Further details for each assessment task will be available on iLearn.

Late Submissions

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (OF THE TOTAL POSSIBLE MARK) will be applied each day an assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a grade of '0' will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical concern.

For example:

Number of days (hours) late	Total Possible Marks	Deduction	Raw mark	Final mark
1 day (1-24 hours)	100	5	75	70
2 days (24-48 hours)	100	10	75	65
3 days (48-72 hours)	100	15	75	60
7 days (144-168 hours)	100	35	75	40
>7 days (>168 hours)	100	-	75	0

For any late submissions of time-sensitive tasks, such as scheduled tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, and/or scheduled practical assessments/labs, students need to submit an application for Special Consideration.

Problem Set One

Assessment Type: Problem set. Indicative Time on Task: 20 hours Due: **Week 6** Weighting: **25%**

In a series of short answer responses, students will account for phonological phenomena in the dataset(s) provided. Problem Set One will assess the topics of Features and Natural classes, Rules. The assessment will provide an opportunity to demonstrate insights into the sound structure of the language(s) being analysed, an understanding of phonological theory, and its application to the data. Word count: 2000.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Communicate an understanding of fundamental phonological concepts including feature, phoneme, syllable, gesture, rule, constraint, underlying representation and surface form.
- Explain and illustrate phonological processes, and their role in shaping language sounds.
- Analyse the phonological structure of a language from example data.
- Analyse phonological phenomena, and explain how they can be described under different phonological frameworks.

Problem Set Two

Assessment Type: Problem set. Indicative Time on Task: 20 hours Due: **Week 10** Weighting: **25%**

In a series of short answer responses, students will account for phonological phenomena in the dataset(s) provided. Problem Set Two will assess the topics of Morphophonology and Rule Ordering and Syllable, Prosody, and Stress. The assessment will provide an opportunity to demonstrate insights into the sound structure of the language(s) being analysed, an understanding of phonological theory, and its application to the data. Word count: 2000.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Communicate an understanding of fundamental phonological concepts including feature, phoneme, syllable, gesture, rule, constraint, underlying representation and surface form.
- Explain and illustrate phonological processes, and their role in shaping language sounds.
- Analyse the phonological structure of a language from example data.
- Analyse phonological phenomena, and explain how they can be described under different phonological frameworks.

Quizzes

Assessment Type: Quiz/Test. Indicative Time on Task: 5 hours Due: **Weeks 3 - 5 - 8 - 11 - 13** Weighting: **10%**

In a total of 5 iLearn quizzes students will demonstrate their understanding of the prescribed reading material for each topic. Each quiz will comprise ten questions and will be automatically graded in iLearn.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Communicate an understanding of fundamental phonological concepts including feature, phoneme, syllable, gesture, rule, constraint, underlying representation and surface form.
- Explain and illustrate phonological processes, and their role in shaping language sounds.

Final Exam

Assessment Type: Examination. Indicative Time on Task: 20 hours Due: **TBA in exam period**
Weighting: **40%**

In a series of short answers and extended responses, students will demonstrate all aspects of their understanding of phonological concepts and data analysis.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Communicate an understanding of fundamental phonological concepts including feature, phoneme, syllable, gesture, rule, constraint, underlying representation and surface form.
- Explain and illustrate phonological processes, and their role in shaping language sounds.
- Analyse the phonological structure of a language from example data.
- Analyse phonological phenomena, and explain how they can be described under different phonological frameworks.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due	Groupwork/Individual	Short Extension	AI Approach
<u>Quizzes</u>	10%	No	Weeks 3, 5, 8, 11, 13	Individual	No	Observed
<u>Problem Set One</u>	25%	No	14/08/2026	Individual	Yes	Open
<u>Problem Set Two</u>	25%	No	16/10/2026	Individual	Yes	Open
<u>Final Exam</u>	40%	No	Exam Period	Individual	No	Observed

Quizzes

Assessment Type ¹: Examination

Indicative Time on Task ²: 5 hours

Due: **Weeks 3, 5, 8, 11, 13**

Weighting: **10%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Observed

In a total of 5 quizzes students will demonstrate their understanding of the prescribed reading material for each topic. Each quiz will comprise ten questions and will be automatically graded in iLearn.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Communicate an understanding of fundamental phonological concepts including feature, phoneme, syllable, gesture, rule, constraint, underlying representation and surface form.
- Explain and illustrate phonological processes, and their role in shaping language sounds.

Problem Set One

Assessment Type ¹: Problem-based task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **14/08/2026**

Weighting: **25%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open

In a series of short answer responses, students will account for phonological phenomena in the dataset(s) provided. Problem Set One will assess the topics of Features and Natural classes, Rules. The assessment will provide an opportunity to demonstrate insights into the sound structure of the language(s) being analysed, an understanding of phonological theory, and its application to the data. Word count: 2000.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Communicate an understanding of fundamental phonological concepts including feature, phoneme, syllable, gesture, rule, constraint, underlying representation and surface form.
- Explain and illustrate phonological processes, and their role in shaping language sounds.
- Analyse the phonological structure of a language from example data.
- Analyse phonological phenomena, and explain how they can be described under different phonological frameworks.

Problem Set Two

Assessment Type ¹: Problem-based task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **16/10/2026**

Weighting: **25%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open

In a series of short answer responses, students will account for phonological phenomena in the dataset(s) provided. Problem Set Two will assess the topics of Morphophonology and Rule Ordering and Syllable, Prosody, and Stress. The assessment will provide an opportunity to demonstrate insights into the sound structure of the language(s) being analysed, an understanding of phonological theory, and its application to the data. Word count: 2000.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Communicate an understanding of fundamental phonological concepts including feature, phoneme, syllable, gesture, rule, constraint, underlying representation and surface form.
- Explain and illustrate phonological processes, and their role in shaping language sounds.
- Analyse the phonological structure of a language from example data.
- Analyse phonological phenomena, and explain how they can be described under different phonological frameworks.

Final Exam

Assessment Type ¹: Examination

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **Exam Period**

Weighting: **40%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Observed

In a series of short answers and extended responses, students will demonstrate all aspects of their understanding of phonological concepts and data analysis.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Communicate an understanding of fundamental phonological concepts including feature, phoneme, syllable, gesture, rule, constraint, underlying representation and surface form.
- Explain and illustrate phonological processes, and their role in shaping language sounds.
- Analyse the phonological structure of a language from example data.
- Analyse phonological phenomena, and explain how they can be described under different phonological frameworks.

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- [Academic Success](#) for academic skills support.

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation.

³ An automatic short extension is available for some assessments. Apply through the [Service Connect Portal](#).

Delivery and Resources

As a student enrolled in this unit, you will engage in a range of face-to-face learning activities, including lectures, tutorials, readings, quizzes. Details can be found on the iLearn site for this unit.

Technologies used and required

Word processing and conversion to pdf file format is needed for completing both Problem Sets One and Two; internet access is needed for downloading lecture and tutorial materials and for uploading assignments. Active participation in the learning activities throughout the unit will require students to have access to a tablet, laptop or similar device. Students who do not own their own laptop computer may borrow one from the university library.

Required textbook:

- Hayes (2011). *Introductory Phonology*. Oxford, UK: Wiley-Blackwell.

Secondary (recommended) textbooks:

- Kennedy (2017). *Phonology: A Coursebook*. Cambridge University Press.
- Kager (1999). *Optimality Theory*. Utrecht, The Netherlands: Cambridge University Press.
- Dinnsen & Gierut (2008). *Optimality Theory, Phonological Acquisition and Disorders*. Equinox
- Zsiga (2013). *The Sounds of Language: an introduction to phonetics and phonology*. Hoboken: Wiley-Blackwell
- Gussenhoven & Jacobs (2013). *Understanding Phonology (3rd ed)*. Taylor & Francis Group.
- Gussenhoven & Jacobs (2017). *Understanding Phonology (4th ed)*. Abingdon, Oxon ; New York, NY: Routledge.

Unit Schedule

- W1 - Introduction & Refresher
- W2 - Distinctive Features & Natural Classes I.
- W3 - Distinctive Features & Natural Classes II.

- W4 - Phonological Rules
- W5 - Introduction to Morphophonology
- W6 - Morphophonology & Rule Ordering I.
- W7 - Morphophonology & Rule Ordering II.
- W8 - Morphophonology & Rule Ordering III.
- W9 - Syllables & Feet
- W10 - Stress Systems
- W11 - Optimality Theory I.
- W12 - Optimality Theory II.
- W13 - Exam Revision

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://policies.mq.edu.au) (<https://policies.mq.edu.au>). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies) (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central](https://policies.mq.edu.au) (<https://policies.mq.edu.au>) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit connect.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe [academic integrity](#) – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free [online writing and maths support](#), [academic skills development](#) and [wellbeing consultations](#).

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Academic Success

[Academic Success](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Ask a Study Coach](#)
- [Access StudyWISE](#)
- [Upload an assignment to Studiosity](#)
- [Complete the Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of [Student Support Services](#) including:

- [IT Support](#)
- [Accessibility and disability support](#) with study
- Mental health [support](#)
- [Safety support](#) to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- [Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues](#)
- [Student Advocacy](#) provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via the [Service Connect Portal](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/technology/service-desk>.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Unit information based on version 2026.01R of the [Handbook](#)