Usage-based Phonology (Spanish 5430/7430)
MW 2:00-3:15, McKenna 103 ~ Spring 2017

Esther L. Brown
Office Hours:
133 McKenna Languages Bldg. Wednesday 3:15-4:15 & Friday 11:00-1:00
(303) 735-6170
Esther.Brown@Colorado.edu

Course description:

This course serves as an introduction to usage-based approaches to phonology. We will contrast functionalist and cognitive perspectives with more formal descriptions of phonological rules and representation. We will examine what phonological phenomena can tell us about the nature and size of lexical units. An emphasis will be placed on exploring phonetic, experimental, and diachronic studies in order to understand the nature of phonological representation in memory. Whenever possible, data and examples will be taken from Spanish.

Grading: (Explanations below)

1) Discussion in class & online blog 20%
2) Essay Questions 15%
3) Oral presentation of article 10%
4) Exam 15%
5) Final Project 40%

1. **Discussion in class & online blog**: Students are expected to come to class prepared to contribute to the in-class discussion of the assigned readings. **Blog**: Each student is required to read the online comments weekly and to post 8 comments over the course of the semester in the discussion blog created for our course on D2L. These comments can address any or all of the assigned readings for the week. Occasionally you may choose to respond to or continue a discussion brought up by a classmate in a previous week. All comments should summarize enough of the current week’s reading to sustain the criticism, commentary, and questions that you chose to bring up about the content of the articles. All contributions must be posted prior to 12:00 midnight on Sundays.

2. **Essay Questions**: Each student will write two short essays.
   a. **Essay 1** (approximately 500 words; 5%): The first essay, due Monday, February 13, will be a very concise response to the following prompt.
      i. Describe properties of the classical phoneme. Compare and contrast this view with the usage-based approach outlined in Bybee 1999, Bybee 2001.
   b. **Essay 2** (approximately 1000 words; 10%) The second essay, due Wednesday, March 15, will be a brief paper providing a summary and critical evaluation of the readings A-G on the syllabus. More details TBA.
3. **Oral presentation of article**: Each student will give an oral summary in class of an article chosen from the list below. The oral presentation should highlight the problem being investigated (the hypothesis or proposal), why it matters (theoretical implications), the methods & data used to address the question, as well as summarize the primary findings. It will be important to relate the work to material covered in the course and to include discussion points or questions for the class. Handouts with discussion points are required.

4. **Exam**: There will be one 75 minute exam that covers material from all required readings assigned prior to the exam.

5. **Final Project**: All students will conduct a research project (theoretical or quantitative) on a topic chosen in consultation with me. Formal proposals are due before spring break (no later than Friday, March 24 th). Each semester project must incorporate usage-based theory and methods to a phonological variable. Each student will provide an informal oral presentation in class summarizing major findings of your research. The final written version is due Friday, May 1, 2017.

### Calendario: Primavera 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOPICS &amp; CLASS READINGS</th>
<th>STUDENT PRESENTATIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. January 16-18: Introduction to course, phonology</td>
<td>M: NO HAY CLASE&lt;br&gt;W: Introduction to course</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 7. February 27-1:


- Segments & phonotactic constraints
- Phonological processes and primitives, acceptability judgments
- The interaction of phonology with morphology
- Frequency, productivity

| M: PLU Ch. 5 | 4. Barnes 2012 |

### 8. March 6-8:


- Word frequency and/or FRC?


### 9. March 13-15:

| W: | Essay #2 Due [A-G] |

### 10. March 20-22:

| M: Exam |
| W: Review / Term Paper discussion |

**Term Paper Proposal Due – before Spring Break**

Week 11: NO HAY CLASE: vacaciones de primavera

### 12. April 3-5:

| M: PLU Ch. 6, Bybee & Torres Cacoullos 2008 |

### 13. April 10-12:

| M: PLU Ch. 7, Beckner et. al. 2009 |

### 14. April 17-19:


### 15. April 24-26:

| W: Oral presentations of Final Project |

### 16. May 1-3:

| M: Oral presentations of Final Project |
W: Oral presentations of Final Project

**Final Project Due:** **noon** Friday, May 5, 2015.

**Textbook:**

**Additional Required Readings:**


University and Department Policies

(1) **Add / Drop / Waitlist** - If you are waitlisted for this class, it is IMPERATIVE that you familiarize yourself with departmental policies and deadlines. For this, please visit [http://www.colorado.edu/spanish/resources/dropadd-policy](http://www.colorado.edu/spanish/resources/dropadd-policy).

(2) **Prerequisites not met** - If your instructor informs you that the system has flagged you because you do not meet the pre-requisites for this course, you should meet in person with Javier Rivas, the associate chair for undergraduate studies, or the coordinator for your class level. If you fail to do so, you may be dropped from the class. Your instructor will inform you of the date and time to meet with the associate chair or the coordinator for your class.

(3) **Honor Code** - All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution (see [http://www.colorado.edu/policies/student-honor-code-policy](http://www.colorado.edu/policies/student-honor-code-policy)). Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. For details on these violations, students must go to [http://honorcode.colorado.edu/student-information](http://honorcode.colorado.edu/student-information) and read the links “What is a violation?” “Standards of Academic Integrity,” “Understanding and preventing plagiarism,” and “Citation guide and plagiarism information.” All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code Office (honor@colorado.edu; 303-735-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy are subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). For more information see [http://honorcode.colorado.edu/student-information](http://honorcode.colorado.edu/student-information).

(4) **Final Exams** - Final exams are to be taken on the day determined by the university and the department. No excuse such as family meetings, employment, or travel will grant an exception to this. If you have three or more final exams on the same day, you are entitled to arrange an alternative exam time for the last exam or exams scheduled on that day. If you have two final exams scheduled to meet at the same time, you are entitled to arrange an alternative exam time for the later course offered that day or week. To be eligible to re-schedule a final exam, you must provide evidence of either of these situations and make arrangements with your instructor no later than Friday, March 24, 2017. For the complete final examination policy, see [http://www.colorado.edu/catalog/2016-17/campuspolicies#Final-Examinations](http://www.colorado.edu/catalog/2016-17/campuspolicies#Final-Examinations).

(5) **Use of electronic devices in the classroom** - While some course content may be accessible in electronic format, use of electronic devices such as cell phones, tablets or laptop computers is permitted only to access course readings and other materials or to take class notes, and only with the instructor's consent. Failure to request permission or to comply with these rules of use will result in your instructor counting the date of occurrence as an unexcused absence. If you feel you need to use any type of electronic device during class for any other purpose outside these parameters, please speak with your instructor.
(6) Classroom Behavior - Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, color, culture, religion, creed, politics, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, and nationalities. Class rosters provide the student's legal name. Your instructor will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise her/him of this preference early in the semester so that s/he may make appropriate changes to her/his records. See policies at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/student-classroom-and-course-related-behavior and at http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code

(7) Disability Services - If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to your instructor a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. For exam accommodations provide your letter at least one week prior to the exam. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. You may contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or by e-mail at dsinfo@colorado.edu. If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, please visit http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/students/temporary-medical-conditions and discuss your needs with your instructor.

(8) Religious Observances - Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. See details at: http://www.colorado.edu/policies/observance-religious-holidays-and-absences-classes-andor-exams. Please contact your Instructor during the first two weeks of class to let her/him know of any possible conflicts in order to make the necessary arrangements.

(9) Discrimination and Harassment - The University of Colorado Boulder (CU-Boulder) is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment. The University of Colorado does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status in admission and access to, and treatment and employment in, its educational programs and activities. (Regent Law, Article 10, amended 11/8/2001). CU-Boulder will not tolerate acts of discrimination or harassment based upon Protected Classes by any employee or student or related retaliation against any employee or student. For purposes of this CU-Boulder policy, "Protected Classes" refers to race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation, or political philosophy. Any student, staff, or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of sexual harassment or discrimination or harassment based upon the above-mentioned Protected Classes should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or by email at cureport@colorado.edu, or the Office of Student Conduct (OSC) at 303-492-5550 or by email at student.conduct@colorado.edu. Information about the ODH, the above
referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at http://www.colorado.edu/institutionalequity/

(10) Policy on Enrollment in Undergraduate Language Courses - Undergraduate introductory 1000 and 2000-level language courses are designed for non-native speakers. Fluent speakers of that language are not allowed to enroll in these courses, and can be dropped from these courses by the department or the course instructor. Fluent speakers should consult the department website and the catalog as well as the course instructor or department language coordinator about their eligibility to enroll in upper-division 3000 and 4000-level language courses. Departments can exclude fluent speakers from upper-division language courses based on course content and/or instructional resources. Speakers who have not formally studied the language but have spoken the language in their home should consult with the associate chair of the language department or the department language coordinator about appropriate placement before enrolling in a language course.