

# **LIN 405 - Writing in Linguistics**

Summer 2021 - Scott Nelson

# Course Description

Majors in linguistics refine their skills in writing for the discipline by critiquing successive revisions of previously written work.

# Course Delivery

- Mode: synchronous online
  - classes will be recorded and posted to the course website for asynchronous access
- Time: T/Th 130--345pm (EDT)
  - 130--230 Lecture/Class Discussion
  - 230--245 Break
  - 245--345 Workshop
- Place: <https://stonybrook.zoom.us/j/4091340647>

# Introduction to me:

- Name: Scott Nelson
- E-mail: [scott.nelson@stonybrook.edu](mailto:scott.nelson@stonybrook.edu)
- Office Hours: by appointment
- Course website: <https://snelson89.bitbucket.io/405SU21.html>



# Introduction to me:

- B.A. & M.A. in Linguistics from Michigan State University
- Current Ph.D. student in Linguistics here at Stony Brook University
- Research interests broadly: Phonetics, Phonology, Speech Perception, Computational Linguistics
- Research interests narrowly: the phonetics-phonology interface, phonological representations, bayesian models of speech perception, model theoretic phonology

# Introduce yourself:

- What is your name?
- Do you know what paper you will be working on for the class?
- What linguistic topics are you most interested in?
- What aspects of writing do you find most challenging?
- What is your career plan?

# Class Overview

- The class will largely be **discussion** based.
- Part of this will involve talking about readings/writing exercises with your classmates.
- Part of this will involve **workshopping your and other student's papers**.

# Syllabus

Let's review the syllabus [here](#).



# Online course etiquette

Will Styler from UC San Diego's [guideline for attending an online course](#).

# Communication

- You can always reach me via e-mail.
- I have also created a Slack Channel for the class.
  - Let's look at this introduction.

\*\*\* All serious topics must be discussed via e-mail. \*\*\*

# Typsetting

- Programs like Microsoft Word, Google Docs, etc... are referred to as WYSIWYG editors
  - What you see is what you get
- A lot of linguistics papers require lots of tables, trees, glosses, and other vaguely math-y type things.
- Many linguists prefer to use LaTeX to typeset their documents as it gives them more freedom in how the document should be organized.
- Let's look at an example...

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↳ `\left[ \begin{array}{c} + \text{syllabic} \\ \alpha \text{high} \\ \beta \text{back} \end{array} \right.`

↳ `\gamma \text{round} \end{array} \right] / \left[ \begin{array}{c} + \text{syllabic} \\ \alpha \text{high} \\ \beta \text{back} \end{array} \right.`

↳ `\alpha \text{high} \\ \beta \text{back} \\ \gamma \text{round} \end{array} \right]`

`\text{C} \_ \text{C} \ ] \sigma`





# LaTeX

- We will use a web-based editor called Overleaf.
- Sign up for an account before class on 6/1.
- During week 2 we will go over an overview of how to use LaTeX for linguistics.
- Pros of LaTeX: lots of control, great for citations, easily mix text and figures
- Cons of LaTeX: steep learning curve, simple things require more typing, idiosyncratic

## Homework...

1. Sign up for a workshop date.
2. E-mail me your paper/paper idea for approval by Monday, May 31 at 5pm.
3. Read Macaulay chapters 2-3 and submit discussion questions/topics.
4. Join the course Slack channel.
5. Register for an Overleaf account.

Links and details for everything can be found on the course website.