Syllabus

Instructor: Stephen R. Anderson 370 Temple Street, #200; (phone) 432-2456
email <sra@yale.edu>
Office hour: Tuesday 10:30–11:30 or by appointment

Class Time: Tuesday, Thursday 2:30–3:45

Web Page: https://classesv2.yale.edu/portal/site/ling612_s16/
(Check here for news bulletins, assignments, readings...)

Prerequisites:
1. LING 112/512 Historical Linguistics
2. LING 232/632 Phonology I
3. LING 253/653 Syntax I

Course Requirements and Grading:
1. Written assignments: 40%
   four short (2 page) essays commenting or expanding on reading
2. Class participation: 10%
3. Final paper (Prospectus, 29 March 10%; paper due Monday, 9 May 40%)
e.g. a) some apparent universal of synchronic grammars and its possible grounding in historical paths of
change; b) a set of historical changes in some language(s) and their relation to issues discussed in this course
4. Undergraduate option: take home mid-term (20%) and final (30%). Declare choice by 22 March at the
latest.

Reading (quite a lot of it!):

(Paperback; $36.27 or more (used) through Amazon; $52.76 (!) for Kindle edition).

Linguistics. (chapters to be made available on Classes*V2).

Others: Hale’s book represents only a limited portion of the reading for the course. Other material will be made
available via Classes*v2.

Getting Started: Please do the reading assigned for the first classes as soon as you can: only limited portions of
this background material will be covered directly in class. The first three chapters of Hale and initial assignments
from the Routledge Handbook are available on Classes*V2.
Schedule of topics and readings (Subject to change)

Week 1  Introduction

Tu 19/1  Intro to course (Routledge Handbook chapter 2, Lass)
Th 21/1  Object and methods of inquiry (Routledge Handbook chapter 3, Kiparsky)

Week 2  Preliminaries, I

Tu 26/1  Object and methods of inquiry, cont. (Hale pp. 3–26)
Th 28/1  What is a Descent relationship? (Hale pp. 27–48)

Week 3  Phonological Change, I

Tu 2/2  Phonology as the Object of Change (Hale pp. 50–67)
Th 4/2  Sound Change: Marshallene (Hale pp. 68–90)

Week 4  Phonological Change II

Tu 9/2  Historical Phonology in Classical Generative Phonology (Postal 1968: 231–285; Bach and Harms 1972)
Th 11/2  Phonetics, Phonology and “Sound Change” (Hale pp. 91–123; Andersen 1973)

Week 5  Phonological Change, III

Tu 16/2  “Phonetic Bias in Sound Change” ((Garrett and Johnson 2013: 51–83); Routledge Handbook chapter 9, Garrett)
Th 18/2  [No class: SRA away]

Week 6  Synchronic vs. Diachronic Explanation, I

Tu 23/2  The Regularity of Sound Change (Kiparsky 2003; Hale pp. 124–145)
Th 25/2  Modes of explanation in phonology (Anderson 2016: 5.2–5.12, Blevins 2006b, Kiparsky 2006, Blevins 2006a)

Week 7  Morphological Change, I

Tu 1/3  Morphological Change: Introduction, Overview (Routledge Handbook chapter 12, Anderson)
Th 3/3  Morphology from Syntax; Classical Analogy (Hock 2003)

Week 8  Morphological Change, II

Tu 8/3  Notions of Analogy (Kiparsky 2000; Kuryłowicz 1949)
Th 10/3  “Grammaticalization” “Theory” (Campbell and Janda 2001; Newmeyer 2001)
[12/3–27/3: Spring Break, No Classes]

Week 9  Morphological Change, III

   Tu 29/3  Morphological Change and Synchronic Universals (Kiparsky 2008; Anderson 2004: 1–9; Anderson 1977)
   [Final Paper Prospectus due or UG take home mid-term assigned]
   Th 31/3  Morphological Change and Typology (Anderson 2004: 9–14)
   [UG take home mid-term returned]

Week 10  Syntactic Change, I

   Th 7/4   What Drives Syntactic Change? (Roberts 2007: 64–92)

Week 11  Syntactic Change, II

   Tu 12/4  The Diachrony of Clitics (Hale pp. 194–221)
   Th 14/4  Syntactic Change and Synchronic Universals (Newmeyer 2006: 103–126, 174–191)

Week 12  Semantic Change

   Tu 19/4  Diachronic Semantics (Deo 2015a)
   Th 21/4  Semantics & Grammaticalization (Deo 2015b)

Week 13  Methods and results of comparison

   Tu 26/4  Reconstruction Methodology (Routledge Handbook chapter 5,6, Weiss, Hale)
   Th 28/4  How Much Syntactic Reconstruction is Possible? (Pires and Thomason 2008; Routledge Handbook chapter 16, Barðdal)

Friday, 6 May: UG take home final distributed
Monday, 9 May: Final papers or take home finals due by 4:00 PM
References