

BOĞAZIÇI UNIVERSITY
Department of Linguistics

LING 313 – Phonology & Morphology of Modern Turkish
Fall 2020

Class hours: MMW565

This is an online course

Instructor: Metin Bağrıaçık

TA: Furkan Dikmen

e-mail: metin.bagriacik@boun.edu.tr

furkan.dikmen@boun.edu.tr

Office hours: by appointment, Zoom

Course description

This course is an investigation into the phonological and morphological properties of standard modern Turkish. In general we will attempt to come up with a general picture of aspects of standard modern Turkish at these linguistic levels, focusing on the sound inventory, word level prosody, (morpho)phonological operations, word formation processes, lexical categories and inflectional categories and their exponents. This will be at times supplemented with critical investigation of specific topics and with comparisons of our conclusions with non-standard vernaculars.

Required reading

The main textbook of this course is

- Erguvanlı-Taylan, Eser. 2015. *The phonology and morphology of Turkish*. Istanbul: Boğaziçi University Press,

which will be supplemented with

- Göksel, Aslı and Celia Kerslake. 2005. *Turkish, a comprehensive grammar*. London and NY: Routledge.

In addition, the following articles will be read and discussed:

- Bağrıaçık, Metin. 2018. Conversion. *Word Structure* 11:148–174.
- Braun, Friederike and Geoffrey Haig. 2000. The noun/adjective distinction in Turkish: An empirical approach. In *Studies on Turkish and Turkic languages: Proceedings of the ninth international conference on Turkish linguistics*, edited by Aslı Göksel and Celia Kerslake, 85–92. Wiesbaden: Harrossowitz.
- Göksel, Aslı. 2009. Compounds in Turkish. *Lingue e Linguaggio* 2:213–236.
- Kabak, Barış. 2007. Hiatus resolution in Turkish: an underspecification account. *Lingua* 117:1378–1411.
- Sezer, Engin. 1981. On non-final stress in Turkish. *Journal of Turkish Studies* 5:61–69.
- Yavaş, Feryal. 1980. The Turkish future marker. *Kansas Working Papers in Linguistics* 5:139–149.

Course requirements

Participation in the current context means reading the chapter/article assigned to you before our meeting and being ready for what we will cover. One obvious way of showing this to me is to ask questions or to make comments on what is going on in the class, orally, on chat or on our weekly Q/A-forums on Moodle. Attendance is not obligatory; obviously, I cannot check immediately whether you are there or not at a given Zoom session, so it all depends on your goodwill and eagerness to learn what is out there. . . and, of course, on whether you would like to miss or not a **pop-up quiz**: there will be several of these quizzes throughout the semester. A pop-up quiz may assess your knowledge only on what we cover in a specific week/meeting or may be cumulative, which means it may involve (also) questions on topics we have covered previously. These quizzes will always be distributed in class hours. In addition to them, you will receive *three* assignments, which will involve, among other things, analysis of data from standard Modern Turkish and from vernaculars. Due date for these assignments is specified below (see “course overview”). You are entitled to *one* one-day extension on a due date, no questions asked. After that, any late work, except under relevant extenuating circumstances you explain to me (ideally in advance), costs you *one full point* on your final grade for *every 24 hours past the deadline*. Finally, the **final exam** will involve problem-solving, multiple choice and short-answer questions. You have to get at least **55** on the final exam to be able to pass this course. *No* make-up exams will be granted unless compelling reasons force you to be absent on an exam day and you have contacted me in advance for this situation. Check the rules and regulations concerning make-up exams [here](#) (TR) to learn what these reasons can be.

Grading

Class participation	10%
Pop-up quizzes	30%
Assignments	30%
Final	30%

Grading standards

AA	100–90	CC	74.99–70
BA	89.99–85	DC	69.99–65
BB	84.99–80	DD	64.99–60
CB	79.99–75	F	59.99–0

On fairness

All assignments should be submitted individually. While working on these, your collaboration with fellow students should not go beyond discussing ideas together. Do your best in both the assignments and the final exam, do not copy others’. Keep in mind that plagiarism and cheating are very serious offenses and will bring ramifications that will certainly upset you (and me). All students are responsible for understanding and complying with the Higher Education Council’s Student Code of Conduct (Yükseköğretim Kurumları Öğrenci Disiplin Yönetmeliği). You can see the relevant file [here](#) (TR).

Bonus points

You can earn up to 3 extra points on your final grade if you submit data on a non-standard, local variety of modern Turkish. If you don not know any local varieties, you may ask your family or friends. You need to cover in total 3 phonetic/phonological or morphological differences between standard Turkish and your local variety. You need to describe the differences and indicate any analyses that may explain the differences if relevant. The deadline for submitting your extra credit work is stated below (see “course overview”).

PS sessions

You will meet with Furkan Dikmen, who will kindly TA for this course, for regular PS sessions. The PS hour will be one of the designated hours for this course. Each PS session will be announced to you in advance.

Use of Moodle

Make sure that your registered mail address on Moodle is the one with the .boun.edu.tr extension. Only when this is established can you get notifications via Moodle. All reading materials for this course, the weekly handouts, assignments, quizzes and links to all recorded Zoom sessions will be found there.

Course overview

The following overview may be updated. Any changes will be announced during the classes and/or via e-mail.

Week	Date	Topics	Reading	Deadlines
1	Oct. 26, 28	Introduction articulatory description of Turkish speech sounds	EET 1–10 EET 43–47	
2	Nov. 2, 4	The sound inventory of Turkish: consonants & vowels	GK 1–13 (EET-10–20) EET 10–36	
3	Nov. 9, 11	Vowel length Phonotactics	EET 36-43, 48-52 Kabak 2007:§2.1-2.3, 3	A1 assigned
4	Nov. 16, 18	Morphophonological alternations	EET 52–56 Erguvanlı-Taylan 2011	
5	Nov. 23, 25	Phonological processes	EET 67–86	A1 returned
6	Nov. 30, Dec. 2	Syllable structure Word stress	EET 86–95 Sezer 1981	
7	Dec. 7, 9	Morphology: Words and their building blocks Word formation processes	EET 103–108 handout Bağrıaçık 2018:§3.2-3.3	
8	Dec. 14, 16	Word formation processes (cont.'d)	EET 114–115 Göksel 2009	A2 assigned
9	Dec. 21, 23	Lexical categories	EET 116–130 Braun and Haig 2000	
10	Dec. 28, 30	Nominal inflection	EET 130–140	A2 returned

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Week	Date	Topics	Reading	Deadlines
11	Jan. 4, 6	Verbal inflection: voice, TAM	EET 150–177	A3 assigned
12	Jan 11, 13	Verbal inflection: TAM (cont.'d)	EET 177–205 Yavaş 1980	BW returned
13	Jan 18, 20	Residual issues		A3 returned

A: assignment, BW: bonus point work, EET: Erguvanlı-Taylan (2015), GK: Göksel and Kerslake (2005).