

Chinese Historical Phonology

HUMA 5160

Spring 2021

INSTRUCTOR: Prof. ZHU Xiaonong.

LECTURE TIME: Wed 10:30 - 13:20.

Course description

This course is an introduction to the phonological characteristics of the Putonghua sounds and their origins in earlier Mandarin and ancient Chinese, and to the methods and materials used in the historical reconstruction of the earlier stages of the Chinese language. A main focus of the course will be the application of computer-assisting procedures to problems in the reconstruction of the history of Chinese phonology. Other topics will include: the typology and evolution of tone and the subgrouping of Chinese dialects. [Pu][C]

Readings

Texts

- 1) 王力. 2002. 《漢語音韻》. 香港：中華書局.
- 2) Trask, R.L. 1996. *Historical Linguistics*. Edward Arnold.
- 3) 朱曉農 2010. 《語音學》. 北京：商務印書館.
- 4) 朱曉農 2018. 演化比較法：如何研究聲調演化？《語言科學》 17.2:113-132.

Supplementary Readings:

- 5) 朱曉農 2013. 《教我如何不想她：語音的故事》. 北京：商務印書館.
- 6) 朱曉農 2008. 《方法：語言學的靈魂》. 北京大學出版社.
- 7) 朱曉農 2006. 《音韻研究》. 北京：商務印書館.

- 8) 朱曉農 2012. 《音法演化：發聲活動》. 北京：商務印書館.
- 9) 朱曉農2019a. 聲調發生的五項前提, 《語言科學》第5期.
- 10) 張世祿/楊劍橋. 1988. 《音韻學入門》. 上海: 復旦大學出版社.
- 11) 語言所編 《方言調查字表》. 北京: 商務印書館.

(more reading materials will be distributed/assigned in class.)

Course Outline:

Week	Topics
1	Introduction: A brief history of Chinese phonology and language.
2	Basic phonetics: consonants and vowels.
3	Basic phonetics: tone and phonation types.
4	The comparative method and vowel evolution.
5	The method of internal reconstruction and consonant evolution.
6	Typological approach.
7	Reconstructing Middle Chinese: Materials and methods.
8	Rhyming patterns and reconstruction of final systems.
9	<i>Chongniu</i> and rhyming books and tables.
10	Old Mandarin.
11	Tone: Its nature, components, structure and representation.
12	Tone: Origin, development and distribution.
13	Sound change: types, causes and implementation.

Planned Assessment Tasks:

1st assignment: 10%
2nd assignment: 10%
Final: 70%
Participation in class: 10%

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs):

Upon completion of this course, students are expected to be able to:

1	To understand various methods used in historical phonology.
2	To familiarize students with materials used in reconstructing the history of Chinese.
3	To understand the rules governing phonological evolution.
4	To understand newly developed approaches and technics in evolutionary phonology.