

The phonology of Norwegian

v. 1.0

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This preliminary syllabus offers a sketch of possible topics for a series of four lectures on the phonology of Norwegian to be held at **Phonologyphest 2006** at Indiana University. The syllabus will not be finalized until spring, 2006, and input is welcome. Following the theme of the event, all empirical topics will be presented within the context of Optimality Theory.

Readings

Students seeking a basic reference work covering many topics in Norwegian phonology will find Kristoffersen (2000) to be a comprehensive and theoretically familiar work, although the book does not make use of optimality theory. Several other articles will be identified with the goal of providing as much background reading as individual students desire, as well as giving core references for the material in the lectures. Subsequent versions of this syllabus will contain a much longer reference list.

1 Segmental phonology

A smattering of highlights from the segmental phonology of Norwegian, including issues related to the inventory and processes such as retroflexion are covered in this lecture. Relevant work will be Kristoffersen's book and various papers by him, as well as forthcoming work by Morén.

2 Stress and syllabification

This lecture reviews the basic facts, noting the distinction between the stress patterns of historically native words and historical loans, and develops a synchronic account for these data. An important issue will be the treatment of peripheral ‘superheavy’ syllables.

3 Pitch accent

The distribution of pitch accent is described and the traditional treatments are presented, drawing on work by Riad, Kristoffersen, Bye, and Lorentz. Morén’s recent alternative to this approach is also presented and evaluated.

4 Morphophonology

The mutual impact of phonology and morphology in Norwegian is discussed, highlighting especially the role which the phonology plays in processes of morphological concatenation. Although several issues will be raised, the lecture will be built around one key case study, namely the morphophonology of imperative formation, where central references will be Rice (2003, 2005).

References

- Kristoffersen, Gjert. 2000. *The phonology of Norwegian*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Rice, Curt. 2003. Syllabic well-formedness in Norwegian imperatives. *Nordlyd* 31:372–384. Available at <http://www.ub.uit.no/munin/nordlyd>.
- Rice, Curt. 2005. Optimal gaps in optimal paradigms. *Catalan Journal of Linguistics* Special issue on *Morphology in Phonology*, edited by Maria-Rosa Lloret and Jesus Jimenez. Prepublication version available at <http://www.hum.uit.no/a/rice>.