

Today's topics:

- **Exam review / general discussion**

Background preparation:

- Exam information & review guide

0. Today's objectives

After today's class, you should be able to:

- Prepare effectively for the exam
- State descriptive generalizations and identify constraint rankings from AA #2
- Apply concepts to the Brazilian Portuguese data set:
 - Descriptive generalizations
 - Segment classes and features
 - Syllable-based generalizations
 - OT analysis

1. Exam — checking in

- Exam information & review guide
 - Are there any questions about format or content?
 - What topics would people most like to review?

2. Summary: Phonological analysis in OT

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- An OT analysis of a phonological pattern in a particular language consists of **a claim about how the constraints are ranked in that language**
 - May also require claims about what constraints are, or are not, in CON
- How do we **figure out** how the constraints are ranked?

2. Summary: Phonological analysis in OT

- How do we **figure out** how the constraints are ranked?
 - Find **informative losers** (constraint conflict)
 - Make valid **ranking arguments** (W/L notation)

2. Summary: Phonological analysis in OT

- Important questions when analyzing a data set
 - What are good **descriptive generalizations**?
 - How can we find **informative losers**?
 - What **constraints** are relevant?
 - Are there alternative approaches?
- What are some differences between how we **analyze** a data set and how we **present** the analysis (as a paper or a talk)?

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- An OT analysis of a phonological pattern in a particular language consists of a claim about how the constraints are ranked in that language
 - May also require claims about the contents of CON
- What does this look like for **publishable research**?

2. Summary: Phonological analysis in OT

- An OT analysis of a phonological pattern in a particular language consists of a claim about how the constraints are ranked in that language
 - May also require claims about the contents of CON
- What does this look like for **publishable research**?
 - “I analyzed this in OT. The end.” — This kind of paper got published only when OT was very new.
 - “This pattern can be analyzed in OT [or HG, etc.] better than in another framework/version.” — Promising!
 - “In order to explain this data, here is a new change we have to make to the model.” — Promising (if justified)!

3. Example (for review discussion)

- Data set: [Brazilian Portuguese](#)
 - What are some **descriptive generalizations** we can make for this data set?
 - Are there phonologically active **classes**? If so, how can we use **features** to describe them?
 - How can we apply concepts from the Zec (2007) overview of **syllable structure** to this data set in the most insightful way?
 - What might an **OT analysis** of the major generalizations look like?