Paper guidelines

A. Content

(1) The papers are to be empirically based: cite and analyze your own data.

(2) “Your own data”. This can come from a grammar, fieldwork, a language you speak, etc. It can come from some article written in some framework before OT (though I don’t recommend this).

(3) All generalizations and input forms must be justified by you with examples in the paper. Do not say that a rule or generalization exists because the author of some paper or grammar says so (though you do need to acknowledge anyone who’s claiming the same generalizations exist).

(4) You need to propose an explicit analysis of your data.

(5) All constraints must be justified, either drawing them from the literature or you being very explicit why some new constraint is necessary.

(6) All rankings must be justified.

(7) There needs to be a theoretical point; you need to make clear how your analysis of your data challenges OT. Ideally, you should propose some explicit change in the theory to accommodate your analysis.

(8) The most important thing about the papers is that they be clear. Do not write them thinking of me as the audience; write them for your classmates.

B. Form

(9) They can be no more than five double-spaced pages.

(10) Type them.

(11) Turn them in on time.