



# The Oxford Handbook of Historical Phonology (Oxford Handbooks)

By *Patrick Honeybone, Joseph Salmons*

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## **The Oxford Handbook of Historical Phonology (Oxford Handbooks)** By Patrick Honeybone, Joseph Salmons

This book presents a comprehensive and critical overview of historical phonology as it stands today. Scholars from around the world consider and advance research in every aspect of the field. In doing so they demonstrate the continuing vitality of one of the oldest sub-disciplines of linguistics.

The book is divided into six parts. The first considers key current research questions, the early history of the field, and the structuralist context for work on sound change. The second examines evidence and methods, including phonological reconstruction, typology, and computational and quantitative approaches. Part III looks at types of phonological change, including stress, tone, and morphophonological change. Part IV explores a series of controversial aspects within the field, including the effects of first language acquisition, the mechanisms of lexical diffusion, and the role of individuals in innovation. Part V considers the main theoretical perspectives including those of evolutionary phonology and generative historical phonology. The final part examines sociolinguistic and exogenous factors in phonological change, including the study of change in real time, the role of second language acquisition, and loanword adaptation. The authors, who represent leading proponents of every theoretical perspective, consider phonological change over a wide range of the world's language families. The handbook is, in sum, be a valuable resource for phonologists and historical linguists and a stimulating guide for their students.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"The work's overall aim is to promote communication across subfields and encourage debate. By pulling together the many strands of research, the handbook seems well positioned to fulfill this goal  
Recommended."--*CHOICE*

#### About the Author

**Patrick Honeybone** is Senior Lecturer in Linguistics and English Language at the University of Edinburgh where his main interests are historical phonology, phonological theory, and northern English dialects. He has published articles in *English Language and Linguistics*, *Lingua*, *Language Sciences*, and a range of other journals. He is the main organizer of the annual Manchester Phonology Meeting.

**Joseph Salmons** is the Lester W.J. "Smoky" Seifert Professor of Germanic Linguistics at the University of Wisconsin. He is the author of *A History of German*, OUP 2012, and serves as executive editor of *Diachronica: International Journal of Historical Linguistics*.

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