

Education

University of California, Santa Cruz - Ph.D., Linguistics, In progress

Advisors: Jaye Padgett, Ryan Bennett

Expected Completion Date: June 2025

University of California, Santa Cruz - M.A., Linguistics, September 2023

Thesis: The syllable in domain generalization: Evidence from artificial language learning

Chair: Jaye Padgett, *Committee:* Rachel Walker, Grant McGuire

California State University, Northridge - M.A., Linguistics *with honors*, May 2017

Oberlin College - B.A., Law & Society, May 2012

Other Education

Institute on Collaborative Language Research (CoLang) 2016, University of Alaska, Fairbanks

Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute 2015, University of Chicago

Universiteit van Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands - Semester abroad - Spring 2010

International School for Humanities and Social Sciences

Publications

Wax Cavallaro, Maya. (2021). "[SG] and final consonant allophony in Tz'utujil". In *Proceedings of the 2020 Annual Meeting on Phonology*. Washington, DC: Linguistic Society of America.

Volumes Edited

Proceedings of the 2020 Annual Meeting on Phonology (AMP 2020). With Ryan Bennett, Richard Bibbs, Mykel Loren Brinkerhoff, Max J. Kaplan, Stephanie Rich, Nicholas Van Handel.

Presentations

- 2024 Domain generalization and right-edge phonological phenomena in Mayan. *Form and Analysis in Maya Linguistics (FAMLi VII)*, Mexico City, Mexico. Feb. 2024. (Spanish)
- 2023 The syllable in domain generalization: Evidence from artificial language learning. *Annual Meeting on Phonology (AMP)*, Johns Hopkins University. Oct. 2023.
- 2023 Storybooks as outcomes from field methods classes: P'urhépecha, Sà'án Sàví ñà Yukúnani and Dille' Xhunh Laxup (with Salazar, Ruiz, Díaz Robles, Campbell, Belmar, Gomez-Jackson, Duff, Brinkerhoff, and Miller Willahan). *Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas Annual Meeting*. Jan. 2022.
- 2022 "It's alive!": Animacy-based structural expectations rapidly update with context (with S. Rich, L. Balachandran, J. Duff, M. Kogan, N. Van Handel, M. Wagers). *35th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP)*, Santa Cruz, CA. Mar. 2022. (Poster)

- 2022 Tonal patterns and their restrictions in Santiago Laxopa Zapotec (with M. Brinkerhoff and J. Duff). *Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas Annual Meeting*. Jan. 2022.
- 2021 Ensordecimiento y aspiración final en el Tz'utujil y otras lenguas (Final devoicing and aspiration in Tz'utujil and other languages). *Form and Analysis in Maya Linguistics* (FAMLI VI), San Cristobal de las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico. Nov. 2021.
- 2021 Final sonorant devoicing in Tz'utujil and beyond. *25th annual Workshop on Structure and Constituency in Languages of the Americas* (WSCLA), Sogang University. May 2021.
- 2021 Downstep in Santiago Laxopa Zapotec and the prosodic typology of VSO languages (with M. Brinkerhoff and J. Duff). *28th Annual Manchester Phonology Meeting* (mfm), University of Manchester. May 2021.
- 2020 [SG] and final consonant allophony in Tz'utujil. *Annual Meeting on Phonology* (AMP), UC Santa Cruz. Sep. 2020. (Poster)
- 2019 Language Technology at Google (with P. Sans, H. Sidahmed, C. Cornelius, D. van Esch). *International Year of Indigenous Languages Kick-off Event*, LSA 2019 Annual Meeting, New York, NY, USA. Jan. 2019. (Poster)
- 2017 Verbal arts and internet technology in Unangam Tunuu revitalization. *31st Annual CSU Research Symposium*, San Luis Obispo, CA, USA. Apr. 2017.
- 2017 Leveraging web technologies to enrich archival materials for use in language revitalization (with E. Ko, M. Dirks, A. Berge). *5th International Conference on Language Documentation and Conservation* (ICLDC), University of Hawaii at Manoa. Mar. 2017.

Organized Sessions

- 2023 Engaging the Community: Using Field Methods Classes for Community Outreach. With G. Belmar, M.L. Brinkerhoff, and E.W. Campbell. *Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas* (SSILA).
[\[https://sites.google.com/ucsc.edu/engagingcommunity/home\]](https://sites.google.com/ucsc.edu/engagingcommunity/home)

Teaching Experience

University of California, Santa Cruz, Teaching Fellow (GSI)		Summer 2024
Instructor for LING 131 Spanglish: Language and Identities through Contact		
University of California, Santa Cruz, Teaching Assistant (TA)		Fall 2021 - Present
Spring 2023	Phonetics 2	Instructor: Grant McGuire
Winter 2023	Introduction to Linguistics	Instructor: Maziar Toosarvandani
Fall 2022	Introduction to Linguistics	Instructor: Jason Ostrove
Spring 2022	Invented Languages, from Elvish to Esperanto	Instructor: Pranav Anand
Winter 2022	Phonology 1	Instructor: Ryan Bennett
Fall 2021	Semantics 1	Instructor: Maziar Toosarvandani
California State University Northridge, SI Leader (ISA)		Fall 2015 - Spring 2017
Supplemental instruction for ENGL 113 and LING 113		
Lawrence High School, Lawrence, MA, Building Based Educator		Spring 2013
Substitute teacher; worked with pull-out groups of English language learners		
Best English School, Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, EFL Teacher		Fall 2012
Colegio Seminario San José, Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, Volunteer (music, physical education, translation projects, café)		Summer/Fall 2012

Research Experience

University of California, Santa Cruz, Principle investigator		Summer 2023
<i>Project:</i> Mayan phonology (Aspiration, devoicing, and stress across Mayan)		
<i>Undergraduate research assistant:</i> Valen Munson		
University of California, Santa Cruz, Research Assistant		Summer 2023
<i>Project:</i> Syllable count and size in American and Australian English		
<i>Principle investigator:</i> Rachel Walker (with Michael Proctor)		
University of California, Santa Cruz, Research Assistant		Summer 2021
<i>Project:</i> An ultrasound investigation of Irish Palatalization		
<i>Principle investigator:</i> Jaye Padgett (with Ryan Bennett and Grant McGuire)		
California State University Northridge, Research Assistant		Fall 2015
<i>Project:</i> Hawaiian corpus		
<i>Principle investigator:</i> David J. Medeiros		

Industry Experience

Google via Adecco, Associate Linguist, Pygmalion (NLU)	July 2017-July 2019
Providing linguistic expertise and high-quality training data for machine learning for various semantic, syntactic, and experimental NLP projects.	
Working on NLU grammar development for the Google Assistant.	
Helping lead projects, develop guidelines, and train and work with other linguists.	

Awards and Grants

2024	Finalist, UCSC Grad Slam (\$500) Syllables in Our Minds: Evidence from a Learning Experiment
2021-2022	Jacobs Research Funds Grant (\$4998.80) Stress, tone, and phonation in Santiago Laxopa Zapotec (With Mykel Loren Brinkerhoff and John Duff)
2021	Summer Research Fellowship (\$2132) The Humanities Institute, UCSC
2020-2021	UCSC Radical Resilience Small Grant (\$1500) Addiction Recovery Discussion Series, UCSC
2019-2024	Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellowship
2017	2nd Place, Graduate, Behavioral and Social Sciences, 31st Annual CSU Research Symposium Verbal Arts and Internet Technology in Unangam Tunuu Revitalization

Service

UCSC

2023-Present	Co-organizer, Equity in Linguistics working group (EquiL)
2019-Present	Member, Nido de Lenguas
2019-Present	Peer mentor and volunteer, The Cove
2020-2023	Co-organizer, Workshop on Languages of Mesoamerica (WLMA)
2021-2022	Chair, Linguistics Events Committee
2019-2022	Member, Linguistics Events Committee

CSUN

2015-2017	Co-chair, Linguistics Student Organization (CSUN LSO)
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Conferences

2023	Volunteer, West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL)
2020	Organizing Committee, Annual Meeting on Phonology (AMP)
2017	Co-organizer, CSUN Linguistics in Practice Institute (LIPI)

LSA

2017-2023	Committee on Endangered Languages and their Preservation (CELP) - Activism Subcommittee
2019-2022	Committee on Public Policy (CoPP)

Languages

Native—English

Advanced—Spanish

Intermediate—American Sign Language, Yiddish

Fieldwork—Santiago Laxopa Zapotec, Tz'utujil (Mayan), Unangam Tunuu/Aleut

Computer Skills

Languages: NLP in Python, R, Linux, basic HTML, basic JavaScript

Software: Microsoft Suite, Google Drive, Audacity, ELAN, Praat

Professional Affiliations

2015-Present Member, Linguistic Society of America

2017-Present Member, Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of America

2021-2022 Member, American Dialect Society