

CURRICULUM VITAE

JUDITH AISSSEN

Contact information

- Department of Linguistics
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Summary of education

- Harvard University, 1974, PhD, Linguistics
- Yale University, 1972, MA, Linguistics (awarded retroactively)
- Fordham University, 1969, BA, English Literature, summa cum laude

Summary of professional career

- Professor Emerita of Linguistics, UC Santa Cruz, 2016-
- Research Professor of Linguistics, UC Santa Cruz, 2010-2016
- Professor of Linguistics, UC Santa Cruz, 1987-2010
- Visiting Professor of Linguistics, Linguistic Institute, Summer 2005 (MIT)
- Visiting Professor of Linguistics, Special Joint Summer School (Linguistics Society of America/ Deutsche Gesellschaft für Sprachwissenschaft), Düsseldorf, 2002.
- Visiting Professor of Linguistics, Linguistic Institute, Summer 1987 (Stanford University)
- Associate Professor of Linguistics, UC Santa Cruz, 1983-1987
- Assistant Professor of Linguistics, Yale University, 1978-1983
- Visiting Assistant Professor of Linguistics, UC Santa Barbara, 1980-1981
- Visiting Lecturer in Linguistics, UCLA, 1978
- Lecturer in Linguistics, Harvard University, 1974-1976
- Instructor in Linguistics, Harvard University, 1973-1974

Professional honors, including grants and scholarships

- Recipient of the 2019 Kenneth L. Hale Award, Linguistic Society of America
- Invitation to hold Hale Chair, Summer LSA Institute 2015, University of Chicago [declined]
- Fellow of the Linguistic Society of America, elected 2008
- NSF Grant #SBR-9818177, 1999-2003, Collaborative Research in ‘Optimal Typology’ Syntactic Markedness Hierarchies in Optimality Theory.
- Committee on Teaching Award, UCSC Academic Senate, June 1999
- NSF Grant #SBR-9630305, 1996-1998, The Syntax of Obviation in Mayan.
- Fellow, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford, CA, 1996-1997
- Presidential Fellowship in the Humanities, UC Office of the President, 1996-1997
- NSF Grant, 1986-1988 (with G.K. Pullum and W. Ladusaw)
- Faculty Research Grants, UCSC Academic Senate, 1983-1997

Date: August 27, 2020.

- Morse Fellowship, 1982-83
- Fellow, Whitney Humanities Center, 1982-1983
- Whitney-Griswold Faculty Research Grant, Summer 1982
- Tinker Foundation Travel Grant, Summer 1982
- Yale College Distinguished Teaching Prize, May 1982
- Wenner-Gren Foundation Grant for Linguistic Fieldwork, Summer 1980
- ACLS Fellowship for Recent Ph.D. Recipients, July 1977-December 1977
- Fellow of the Radcliffe Institute, Cambridge, Mass. 1976-1977

Administrative positions

- Graduate Director, Linguistics Department UCSC, 2006-2010
- Acting Chair, Linguistics Dept. UC Santa Cruz, 2001-2002
- Chair, Linguistics Board, UC Santa Cruz, 1991-1994
- Director, Syntax Research Center, UC Santa Cruz, 1987-90
- Director, Undergraduate Studies, Yale University, 1981-82
- Head Tutor in Linguistics, Harvard University, 1973-76

Other professional activities

- Member, External review committee, Linguistics Dept. University of Kansas, February 2011
- Member, Awards Committee, Linguistic Society of America (LSA) 2008-2010
- Editorial Board, *UC Publications in Linguistics*, 2007-present
- Advisory Board, *eLanguage*, 2006-2013
- Consultant Board, *Advances in Optimality Theory*, Equinox Publishers, 2005-present
- Chair and member, Nominating Committee, LSA 2008
- Member, Nominating Committee, LSA, 2005-2007
- Member, Executive Committee, LSA, 1995-1998
- Member, Linguistics in the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee of the LSA, 1986-1988
- Member, Nominating Committee, LSA, 1989-1992
- Associate Editor, *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory*, 1987-1990
- Associate Editor, *Language*, 1986-1988
- Associate Editor, *Syntax and Semantics*, Academic Press, 1980-?
- Editor, *Mayan Linguistics Newsletter*, 1981-1986
- Editorial Board, *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory*, 1982-1987
- Editorial Board, *Studies in Natural Language & Linguistic Theory*, 1982-1987
- Organizer (with Jack DuBois), West Coast Mayan Symposium, April 1981
- Organizer, Taller Maya VI, Summer 1982
- Member, Visiting Committee to the Harvard Linguistics Department, 1982-1988

Other recent teaching

- Instructor for *Project on the morpho-syntax and semantics of Headless Relative Clauses in Mesoamerican languages - 2017-2018* (<https://sites.google.com/view/mesoamerican>)
- At CIESAS Sureste, San Cristobal de las Casas, Mexico
 - Seminar: *Information Structure*, October-November, 2018
 - Seminar: *Focus and Clefts*, April 2017
 - Seminar: *Relative Clauses*, September 2015, June, 2013
 - Seminar: *Interrogatives, Topic, and Focus*, Jan-Feb, 2012
 - Seminar: *Complementation*, March, 2011
 - Seminar: *Ditransitives*, Summer, 2010

- Workshop I: *Complementation*, Summer, 2006
- At 4th International Conference on Language Documentation and Conservation (U Hawaii)
 - Master class on 'Documenting topic and focus', February 2015
- At OKMA, Antigua, Guatemala
 - Instructor, Workshop II: *Complementation*, Summer 2007

Published books

- 1987, *Tzotzil clause structure*, Reidel Publishers, Dordrecht.
- 1979, *The syntax of causative constructions*, Garland Publishers: NY.

Edited books

- 2017, *The Mayan Languages*, Judith Aissen, Nora C. England, and Roberto Zavala Maldonado, eds. Routledge.
- 2010, *La predicación secundaria en lenguas de mesoamérica*, Judith Aissen and Roberto Zavala, eds. CIESAS, Mexico City.
- 1976, *Harvard studies in syntax and semantics II*, Judith Aissen and Jorge Hankamer, eds. Harvard Linguistics Department, Cambridge, MA.

Articles in professional journals

- to appear (2021), with Telma Can Pixabaj. Nominalization and the expression of manner in K'iche'. *International Journal of American Linguistics* 87(1).
- to appear. Documenting topic and focus. *Language Documentation & Conservation*.
- 2004, with Joan Bresnan. Remarks on explanation and description in grammar. *Studies in Language* 28:580-283.
- 2003. Differential object marking: Iconicity vs. economy. *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory* 21:435-483.
- 2002, with Joan Bresnan. Optimality and functionality: Objections and refutations. *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory* 20:81-95.
- 1999. Subject choice and markedness in Optimality Theory, *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory* 17:673-711.
- 1999. Inverse and agent focus in Tzotzil. *Language* 75:451-485.
- 1997. On the syntax of obviation. *Language* 73:705-750.
- 1996. Pied piping, abstract agreement, and functional projections in Tzotzil. *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory* 14:447-491.
- 1994. Tzotzil auxiliaries. *Linguistics* 32:657-690.
- 1992. Topic and focus in Mayan. *Language* 68:43-80.
- 1989. Agreement controllers and Tzotzil comitatives. *Language* 65:518-536.
- 1974. Verb raising. *Linguistic Inquiry* 5:325-366.
- 1972, with Jorge Hankamer. Shifty subjects: A conspiracy in syntax? *Linguistic Inquiry* 3:501-504.
- 1970, with John Kimball. "I think, you think, he think". *Linguistic Inquiry* 2:241-246.

Chapters in books

- to appear (2020), with Gilles Polian. Headless relative clauses in Tseltalan. *Headless Relative Clauses in Mesoamerican Languages*, Ivano Caponigro, Harold Torrence, and Roberto Zavala, eds. Oxford University Press.
- 2017. Correlates of ergativity in Mayan. *OUP Linguistics Handbook of Ergativity*, Jessica Coon, Diane Massam, and Lisa Travis, eds. Oxford University Press.

- 2017. Complementation in Mayan. *The Mayan Languages*, Judith Aissen, Nora England, and Roberto Zavala, eds. Routledge.
- 2017. Information structure in Mayan. *The Mayan Languages*, Judith Aissen, Nora England, and Roberto Zavala, eds. Routledge.
- 2017. Agent focus and passive in Tsotsil. *Asking the right questions: Essays in honor of Sandra Chung*. Jason Ostrove, Ruth Kramer, and Joseph Sabbagh, eds. UC Santa Cruz. 139-157. <http://escholarship.org/uc/item/8255v8sc>
- 2017. Special clitics and the right periphery in Tsotsil, *On looking into words (and beyond)*. Claire Bowern, Laurence Horn, and Raffaella Zanuttini, eds. Language Science Press.
- 2011. On the syntax of agent focus in K'ichee', *Proceedings of Formal Approaches to Mayan Linguistics*, Kirill Shklovsky, Pedro Mateo Pedro, and Jessica Coon, eds. MIT Working Papers in Linguistics Vol 63, 1-16. Cambridge, MA: MITPL.
- 2010, with Roberto Zavala. Introducción. *La predicación secundaria en lenguas de mesoamérica*, Judith Aissen and Roberto Zavala, eds. CIESAS, Mexico City.
- 2009. Depictives and serialization in Tzotzil. *Hypothesis A/Hypothesis B: Linguistic Explorations in Honor of David M. Perlmutter*. Donna B. Gerdts, John Moore, and Maria Polinsky, eds. MIT Press, 1-17.
- 2004. Differential coding, partial blocking, and bidirectional OT. *BLS 29*, Pawel Nowak and Corey Yorquelet, eds.
- 2001. Subject choice and markedness in Optimality Theory. *Optimality- theoretic syntax*, Jane Grimshaw, Geraldine Legendre, and Sten Vikner, eds. MIT Press, 61-96, [reprinted].
- 2000. *yi* and *bi*: Proximate and obviative in Navajo. *Papers in Honor of Ken Hale. Endangered and Less Familiar Languages Working Papers 1*, Andrew Carnie, Eloise Jelinek, and MaryAnn Willie, eds. MITWPL, 129-150.
- 2000. Prosodic conditions on clitics and anaphora in Jakalteq. *The Syntax of Verb-Initial Languages*, Andrew Carney and Eithne Guilfoyle, eds. Oxford University Press, 185-200.
- 1999. Logical subject and external possessor in Tzutujil, *External Possession*, D. Payne and I. Barshi, eds, John Benjamins, 167-193.
- 1991. Relational grammar. *Trends in Present Day Linguistics*, Flip Droste, ed. John Benjamins, 63-102.
- 1990. Toward a theory of agreement controllers. *Studies in Relational Grammar 3*, Brian Joseph and Paul Postal, eds. University of Chicago Press, 279-320.
- 1990. Una teoría de voz para idiomas mayas. *Lecturas en la lingüística maya*,. Stephen Elliott and Nora England, eds. Centro de Investigaciones Regionales de Mesoamérica, Antigua, Guatemala, 399-419.
- 1988, with William Ladusaw. Agreement and multistratalism. *Parasession on agreement*, Chicago Linguistic Society, Chicago.
- 1988. Extensions of brother-in-law agreement. *Agreement in Natural Language: Approaches, Theories and Descriptions*, M. Barlow and C. Ferguson, eds. Center for the Study of Language and Information, Palo Alto, 219-235.
- 1984. Themes and absolutes: Some semantic rules in Tzotzil. *Syntax and Semantics 16*, E. Cook and Donna Gerdts, eds. Academic Press, 1-20.
- 1984. 'Control and command in Tzotzil purpose clauses. *BLS 10*, 559-571.
- 1984. 'Surrogate agreement in Tzotzil. *ESCOL 1*, Ohio State University, 1-13.
- 1983. Indirect object advancement in Tzotzil. *Studies in Relational Grammar I*, David Perlmutter, ed. University of Chicago Press, 272-302.
- 1983, with David Perlmutter. Clause reduction in Spanish. *Studies in Relational Grammar I*, D. Perlmutter, ed. University of Chicago Press, 360-403.
- 1982. Valence and coreference. *Syntax and Semantics 15*, Sandra Thompson and Paul Hopper, eds. Academic Press.

- 1980, with Jorge Hankamer. Lexical extension and grammatical transformations. *BLS* 6, 238-249.
- 1979. Possessor ascension in Tzotzil. *Papers in Mayan Linguistics*, Laura Martin, ed. Lucas Bros. Publishers, Columbia, MO, 89-108.
- 1977. The interaction of clause reduction and causative clause union in Spanish. *NELS* 7, 1-17.
- 1976, with David Perlmutter. Clause reduction in Spanish. *BLS* 2, 1-30. Also in *Harvard Studies in Syntax and Semantics II*, Jorge Hankamer and Judith Aissen, eds. Revised version in *Studies in Relational Grammar I*, David Perlmutter, ed.
- 1975. Presentational there-insertion: a cyclic root transformation. *CLS* 11, 1-14.
- 1975, with Alberto Rivas. The proper formulation of the spurious-se rule in Spanish. *BLS* 1, 1-15.
- 1974, with Jorge Hankamer. The sonority hierarchy. *Papers from the Parasession on Natural Phonology*, *CLS*, 131-146.
- 1973. Shifty objects in Spanish.' *CLS* 9, 11-22.
- 1972. Where do relative clauses come from? *Syntax and Semantics I*, John Kimball, ed. Seminar Press: NY, 187-198.

Reviews

- 1996, review of *Voice and Inversion*, ed. T. Givón, *Language* 72:396-399.
- 1992, review of *The Great Tzotzil Dictionary of Santo Domingo Zinacantán*, *Language* 68:387-389.
- 1985, review of *The Nature of Syntactic Representation*, eds. P. Jakobson and G.K.Pullum, *Language* 61:175-180.
- 1980, review of *Papers in Mayan Linguistics*, ed. Nora England, *Journal of Mayan Linguistics* 1.2:46-61.
- 1979, review of *The Structure of Jacaltec*, by Colette Craig, *IJAL* 45.4:353-356.
- 1979, review of *Transformational-Generative Grammar*, by Bent Jacobsen, *Language* 55:679-684.

Other publications

- 2000. 'A serial verb construction in Tzotzil. *Jorge Hankamer Web Fest*, <http://ling.ucsc.edu/jorge/aissen.html>.
- 1999. Relational grammar. *The MIT Encyclopedia of Cognitive Sciences*, Rob Wilson and Frank Keil, eds. The MIT Press, 717-719.
- 1991. Fieldwork and linguistic theory. *Oxford Encyclopaedia of Linguistics*, William Bright, ed. Oxford University Press.
- 1982. Comments on 'Grammatical relations and explanation in linguistics, by Alec Marantz,' *Proceedings of the Harvard Conference on Grammatical Relations*, Annie Zaenen, ed. Indiana University Linguistics Club.
- 1981, editor of a series of papers done by my students on Tzotzil derivational morphology, *Journal of Mayan Linguistics*, 3.1.
- 1977, with Jorge Hankamer. Ambiguità. *Enciclopedia, I: Abaco-astronomia*, Einaudi, Torino, Italy, 417-449.

Presentations, 2000-present

- 2018, with Gilles Polian. Headless relative clauses in Tseltalan,' (with Gilles Polian), *Workshop on the morphosyntax and semantics of headless relative clauses in Mesoamerican languages*, San Cristobal de las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico.

- 2018, with Telma Can Pixabaj. Los interrogativos de manera y una construcción de verbo ligero en k'iche. *FAMLi V*, Antigua, Guatemala.
- 2016. Deriving VOS: Right-edge topics in Tsotsil (Mayan). Colloquia at INALCO (CNRS), Paris; Institute of Linguistics, National Tsing Hua University, Hsinchu Taiwan; Workshop on, Languages of Meso-America, UC Santa Cruz.
- 2016. Correlates of ergativity in Mayan. Institute of Linguistics, Academia Sinica, Taipei.
- 2016. Los tópicos al extremo derecho. *FAMLi IV*, Valladolid, Mexico.
- 2015. Bill Shipley: Founding linguist at UCSC. *Linguistics at Santa Cruz: Theory and Practice*.
- 2015. Working among the Maya. *Linguistics at Santa Cruz: Theory and Practice*.
- 2014. Syntax-prosody mismatches in Tsotsil. *ETI3 (Explorations of the Interface 3)*, McGill University; also at S-Circle, UC Berkeley
- 2013. Locality and partial agreement in Tzotzil. *Workshop on Structure and Constituency of Languages of the Americas* (UC Berkeley) [keynote].
- 2013. Partial agreement in Tzotzi. *U Texas Linguistics Colloquium*.
- 2012, 'Suspended affixation in Tzotzil,' *Cornell Workshop on Suspended Affixation*.
- 2012, 'Passive and the evolution of agent focus in Tzotzil,' *Harvard University Colloquium*.
- 2011, 'El pasivo y el enfoque de agente en tzotzil,' *CILLA V*, U Texas.
- 2011, 'The attenuation of agent focus in Tzotzil,' *S-Circle*, UCSC.
- 2011, 'Language and linguistics in the Maya area,' American Indian Resource Center, UCSC.
- 2011, 'Native speaker linguists in Meso-America,' *Fieldwork Forum*, UC Berkeley.
- 2010, 'Agent focus in K'ichee,' *FAMLi (Formal approaches to Mayan linguistics)*, MIT [invited speaker].
- 2008, 'Case and antipassive in Mayan,' *Workshop on case variation*, University of Stuttgart.
- 2007, 'Agent focus and antipassive in Mayan,' *Workshop on the grammar of verbal arguments and processing*. University of Leipzig, April 2007 [invited speaker].
- 2007, 'Agent focus and antipassive in Mayan,' *Workshop on American Indigenous Languages*, UCSB [keynote speaker].
- 2005, 'Working with indigenous linguists in the Maya area,' Structure, context, and community in language documentation: The new look of linguistic methodology (*Workshop on field linguistics*), UC Berkeley.
- 2005, 'La acusatividad en los idiomas mayas,' *CILLA (Conference on the Indigenous Languages of Latin America)*, U Texas, Austin [keynote speaker].
- 2004, 'Transitivity and complex predication in Tzotzil,' *Workshop on American Indigenous Linguistics 7*, UC Santa Barbara.
- 2003, 'Interpretive preferences and optimality in morphosyntax,' *Twenty-ninth annual meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society*. [invited speaker].
- 2002, 'Bidirectional optimization in non-configurational contexts,' *33rd Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Linguistics Society*. [invited speaker].
- 2001, 'The obviation hierarchy and morphosyntactic markedness,' *Workshop on the Structure and Constituency of Languages of the Americas*, St. Johns, Newfoundland. [keynote address]
- 2000, September, 'Los predicados secundarios en tzotzil,' Presentation to CIESAS, San Cristbal de las Casas, Chiapas.

Theses and dissertations directed (*external supervisor)

- *Telma Can, 2015, Complement and Purpose Clauses in K'iche', PhD dissertation, University of Texas [co-supervisor with Nora England].

- *Rosendo Martinez Alvarez, 2012. Las manifestaciones sintácticas, semánticas y discursivas de la agentividad en el tsotsil de Huixtán, Chiapas. MA thesis, CIESAS, Mexico.
- Anne Sturgeon, 2006, The syntax and pragmatics of contrastive topic in Czech. PhD dissertation, UCSC.
- Dan Roth, 2006, Prominence alignment: Constraints on lexicalization. MA paper, UCSC.
- Vera Lee-Schoenfeld, 2004, Beyond Coherence: The syntax of opacity in German. PhD dissertation, UCSC. [co-chair with James McCloskey].
- Khue Dinh Duong, 2004, A syntactic account of Vietnamese nominal phrases within the framework of X-bar theory and linear correspondence axiom. MA paper, UCSC.
- Alexa Goldstrom, 2004, A Chachapoya history. BA thesis, UCSC [won Deans and Chancellors Awards]
- Rodrigo Gutierrez Bravo, 2002, Structural markedness and syntactic structure: A study of word order and the left periphery in Mexican Spanish, PhD dissertation, UCSC.
- Rodrigo Gutierrez Bravo, 1999, DP as a case-opaque domain: The case of extraction from nominal expressions in Spanish, MA thesis, UCSC.
- Eric Potsdam, 1996, Syntactic issues in the English imperative, PhD dissertation, UCSC. [published in the Garland Outstanding dissertations in Linguistics series]
- O’Herin, Brian, 1995. Case and agreement in Abaza, PhD dissertation, UCSC.
- Erin Duncan, 1995, Pronominalization and long-distance anaphora in Jakaltek, MA thesis, UCSC.
- Charles Wallace, 1992, An analysis of Jakaltek phrase structure, MA thesis, UCSC.
- John Moore, 1991, Reduced constructions in Spanish, PhD dissertation, UCSC (co-chair with Sandy Chung). [published in the Garland Outstanding dissertations in Linguistics series]
- Jeffrey Runner, 1989, Left-conjunct agreement in Spanish, BA thesis, UCSC.

Member of thesis or dissertation committee (*external member)

- *Enrique Palancar, 2016, Description grammaticale, comparaison typologique et approche théorique. De l’otomi à d’autres langues otomangues. L’Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches, CNRS, Paris.
- *Oscar López Nicolás, 2016, Estudios en la fonología y gramática del zapoteco de Zoochina, PhD dissertation, CIESAS, Mexico.
- *Leah Velleman, 2014, Focus and movement in a variety of K’ichee’, PhD dissertation, University of Texas.
- Robert Henderson, 2012, Ways of pluralizing events. PhD dissertation, UC Santa Cruz.
- Scott AnderBois, 2011, Issues and alternatives. PhD dissertation, UC Santa Cruz.
- *Balam Mateo Toledo, 2008, The family of complex predicates in Qanjobal (Maya): their syntax and meaning. PhD dissertation, University of Texas.
- *Alejandro Curiel, 2007, Estructura de la información, enclíticos y configuración sintáctica en tojol abal. MA thesis, CIESAS, Mexico.
- *Peter de Swart, 2007, Cross-linguistic variation in object marking. PhD dissertation, Nijmegen University.
- Ascander Dost, 2007, Linearization, square pegs, and round holes. PhD dissertation, UCSC.
- Florence Woo, 2007, Prepositional predicates in Nuuchah-nulth. PhD dissertation, UCSC.
- Emily Manetta, 2006, Peripheries in Kashmiri and Hindi-Urdu. PhD dissertation, UCSC.
- Line Mikkelsen. 2004, Specifying who: On the structure, meaning, and use of specificational copular clauses. PhD dissertation, UCSC.
- *Hanjung Lee. 2001, Optimization in argument expression and interpretation: A unified approach. PhD dissertation, Stanford University.

- *Stuart Robinson. 1999, Voice and obviation in Greater Tzeltalan (Mayan). MA thesis, Australia National University.
- *Dwight Gardiner. 1993, Structural asymmetries and preverbal positions in Shuswap. PhD dissertation, Simon Fraser University.
- *Catherine OConnor. 1987, Topics in Northern Pomo grammar. PhD dissertation, UC Berkeley.
- *Ava Berinstein, 1984, Multiattachment in Kekchi. PhD dissertation, UCLA.
- David Sherwood, 1983, Maliseet-Passamaquoddy verb morphology, PhD dissertation, Yale University.
- Brian Joseph, 1978, Morphology and universals in syntactic change: Evidence from Medieval and Modern Greek, PhD dissertation, Harvard University.

University and Senate service (partial list)

- Chair, Academic Senate Committee on Emeriti Relations (2019-2021)
- Member, Steering Committee, UCSC Retiree and Emeriti Center (2019-2021)
- Member, Search Committee, Vice Chancellor for Research, 2005-2006
- Member, Search Committee, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, 2004.
- Chair, Academic Senate Committee on Research 2003-2006.
- Acting Chair, Linguistics Department, 2001-2002
- Member, Search Committee, Vice Chancellor for Research, 2000-2001
- Member, Academic Senate Graduate Council, 2000-2001
- Chair, Humanities Division Committee on Academic Personnel, 1998-1999
- Member, Humanities Division Committee on Academic Personnel, 1997-1998
- Member, Academic Senate Committee on Academic Personnel, 1994-1996
- Chair, Linguistics Board, 1990-1994
- Member, Academic Senate Committee on Committees, 1989-1990
- Member, Search Committee, Academic Vice Chancellor, 1988-1989
- Member, Search Committee, Oakes College Provost, 1986-1987