

University of California, Santa Cruz
Stevenson Academic Services
1165 High Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95064-1077

☎ 831-459-2346 (office)
mtoosarv@ucsc.edu
people.ucsc.edu/~mtoosarv/
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Maziar Toosarvandani

Employment

- 2024– **Professor**, *Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Cruz.*
- 2017–2024 **Associate Professor**, *Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Cruz.*
- 2013–2017 **Assistant Professor**, *Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Cruz.*
- 2011–2013 **Postdoctoral Fellow**, *Department of Linguistics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.*
American Council of Learned Societies New Faculty Fellow
- 2010–2011 **Visiting Assistant Professor**, *Department of Linguistics, University of California, Los Angeles.*

Education

- 2006–2010 **Doctor of Philosophy**, *University of California, Berkeley, Linguistics.*
Dissertation: *Association with foci*
Committee: Andrew Garrett, Line Mikkelsen (chair), Johanna Nichols, Chris Potts
- 2004–2006 **Master of Arts**, *University of California, Berkeley, Linguistics.*
- 1999–2003 **Bachelor of Science with highest distinction**, *University of Virginia, Biology and Linguistics.*
Theses: *Breast cancer tumorigenicity* (Biology), *Vowel length in modern Farsi* (Linguistics)

Publications

Journal articles

22. **Languages without tense.**
Language and Linguistic Compass, to appear.
21. **Discourse representations guide alternative set activation.**
With Morwenna Hoeks and Amanda Rysling (as penultimate author).
Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition, to appear.
20. **The featural life of nominals.**
With Ivy Sichel.
Linguistic Inquiry, to appear.
19. **The interpretation and grammatical representation of animacy.**
Language, 2023, 99(4):760–808.
18. **Processing of linguistic focus depends on contrastive alternatives.**
With Morwenna Hoeks and Amanda Rysling (as penultimate author).
Journal of Memory and Language, 2023, 132:104444.
17. **Extending the Person–Case Constraint to gender: Agreement, locality, and the syntax of pronouns.**
With Steven Foley.
Linguistic Inquiry, 2022, 53(1):1–40.

16. **Northern Paiute texts across varieties.**
With Tim Thornes, eds.
International Journal of American Linguistics (Texts in the Indigenous Languages of the Americas), 2020, 86 (S1).
15. **The imperfective semantics of durative gemination in Northern Paiute.**
International Journal of American Linguistics, 2017, 83(3):561–601.
14. **The temporal interpretation of clause chaining in Northern Paiute.**
Language, 2016, 92(4):850–889.
13. **Embedding the antecedent in gapping: Low coordination and the role of parallelism.**
Linguistic Inquiry, 2016, 47(2):381–390.
12. **Two types of deverbal nominalization in Northern Paiute.**
Language, 2014, 90(4):786–833.
11. **Contrast and the structure of discourse.**
Semantics and Pragmatics, 2014, 7(4):1–57.
10. **Descent and diffusion in language diversification: A study of Western Numic dialectology.**
With Molly Babel, Andrew Garrett, and Michael J. Houser.
International Journal of American Linguistics, 2013, 79(4):445–489.
9. **Corrective *but* coordinates clauses not always but sometimes.**
Natural Language and Linguistic Theory, 2013, 31(3):827–863.
8. **Mono Lake Northern Paiute.**
With Molly Babel and Michael J. Houser.
Journal of the International Phonetic Association, 2012, 42(2):233–243.
7. **A defective auxiliary in Danish.**
With Michael J. Houser and Line Mikkelsen.
Journal of Germanic Linguistics, 2011, 23(3):245–298.
6. **Patterns of nominalization in Numic.**
International Journal of American Linguistics, 2010, 76(1):71–100.
5. **Ellipsis in Farsi complex predicates.**
Syntax, 2009, 12(1):60–92.
4. **Wh-movement and the syntax of sluicing.**
Journal of Linguistics, 2008, 44(3):677–722.
3. **Nonsyntactic ordering effects in noun incorporation.**
With Gabriela Caballero, Michael J. Houser, Nicole Marcus, Teresa McFarland, Anne Pycha, and Johanna Nichols.
Linguistic Typology, 2008, 12(3):383–421.
2. **Vowel length in modern Farsi.**
Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society, 2004, 14(3):241–251.
1. **Src-dependent association of Cas and p85 phosphatidylinositol 3'-kinase in v-crk-transformed cells.**
With Amy H. Bouton, Regina M. DeBerry, and Rebecca B. Riggins.
Molecular Cancer Research, 2003, 1(6):428–437.

Conference proceedings papers

19. **How to compute a focus: Evidence from incremental processing.**
With Morwenna Hoeks and Amanda Rysling (as penultimate author).
Experiments in Linguistic Meaning (ELM), 2025, 3: 188–200.
18. **Nominal intervention and the extended PERSON domain.**
With Ivy Sichel.
West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL), 2024, 39: 662–669.

18. **Talking about the future in Zapotec.**
Semantics of Under-Represented Languages in the Americas (SULA), 2024, 12: 137–156.
17. **Locating animacy in the grammar.**
North East Linguistic Society (NELS), 2022, 52(3):173–186.
16. **Encoding time in tenseless languages: The view from Zapotec.**
West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL), 2021, 37:21–41.
15. **Embedded presents and the structure of narratives.**
With Pranav Anand.
Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT), 2020, 30:801–820.
14. **Pronoun cliticization, *wh*-movement, and the Principle of Minimal Compliance.**
With Steven Foley.
North East Linguistic Society (NELS), 2019, 49 (1):251–264.
13. ***Now* and *then*: Positional variance in temporal demonstratives.**
With Pranav Anand.
Sinn und Bedeutung, 2019, 23 (1):19–36.
12. **Forbidden clitic clusters in Zapotec.**
With Steven Foley and Nick Kalivoda.
Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS), 2019, 53:87–102.
11. **No explanation for the historical present: Temporal sequencing and discourse.**
With Pranav Anand.
Sinn und Bedeutung, 2018, 22:73–90.
10. **Gender-Case Constraints in Zapotec.**
With Steven Foley and Nick Kalivoda.
Workshop on Structure and Constituency in Languages of the Americas (WSCLA), 2017, 22.
9. **Unifying canonical, historical, and play-by-play present.**
With Pranav Anand.
Sinn und Bedeutung, 2017, 21:19–34.
8. **Vocabulary insertion and locality: Verb suppletion in Northern Paiute.**
North East Linguistic Society (NELS), 2016, 46:247–256.
7. **Achievements in Northern Paiute.**
Semantics of Under-Represented Languages in the Americas (SULA), 2014, 8:105–120.
6. **The syntax of nominal concord: What *ezafe* in Zazaki shows us.**
With Coppe van Urk.
North East Linguistic Society (NELS), 2014, 43(2):209–220.
5. **The role of nominalization in Northern Paiute relative clause formation.**
Workshop on Structure and Constituency in Languages of the Americas (WSCLA), 2011, 16:151–165.
4. **Scalar reasoning and the semantics of *let alone*.**
Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS), 2010, 44:51–64
3. **Letting negative polarity alone for *let alone*.**
Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT), 2009, 18:729–746.
2. **Verb Phrase Pronominalization in Danish: Deep or surface anaphora?**
With Michael J. Houser and Line Mikkelsen.
Western Conference on Linguistics (WECOL), 2007, 34:183–195.
1. ***v*-Stranding VPE: Ellipsis in Farsi complex predicates.**
North East Linguistic Society (NELS), 2006, 36:639–652.

Book chapters

7. **Clause chaining in Uto-Aztecan: A Northern Paiute perspective.**
Clause chaining in the languages of the world (Oxford University Press), Hannah S. Sarvasy and Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald, eds., 2024, 335–368.
6. **The structure of dialect diversity in Mono: Evidence from the Sydney M. Lamb Papers.**
With Hannah Haynie.
The life cycle of language: Past, present, and future (Oxford University Press), Darya Kavatskaya and Alan C. L. Yu, eds., 2024, 214–232.
5. **Narrative and point of view.**
With Pranav Anand.
Linguistics meets philosophy (Cambridge University Press), Daniel Altshuler, ed., 2022, 176–214.
4. **Persian.**
The Oxford handbook of ellipsis (Oxford University Press), Jeroen van Craenenbroeck and Tanja Temmerman, eds., 2019, 934–961.
3. **The derivation of verb initiality in Santiago Laxopa Zapotec.**
With Jeff Adler, Steven Foley, Jedd Pizarro-Guevara, and Kelsey Sasaki.
A reasonable way to proceed: Essays in honor of Jim McCloskey, Jason Merchant, Line Mikkelsen, Deniz Rudin, and Kelsey Sasaki, eds., 2018, 31–49.
2. **Quantification in Persian.**
With Hayedeh Nasser.
In *Handbook of quantifiers in natural language: Volume II* (Springer), Edward L. Keenan and Denis Paperno, eds., 2017, 665–696.
1. **On reaching agreement early (and late).**
Asking the right questions: Essays in honor of Sandra Chung, Jason Ostrove, Ruth Kramer, and Joseph Sabbagh, eds., 2017, 127–141.

Other publications

6. **Redundancy and restriction in the derivation of relative clauses.**
With Jack Duff and Ivy Sichel.
Syntax and Semantics at Santa Cruz (SASC), 2022, 5:35–58.
5. **Pronouns and attraction in Sierra Zapotec.**
With Ivy Sichel.
Syntax and Semantics at Santa Cruz (SASC), 2020, 4:97–116.
4. **The relevance of focus: The case of *let alone* reopened.**
University of Massachusetts Occasional Papers in Linguistics (UMOP), 2009, 39:105–123.
3. **Review of *Modality, aspect, and negation in Persian* by Azita H. Taleghani.**
LinguistList, 2009, 20.1932.
2. **Review of *Timbisha (Panamint)* by Michael E. McLaughlin.**
LinguistList, 2006, 17.2840.
1. **The loss of ergativity in Dari modal verbs.**
With Annahita Farudi.
Oxford Working Papers in Linguistics, Philology, and Phonetics, 2005, 10:155–167.

Public linguistics writings

2. **Talking Tense / Feeling Time.**
Travel, The Humanities Institute, University of California, Santa Cruz, May 26, 2023.
<https://thi.ucsc.edu/travel-series-maziar-toosarvandani/>
1. **Remembering Language.**
Memory, The Humanities Institute, University of California, Santa Cruz, April 8, 2021.
<https://thi.ucsc.edu/memory-series-maziar-toosarvandani/>

Presentations

Invited talks

42. **Animacy in the grammar: The view from Zapotec.**
Michigan State Undergraduate Linguistics Conference, April 19, 2025.
41. **Sources of competition in relative clauses: Parsing evidence for similarity-based interference from Zapotec.**
With Matthew Wagers.
6th Crete Summer School of Linguistics Workshop, University of Crete, July 24, 2024.
40. **Representing animacy in the grammar.**
Department of Linguistics colloquium, University of California, Los Angeles, April 7, 2023.
39. **Talking about the future in Zapotec.**
Syntax/Semantics Group, University of Texas, Austin, April 4, 2023.
38. **Talking about the future in Zapotec.**
Semantics of Under-Represented Languages in the Americas (SULA) 12, October 13, 2022.
37. **Clitic left dislocation in Sierra Zapotec varieties.**
Princeton Symposium on Syntactic Theory (PSST), April 1, 2022.
36. **The community in linguistic fieldwork.**
Seminar in Linguistic Research, Boston University, April 14, 2021.
35. **Encoding time in tenseless languages: The view from Zapotec.**
38th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL), University of British Columbia, March 6, 2020.
34. **Pronoun movement and probe generosity.**
Séminaire de Recherche en Linguistique, University of Geneva, September 11, 2018.
33. **Pronoun movement and probe generosity.**
LingLunch, Queen Mary University of London, September 4, 2018.
32. **Constraints on clitic combinations across phi-domains in Zapotec.**
23rd Workshop on Structure and Constituency in Languages of the Americas, University of Ottawa, April 14, 2018.
31. **Variation and uniformity in constraints on clitic combinations.**
With Steven Foley.
Syntax and Semantics Circle, University of California, Berkeley, February 23, 2018.
30. **Variation and uniformity in constraints on clitic combinations.**
With Steven Foley.
Syntax and Morphology Circle, Stanford University, February 23, 2018.
29. **No going back in the historical present: Temporal sequencing and discourse.**
Department of Linguistics colloquium, University of Chicago, February 15, 2018.
28. **Talking about time with clause chaining.**
Seminario de Sintaxis y Semántica de la Oración, Centro de Estudios Lingüísticos y Literarios, El Colegio de México, October 23, 2017.
27. **When the past is in the present: Unifying canonical and noncanonical uses of the present tense.**
Department of Linguistics colloquium, University of Arizona, November 4, 2016.
26. **How imperfect is the imperfective aspect? Durative gemination in Northern Paiute and crosslinguistic variation in aspectual semantics.**
Department of Linguistics Colloquium, Boston University, October 14, 2015.
25. **The syntax of information structure: Evidence from Persian.**
Minicourse in the Department of Linguistics, University of California, Los Angeles, April 21–24, 2015.

24. **Where is meaning in discourse? The interpretation of clause chaining in Northern Paiute.**
Department of Linguistics colloquium, University of California, Berkeley, February 9, 2015.
23. **Uncovering verb meaning in Northern Paiute.**
Group in American Indian Languages (GAIL), University of California, Berkeley, November 19, 2014.
22. **Agreement in Zazaki and the nature of nominal concord.**
Syntax and Semantics Circle, University of California, Berkeley, April 25, 2014.
21. **The temporal interpretation of clause chaining in Northern Paiute.**
Department of Linguistics colloquium, University of California, San Diego, April 14, 2014.
20. **The temporal interpretation of clause chaining in Northern Paiute.**
Department of Linguistics colloquium, Rice University, February 6, 2014.
19. **Agreement in Zazaki and the nature of nominal concord.**
Syntax and Morphology Circle, Stanford University, November 5, 2013.
18. **Clause chaining in Northern Paiute.**
18th Workshop on Structure and Constituency in Languages of the Americas (WSCLA), University of California, Berkeley, April 6, 2013.
17. **Gapping is VP-ellipsis.**
Department of Linguistics colloquium, Cornell University, February 28, 2013.
16. **Gapping is VP-ellipsis.**
Department of Linguistics colloquium, Northwestern University, February 25, 2013.
15. **Gapping is VP-ellipsis.**
Department of Linguistics colloquium, University of Rochester, February 22, 2013.
14. **Gapping is VP-ellipsis.**
Department of Linguistics colloquium, Wayne State University, February 11, 2013.
13. **Gapping is VP-ellipsis.**
Department of Linguistics colloquium, University of California, Santa Cruz, February 7, 2013.
12. **Coordination and subordination in Northern Paiute.**
American Indian Seminar, University of California, Los Angeles, August 27, 2012.
11. **Temporal interpretation and discourse structure in Northern Paiute.**
Department of Linguistics colloquium, Stony Brook University, April 27, 2012.
10. **Contrast and the structure of discourse.**
Brown University, November 10, 2011.
9. **The role of nominalization in Northern Paiute relative clause formation.**
Seminar on internally headed relative clauses, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, October 26, 2011.
8. **The role of nominalization in Northern Paiute embedding.**
Syntax Square, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, February 14, 2011.
7. **What's in a noun? Deverbal nominalization in Northern Paiute.**
Department of Linguistics colloquium, McGill University, February 3, 2011.
6. **What's in a noun? Deverbal nominalization in Northern Paiute.**
Department of Linguistics colloquium, University of Ottawa, January 17, 2011.
5. **What's in a noun? Deverbal nominalization in Northern Paiute.**
Department of Linguistics colloquium, University of California, Santa Cruz, October 1, 2010.
4. **Scales, scalar implicatures, and *let alone*.**
Scale: A workshop on scales, comparison and their linguistic expression, Stanford University, April 17, 2010.
3. **Multifunctional nominalization in Northern Paiute.**
Department of Linguistics colloquium, Stanford University, February 19, 2010.

2. **The distribution and interpretation of focus: Evidence from English and Persian adversatives.**
Department of Linguistics colloquium, Harvard University, March 5, 2009.

1. **How to sluice in a wh-in situ language.**
Syntax Reading Group, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, May 7, 2008.

Conference talks and posters

57. **Crosslinguistic variation in structural prediction as learned behavior.**
With John Duff, Delaney Gomez-Jackson, Fe Silva Robles, and Matthew Wagers (as penultimate author).
Rational Approaches in Language Science (RAILS), University of Saarbrücken, February 13, 2025.
56. **Probing adaptive resource allocation in discourse: Evidence from foci and filled gaps.**
With Morwenna Hoeks and Amanda Rysling (as penultimate author).
Poster at Rational Approaches in Language Science (RAILS), University of Saarbrücken, February 14, 2025.
55. **Deprioritizing linguistic material: The role of givenness on focus and filler-gap processing.**
With Morwenna Hoeks and Amanda Rysling (as penultimate author).
Poster at Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP) 30, University of Edinburgh, September 7, 2024.
54. **Focus slowdowns arise due to the computation of alternative sets, not unpredictability.**
With Morwenna Hoeks and Amanda Rysling (as penultimate author).
Poster at Experiments in Linguistic Meaning (ELM) 3, University of Pennsylvania, June 16, 2024.
53. **Delayed structural prediction for relative clauses in Santiago Laxopa Zapotec, a language with robust resumptive pronouns.**
With Jack Duff, Delaney Gomez-Jackson, and Matthew Wagers (as penultimate author).
2024 Human Sentence Processing (HSP), University of Michigan, May 18, 2024.
52. **Canonical argument alignment modulates gap, but not RP: Acceptability in English**
With Matthew Kogan, Mandy Cartner, Ivy Sichel, Matt Wagers (as penultimate author).
Poster at 2024 Human Sentence Processing (HSP), University of Michigan, May 2024.
51. **Predictive parsing as a source for resumptive pronoun preference in Hebrew.**
With Mandy Cartner, Ivy Sichel, and Matthew Wagers (as penultimate author).
Poster at 2023 Human Sentence Processing (HSP), University of Pittsburgh, March 10, 2023.
50. **Integrating contextual information in on-line alternative set construction.**
With Morwenna Hoeks and Amanda Rysling (as final author).
Poster at 2023 Human Sentence Processing (HSP), University of Pittsburgh, March 10, 2023.
49. **Using field methods classes for community outreach.**
With Eric W. Campbell, Martín Gabriel Ruiz, Jeremías Salazar, and Fe Silva Robles (as penultimate author).
Organized session: “Engaging the community: Using field methods classes for community outreach” at 2023 Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas (SSILA), January 22, 2023.
48. **Tracing optionality to alignment in Hebrew RPs.**
With Mandy Cartner, Ivy Sichel, and Matthew Wagers (as penultimate author).
Poster at 2022 Human Sentence Processing (HSP), University of California, Santa Cruz, March 26, 2022.
47. **Historical perspectives on competence and performance in information structure.**
With Amanda Rysling.
Organized session: “Competence meets performance: New perspectives on information structure,” 96th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Washington, DC, January 8, 2022.
46. **Locating animacy in the grammar.**
North East Linguistic Society (NELS) 52, Rutgers University, October 29, 2021.

45. **Decomposing the focus effect: Evidence from reading.**
With Morwenna Hoeks and Amanda Rysling (middle author).
California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP), University of California, Irvine, May 23, 2021.
44. **The featural life of nominals.**
With Ivy Sichel.
Poster at the 39th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL), University of Arizona, April 11, 2021.
43. **Decomposing the focus effect: Evidence from reading.**
With Morwenna Hoeks and Amanda Rysling (middle author).
Poster at the 34th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, University of Pennsylvania, March 4, 2021.
42. **Embedded presents and the structure of narratives.**
With Pranav Anand.
Poster at Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT), Cornell University, August 18, 2020.
41. **Nido de Lenguas: Collaborative language education in Monterey Bay's Oaxacan diaspora.**
With Ben Eischens, Paula Ledesma, Maxwell Kaplan, Fe Silva-Robles, and Kelsey Sasaki.
Symposium on Linguistic Research with Diaspora Communities, University of California, Davis, June 30, 2019.
40. **Pronouns over gaps in parsing? The Subject Relative Clause Advantage in Santiago Laxopa Zapotec.**
With Steven Foley, Jed Pizarro-Guevara, Kelsey Sasaki, Fe Silva-Robles, and Matthew Wagers.
93rd Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, New York, January 6, 2019.
39. **Pronouns over gaps in parsing? The Subject Relative Clause Advantage in Santiago Laxopa Zapotec.**
With Jed Pizarro-Guevara, Steven Foley, Kelsey Sasaki, Fe Silva-Robles, and Matthew Wagers.
California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP), University of Southern California, December 1, 2018.
38. **Pronominal cliticization, multiple *wh*-movement, and Probe Generosity.**
With Steven Foley.
North East Linguistic Society (NELS) 49, Cornell University, October 5, 2018.
37. ***Now* and *then*: Perspectives on positional variance in temporal demonstratives.**
With Pranav Anand.
Sinn und Bedeutung 23, Barcelona, September 7, 2018.
36. **Pronouns and attraction in Sierra Zapotec.**
With Ivy Sichel.
2nd Symposium on Oaxacan Linguistics, University of California, Los Angeles, June 1, 2018.
35. **No explanation for the historical present: Temporal sequencing and discourse.**
With Pranav Anand.
Sinn und Bedeutung 22, Potsdam–Berlin, September 8, 2017.
34. **Forbidden clitic clusters in Zapotec: Implications for the Person–Case Constraint.**
With Steven Foley and Nick Kalivoda.
Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS) 53, May 25, 2017.
33. **Gender–Case Constraints in Zapotec.**
With Steven Foley and Nick Kalivoda.
22nd Workshop on Structure and Constituency in Languages of the Americas (WSCLA), University of British Columbia, April 22, 2017.
32. **Gender hierarchies in Zapotec.**
Poster at DP@60 Workshop, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, February 11, 2017.

31. **The derivation of verb-initiality in Santiago Laxopa Zapotec.**
With Jeff Adler, Steven Foley, Jed Sam Pizarro-Guevara, and Kelsey Sasaki.
Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas, Austin, January 7, 2017.
30. **Unifying canonical, historical, and play-by-play present.**
With Pranav Anand.
Sinn und Bedeutung 21, University of Edinburgh, September 6, 2016.
29. **Texts in transition: Languages and linguistics of the Native West.**
With Amy Rose Deal, Line Mikkelsen, Sarah Murray, and Justin Spence.
Panel discussion at Semantics of Under-Represented Languages in the Americas (SULA) 9, University of California, Santa Cruz, May 6, 2016.
28. **Vocabulary insertion and locality: Verb suppletion in Northern Paiute.**
Poster at the 46th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS), Concordia University, October 17, 2015.
27. **The semantics of durative gemination in Northern Paiute.**
Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas, Portland, January 10, 2015.
26. **The perfective–imperfective distinction in Northern Paiute.**
Semantics of Underrepresented Languages in the Americas (SULA) 8, University of British Columbia, May 17, 2014.
25. **The directionality of agreement and nominal concord in Zazaki.**
With Coppe van Urk.
Poster at the 36th Generative Linguistics in the Old World Colloquium (GLOW), April 3, 2013.
24. **Coordination and subordination in Northern Paiute clause chaining.**
87th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Boston, January 4, 2013.
23. **Directionality and intervention in nominal concord: Evidence from Zazaki *ezafe*.**
With Coppe van Urk.
Poster at the 43rd Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS), City University of New York, Graduate Center, October 19, 2012.
22. **Temporal interpretation and discourse structure in Northern Paiute.**
86th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Portland, January 7, 2012.
21. **The role of nominalization in Northern Paiute embedding.**
16th Workshop on Structure and Constituency in Languages of the Americas (WSCLA), University of Massachusetts, Amherst, February 12, 2011.
20. **Adversative *but* and the proper treatment of gapping.**
85th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Pittsburgh, January 8, 2011.
19. **Two exclusives in Persian.**
84th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Baltimore, January 8, 2010.
18. **Scalar additives and their interaction with focus.**
California Universities Semantics and Pragmatics (CUSP), University of California, Los Angeles, May 23, 2009.
17. **Contrastive *but* involves gapping not in Farsi but in English.**
83rd Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, San Francisco, January 8, 2009.
16. **Ergativity and the structure of complex predicates in Dari.**
With Annahita Farudi.
Workshop on Complex Predicates in Iranian, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris III, July 5, 2008.
15. **Scalar reasoning and the semantics of *let alone*.**
44th Regional Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS), April 24, 2008.

14. **Letting negative polarity alone for *let alone*.**
Poster talk at Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT) XVIII, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, March 22, 2008.
13. **Focus fronting and sluicing in Farsi.**
82nd Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Chicago, January 5, 2008.
12. **A phonetic sketch of Mono Lake Northern Paiute.**
With Molly Babel and Michael J. Houser.
Poster at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas, Chicago, IL, January 4, 2008.
11. **Obligatory movement and sluicing in a *wh-in situ* language.**
38th Annual Meeting of the Northeast Linguistics Society (NELS), University of Ottawa, October 26, 2007.
10. **Archaism and innovation in Numic nominalization.**
Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas, Anaheim, January 6, 2007.
9. **Descent vs. diffusion in language diversification: Mono Lake Paiute and Western Numic dialectology.**
With Molly Babel, Andrew Garrett, and Michael J. Houser.
Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas, Anaheim, January 6, 2007.
8. **Danish Verb Phrase Anaphora: Deep or surface?**
With Michael J. Houser, Line Mikkelsen, and Ange Strom-Weber.
Poster at the Western Conference on Linguistics (WECOL), California State University, Fresno, October 28, 2006.
7. **Pluractional reduplication in Northern Paiute.**
With Michael J. Houser and Reiko Kataoka.
Friends of Uto-Aztecan Languages Conference (FUAC), University of Utah, August 23, 2006.
6. **A web-accessible Mono Lake Paiute dictionary and text archive.**
With Molly Babel, Andrew Garrett, Erin Haynes, Michael Houser, Reiko Kataoka, Fanny Liu, Nicole Marcus, Ruth Rouvier, Ronald Sprouse, and Angela Strom-Weber.
Friends of Uto-Aztecan Languages Conference (FUAC), University of Utah, August 23, 2006.
5. **Gøre-support in Danish.**
With Michael J. Houser, Line Mikkelsen, and Ange Strom-Weber.
21st Comparative Germanic Syntax Workshop, University of California, Santa Cruz, April 1, 2006.
4. **A non-syntactic template for syntactic noun incorporation.**
With Michael J. Houser.
80th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Albuquerque, January 7, 2006.
3. **Leaving *v* behind: Ellipsis in Farsi complex predicates.**
36th Annual Meeting of the Northeast Linguistics Society (NELS), University of Massachusetts, Amherst, October 8, 2005.
2. **The loss of ergativity in Dari modal verbs.**
With Annahita Farudi.
Topics in Iranian Linguistics, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, June 18, 2005.
1. **The loss of ergativity in Dari modal verbs: Evidence for a universal category of subject.**
With Annahita Farudi.
6th International Colloquium on the Syntax, Semantics and Pragmatics of Tense, Mood and Aspect (CHRONOS), Geneva, September 22, 2004.

Summer Schools

Semantics and pragmatics of temporal sequencing

With Pranav Anand.

European Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information (ESSLI) 2019, University of Latvia

Semantics and pragmatics of temporal sequencing

With Pranav Anand.

North American Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information (NASLI) 2018, Carnegie Mellon University

University of California, Santa Cruz

Undergraduate

Introduction to linguistics (Linguistics 50)

Winter 2023

Semantics I (Linguistics 53)

Winter 2019, Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Winter 2025

Language and indigeneity in Mesoamerica (Linguistics 80M)

Fall 2019, Winter 2021

Syntactic structures (Linguistics 111)

Spring 2014, Spring 2016

Syntax I (Linguistics 112)

Fall 2014 (cotaught with Sandy Chung), Spring 2021, Spring 2023, Spring 2024

Syntax II (Linguistics 113)

Spring 2019, Spring 2022

Semantics II (Linguistics 116)

Winter 2017, Winter 2018

Language typology (Linguistics 124)

Winter 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2024

Native languages of North America (Linguistics 145)

Winter 2018

Research skills in linguistics (Linguistics 149)

Winter 2025

Graduate

Syntax A (Linguistics 221)

Fall 2016, Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Fall 2022, Fall 2025

Syntax B (Linguistics 222)

Winter 2015, Winter 2016, Winter 2021

Proseminar in syntax (Linguistics 226)

Spring 2024

Syntax seminar (Linguistics 229)

Fall 2013 (Focus), Fall 2018 (with Ur Shlonsky, Hierarchies in syntax), Winter 2019 (with Ivy Sichel, Movement after Merge), Fall 2024 (The grammar of animacy)

Semantics B (Linguistics 232)

Winter 2022, Winter 2024, Winter 2026

Semantics seminar (Linguistics 239)

Spring 2017 (Tense, aspect, and the structure of discourse), Spring 2022 (Perspective in narrative)

Field methods (Linguistics 282)

Spring 2016 (Santiago Laxopa Zapotec), Spring 2018 (San Martin Péras Mixtec), Spring 2020 (Santiago Laxopa Zapotec), Spring 2026 (TBD)

Research seminar (Linguistics 290)

Winter 2020

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Undergraduate **Language and its structure III: Semantics and pragmatics (24.903/24.933)**
Spring 2012, Spring 2013

Field methods in linguistics (24.909)
Spring 2012 (Zazaki), Spring 2013 (Uyghur)

Graduate **Topics in the syntax and semantics of a language family (24.943)**
Fall 2011 (Iranian)

More advanced syntax (24.955)
Fall 2012 (with Sabine Iatridou)

University of California, Los Angeles

Undergraduate **Introduction to linguistics (Linguistics 20)**
Spring 2011

Syntax I (Linguistics 120B)
Winter 2011, Spring 2011

Graduate **Syntactic theory I (Linguistics 200B)**
Fall 2010

Topics in syntax and semantics (Linguistics 252A)
Winter 2011 (Ellipsis in crosslinguistic perspective)

Linguistic Society of America Linguistic Institute (Teaching Assistant)

Semantics (LSA 314)
Summer 2009 (Instructor: Chris Barker)

University of California, Berkeley (Teaching Assistant)

Introduction to linguistic science (Linguistics 100)
Spring 2006 (Instructor: Line Mikkelsen)

Introduction to syntax and semantics (Linguistics 120)
Spring 2008 (Instructor: Line Mikkelsen)

Comparative and historical linguistics (Linguistics 130)
Fall 2007 (Instructor: Andrew Garrett)

Advising

Dissertations (co-)chaired

Andrew Hedding (Assistant Professor, University of Washington)
How to move a focus: The syntax of alternative particles (2022)

Morwenna Hoeks (Postdoctoral Researcher, Institute for Cognitive Science, University of Osnabrück)
Processing focus / Representing contrast (2023), co-chaired with Amanda Rysling

Eli Sharf (in progress)

Master's theses (co-)chaired

Delaney Gomez-Jackson
Questions and indefinites in Santiago Laxopa Zapotec (2023)

Joshua Lieberstein (in progress)

Dissertation committees

Lalitha Balachandran (2024), **Yaqing Cao** (2025), **Steven Foley** (2020), **Bern Samko** (2016), **Kelsey Sasaki** (2021), **Jun Tamura** (in progress), **Jake Vincent** (2021), **Nikolas Webster** (in progress), **Danfeng Wu** (2022, Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

Master's thesis committees

Nathaniel Clair (2016), **Mansi Desai** (2018), **Allison Nguyen** (2023), **Clara Sherley-Appel** (2014), **David Tuff** (2023), **Taijing Xiao** (2023)

Qualifying papers

Lalitha Balachandran (2023), **Yaqing Cao** (2022, 2022), **Jack Duff** (chair, 2021), **Karen Duek** (2015), **Ben Eischens** (chair, 2019), **Isaac Gould** (2013, Massachusetts Institute of Technology), **Andrew Hedding** (chair, 2018), **Hitomi Hirayama** (chair, 2016), **Morwenna Hoeks** (co-chair, 2020; 2021), **Lisa Hoffman** (2018), **Aidan Katson** (chair, 2025), **Nick Kalivoda** (2014, 2015), **Yağmur Kiper** (chair, 2024), **Kelsey Kraus** (2016), **Stephanie Rich** (chair, 2021), **Kelsey Sasaki** (2017), **Eli Sharf** (chair, 2023), **Jun Tamura** (2024) **Wataru Uegaki** (2012, Massachusetts Institute of Technology), **Nick van Handel** (2018), **Jake Vincent** (2017)

Undergraduate theses

Colin Hirschberg (second reader; 2022), **Paula Ledesma** (second reader; 2019), **Juliana Sonkoly** (second reader; 2020)

Undergraduate research projects

Camille DeJarnett (2012–2013), **Christopher Garcia** (2017–2018, Koret Scholarship and Humanities Undergraduate Research Fellowship), **Timothy Ho** (2010–2011), **Tom Roberts** (2012–2013), **Sabrina Tran** (2016–2017, Merrill College Undergraduate Research Mentorship Program)

Awards

Research grants

30. **Understanding information flow in grammar (\$2,500).**
University of California, Santa Cruz, Committee on Research, Faculty Research Grant, 2021–2022.
30. **Understanding information flow in grammar (\$2,500).**
University of California, Santa Cruz, Committee on Research, Faculty Research Grant, 2021–2022.
29. **Animacy and resumption at the border of cognition and grammar (\$411,058).**
With Ivy Sichel and Matthew Wagers.
National Science Foundation, 2020–2025, Award No. 2019804.
28. **Animacy in the grammar of Santiago Laxopa Zapotec (\$2,500).**
University of California, Santa Cruz, Committee on Research, Faculty Research Grant, 2020–2021.
27. **Códice: Building tools for collaborative collection and curation of language data (\$10,000).**
With Pranav Anand.
University of California, Santa Cruz, Office of Research Industry Alliances and Technology Commercialization, 2019.
26. **Tense and temporal sequencing in Santiago Laxopa Zapotec (\$1,485).**
University of California, Santa Cruz, Committee on Research, Faculty Research Grant, 2019–2020.
25. **Universal language processing principles in Santiago Laxopa Zapotec (\$6,500).**
With Matthew Wagers.
University of California, Santa Cruz, The Humanities Institute, 2018–2019.

24. **Nido de Lenguas: Bringing indigenous languages into Monterey Bay classrooms (\$30,000).**
With Pranav Anand.
Monterey Peninsula Foundation, 2018–2019.
23. **Time and tenselessness in Santiago Laxopa Zapotec (\$1,496).**
University of California, Santa Cruz, Committee on Research, Faculty Research Grant, 2018–2019.
22. **Taking Flight: Conversations in and about the Oaxacan Languages of the Central Coast (\$15,000).**
With Pranav Anand.
California Humanities, Humanities for All Grant, 2017–2021.
21. **Universal language processing principles in Santiago Laxopa Zapotec (\$16,000).**
With Matthew Wagers.
University of California, Santa Cruz, Committee on Research, Special Research Grant, 2017–2018.
20. **Tools for linguistic self-discovery: Empowering California's Oaxacan communities (\$29,967).**
With Pranav Anand.
University of California Humanities Research Institute Engaging Humanities Grant, 2017–2018.
19. **From Pajaro Valley to Silicon Valley: A campus-community partnership for the twenty-first century (\$12,000).**
With Pranav Anand.
Board Opportunity Fund, University of California, Santa Cruz, 2017–2018.
18. **From Pajaro Valley to Silicon Valley: A campus-community partnership for the twenty-first century (\$7,500).**
With Pranav Anand.
Institute for Humanities Research, University of California, Santa Cruz, 2016.
17. **Narrative building blocks: Digital resources for linguistic and literary investigation (\$5,000).**
With Pranav Anand.
Research Cluster, Institute for Humanities Research, University of California, Santa Cruz, 2016–2018.
16. **Sentence stress in Northern Paiute and beyond (\$2,000).**
University of California, Santa Cruz, Committee on Research, Faculty Research Grant, 2016–2017.
15. **The interpretation of imperfective aspect in Northern Paiute (\$2,964).**
Jacobs Research Fund, Individual Grant, 2015.
14. **How do languages vary? Aspect and its interpretation in discourse (\$14,625).**
Hellman Fellowship, 2015.
13. **Verb agreement in Northern Paiute (\$2,000).**
University of California, Santa Cruz, Committee on Research, Faculty Research Grant, 2015–2016.
12. **Texts in transition: Languages and linguistics of the Native West (\$14,931).**
With Amy Rose Deal.
University of California Humanities Research Institute Multi-Campus Faculty Working Group, 2015–2016.
11. **Temporal interpretation without tense in Northern Paiute (\$1,950).**
University of California, Santa Cruz, Committee on Research, New Faculty Research Grant, 2013–2014.
10. **Tense and temporal interpretation in Northern Paiute (\$2,990).**
Jacobs Research Fund Individual Grant, 2013.
9. **Tense and temporal interpretation in Northern Paiute (\$1,000).**
Phillips Fund Grant for Native American Research, 2013.

8. **A community-based online audio dictionary for Mono Lake Northern Paiute (\$4,970).**
Sven and Astrid Liljeblad Endowment Fund Grant in Great Basin Studies, 2011.
7. **Nominalization and temporal relations in Northern Paiute (\$2,000).**
Phillips Fund Grant for Native American Research, 2011.
6. **Nominalization and temporal relations in Northern Paiute (\$2,995).**
Jacobs Research Fund Individual Grant, 2011.
5. **A community-based oral history project for Zoroastrian Dari (\$1,850).**
With Annahita Farudi.
Endangered Language Fund Grant, 2010.
4. **Mono Lake Northern Paiute Project (\$4,630).**
With Molly Babel and Michael J. Houser.
Sven and Astrid Liljeblad Endowment Fund Grant in Great Basin Studies, 2008.
3. **Mono Lake Northern Paiute Community Text Project (\$550).**
With Molly Babel and Michael J. Houser.
Foundation for Endangered Languages Grant, 2008.
2. **Dari Language Project (£3,000).**
With Annahita Farudi.
Iran Heritage Foundation Grant, 2004.
1. **Dari Language Project (\$4,500).**
With Annahita Farudi.
Roshan Cultural Heritage Foundation Grant, 2004.

Fellowships

- 2011–2013 **New Faculty Fellowship.**
American Council of Learned Societies.
- 2008–2009 **Dean's Normative Time Fellowship.**
University of California, Berkeley.
- 2007 **Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute Fellowship.**
- 2005–2008 **National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship.**
- 2005 **Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (Persian).**
University of California, Berkeley.

Service

Reviewing

- Journals *Canadian Journal of Linguistics, Frontiers in Psychology, Journal of Linguistics, Journal of Pragmatics, Journal of South Asian Linguistics, Language, Languages, Lingua, Linguistic Inquiry, The Linguistic Review, Linguistics and Philosophy, Natural Language and Linguistic Theory, Semantic Fieldwork, Semantics and Pragmatics, Studia Linguistica, Studies in Linguistics, Syntax*
- Conferences Encuentro de Lingüística Formal, Generative Linguistics in the Old World (GLOW), GLOW in Asia, Journées Scientifiques de Nantes Université, Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting, North American Conference on Iranian Linguistic (NACIL), Northeast Linguistics Society (NELS), Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT), Semantics of Under-Represented Languages in the Americas (SULA), Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar (SICOGG), West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL), Workshop on Structure and Constituency in Languages of the Americas (WSCLA)
- Books Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press
- Grants/
Fellowships American Council of Learned Societies, Endangered Language Fund, National Science Foundation, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council

Service to the field

- 2025 Member, Program Committee, Linguistic Society of America.
- 2023– Associate Editor, *Language*.
- 2022 Panelist, Linguistics Program, National Science Foundation.
- 2017– Member, Review Board, *Snippets*.
- 2013– Member, Editorial Board, *Semantics and Pragmatics*.

Campus and university service

- 2023– Member, Research Computing and Data Infrastructure Committee.
- 2021–2023 Member, Committee on Rules, Jurisdiction, and Elections (CRJE), Academic Senate.
- 2021 Member, Masters Incentive Program (MIP) Working Group.
- 2020–2021 Member, Graduate Council, Academic Senate.
- 2019–2022 Member, Steering Committee, The Humanities Institute (THI).
- 2019–2020 Member, Humanities Faculty Development Council.
- 2016–2018 Member, Faculty Senate Committee on Information Technology (CIT), Academic Senate.

Department service

- 2025 Undergraduate Program Director.
- 2023–2024 Associate Chair.
- 2022–2023 Deputy Chair.
- 2022–2023 Faculty Communications Lead.
- 2021–2023 Member, Personnel Committee.
- 2019–2022 Graduate Program Director.
- 2016–2019 Associate Graduate Program Director.
- 2018–2019 Member, Personnel Committee.
- 2016 Editor, *What's Happening at Santa Cruz* (WHASC) departmental newsletter.
- 2014–2016 Faculty Coordinator, Events Committee.
- 2014 Organizer, Linguistics Undergraduate Research Conference (LURC).

Other service

- 2016– Faculty Coordinator, Workshop on the Languages of Meso-America (WLMA), University of California, Santa Cruz.
- 2019–2023 Faculty Coordinator, S-Circle, University of California, Santa Cruz.
- 2023 Organizing committee, 41st West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL), University of California, Santa Cruz.
- 2017 Organizer, Symposium on Oaxacan Linguistics (SOL) 1, University of California, Santa Cruz.
- 2016 Organizer, Semantics of Under-Represented Languages in the Americas (SULA) 9, University of California, Santa Cruz.
- 2012 Mentor, Mono language, Breath of Life Workshop for California Indian Languages, University of California, Berkeley.
- 2010 Mentor, Cahuilla language, Breath of Life Workshop for California Indian Languages, University of California, Berkeley.
- 2008 Mentor, Cahuilla and Luiseño languages, Breath of Life Workshop for California Indian Languages, University of California, Berkeley.
- 2007 Organizing committee, 26th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL), University of California, Berkeley.
- 2006 Organizing committee, 32nd Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society (BLS), University of California, Berkeley.

- 2005 Organizer, Workshop on Identity in Ellipsis, University of California, Berkeley.
- 2005 Organizing committee, 31st Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society (BLS), University of California, Berkeley.