

Michelle A. McSweeney

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EDUCATION

The Graduate Center, CUNY, New York, NY

2016-September, Ph.D., Linguistics

Dissertation Title: *Literacies of Bilingual Teens: A Profile of Bilingual Txt, Colloquial, and Academic Literacies*

2014-June M.A., Linguistics

2014-June, Certificate, Interactive Technology and Pedagogy

Oxford University, Oxford, UK

2015-July, Summer Doctoral Programme, Oxford Internet Institute

Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

2004-May, B.A., Chemistry & Mathematics

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Mellon Associate Research Scholar Columbia University

Center for Spatial Research, *2016-present*

I develop projects using creative coding and critical mapping to explore questions of language in a conflict urbanism frame. The C4SR brings together design, architecture, urbanism, the humanities and data science, and seeks to open up new areas of research and inquiry with advanced design tools to help scholars, students to better understand cities worldwide.

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

Digital Fellowship The Graduate Center, *2014-2016*

The mission of the Digital Fellowship is to explore new ways for Graduate Center faculty, students, and staff to share their academic work through new technological platforms and social media tools.

Provost's Digital Innovation Grant The Graduate Center, *2016*

To support the development of a Part-of-Speech tagged corpus of text messages.

Advanced Research Collaborative Praxis Award, The Graduate Center, *2015*

To encourage development of interdisciplinary research.

Doctoral Student Research Grant, The Graduate Center, *2015*

To support fieldwork and data collection for dissertation research.

Enhanced Chancellor's Fellowship, The Graduate Center, *2010-2014*

(*awarded 5 years*)

New Media Lab Fellowship, The Graduate Center, *2014*

PUBLICATIONS

Lol! I didn't mean it: Lol as a marker of illocutionary force. *Under review.*

Making Meaning in Messaging: A Functional Approach to the Pragmatics of Text Messaging. *Under Review.*

Did You Get My Message: The Communicative Cost of Texting in a Second Language. *Under Review.*

Review of *Language, Literacy, and Technology*, by Richard Kern. *Linguist List In revision*.

Review of *SMS Communication*, edited by Cougnon, Louise-Amelie and Fairon, Cedrick. *Linguist List*, 26.3129, July 2015.

Lusoga Made Simple. Jinja, Uganda: Mirianum Publishers, 2011.

Analyzing Bantu Languages to Teach, Kampala, Uganda. Peace Corps Uganda, 2010.

Lusoga Supplemental Manual, US Peace Corps, 2009.

DIGITAL and CREATIVE PROJECTS

Love Texts

This project explores the language texters use when communicating with romantic partners. When complete, users will be able to upload their message history and receive an interactive infographic of their messaging patterns. *Available early 2017*

Spanish-English BYTs (Bilingual Youth Text Messages)

This is the first publicly available part-of-speech tagged corpus of Spanish/English bilingual text messages. There are nearly 45,000 messages from 15 donors, with over 75 intact conversations. The messages have been anonymized and tagged and are prepared for research. www.byts.commons.gc.cuny.edu

Languages Above the Subways:

An interactive exploration of languages spoken above the NYC subways

Using United States Census data, I mapped the percentage of speakers of different languages at each subway stop, displayed on an interactive website.

www.subwaylanguages.michelleajohnson.com

TEACHING POSITIONS

HUNTER COLLEGE, School of Education, New York, NY

Psychology of Language Learning and Teaching (Fall 2014, Spring & Fall 2015)

Graduate level, hybrid (online/face-to-face): Research based course on the role that first and second language acquisition processes have in a K-12 classroom.

THE GRADUATE CENTER, Linguistics Department, New York, NY

Teaching Linguistics Across CUNY Campuses (Fall 2013, 2014, 2015)

Graduate level: Seminar on college pedagogy and course development, now required for all first year graduate students in Linguistics.

Semantics Practicum (Spring 2012, 2013)

Teaching Assistant

LEHMAN COLLEGE, Languages & Literature Department, New York, NY

Internet Linguistics (Spring 2014)

Upper division: Study of how digital communication technologies changing language practices. Social media was used extensively for both analysis and course work.

African Languages (Spring 2013, 2014)

Upper division: Cross-listed with African and African American Studies. Project-based course investigating linguistic features of and contemporary issues surrounding African languages.

Pragmatics (Fall 2011, 2012, 2013)

Upper division: Theoretical course on the relationship between language and communication.

Semantics (Fall 2011, 2012, 2013)

Syntax (Spring 2012, 2013)

Introduction to Linguistics (Spring & Summer 2012)

Language Acquisition (Summer 2011, Winter 2015)

LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Mathematics Lansing, MI

Pre-Algebra, Algebra, and Intermediate Algebra (2005-2007)

Developmental courses in a sheltered program for students in the TRiO program.

PROFESSIONAL ACADEMIC and ADVISING POSITIONS EXPERIENCE

Digital Fellow, The Graduate Center at CUNY, 2014-2016

Founded the Python Users' Group, and served on the curriculum committee for the Digital Research Institute, and promote the Digital Fellows' mission to develop the digital skills and computational research capacity of students, faculty, and staff through organizing the ongoing workshop series, co-facilitating the Python Users' Group, and offering workshops and seminars on technical and conceptual topics.

Graduate Coordinator, Guttman Community College, 2015-2016

GCC is an alternative model community college aiming to improve graduation and transfer rates of students requiring developmental course work. I provides structured academic guidance and skills development for students.

Education Specialist, TRiO at Lansing Community College, 2005-2008

Served as academic advisor, outreach coordinator, tutor, and instructor, advised first generation, low income college students from application to transferring, guiding students through the cultural and emotional transition to higher education, and taught developmental mathematics and provided general academic support.

OTHER POSITIONS

Research Assistant, Second Language Acquisition Lab, 2012-2015

Worked on a large, multi-year grant from the NYC Department of Education to create computer-based adaptive assessments for academically underprepared students and curated materials and conceptualized the interface for video-based aural assessments.

Research Assistant, Bridges to Academic Success, 2013

Working with a team of bilingual translators, developed twenty-eight interactive iBooks across four languages and two target audiences.

Language Training Developer, Peace Corps Uganda, 2010

As a special projects staff member, I proposed, developed and implemented a formal training program for new language trainers. To develop new language training materials and establish a template for future use, I trained speakers of 8 languages to analyze their languages and discover the rules for teaching.

Peace Corps Volunteer, Uganda, 2008-2010

Served as a Math instructor, won a grant to establish a library, and coordinated local teachers to write and publish books in Lusoga. These books formed the basis of the culturally-sensitive Lusoga phonics program I developed with teacher input.

English Teacher, Celas Language School, Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, 2004

Tour Guide and Waitress, Biwako-Kisen Company, Otsu Japan, 1999-2001

**MEDIA
COVERAGE**

What does 'lol' really mean? Tell Me Something I Don't Know: Stephen J. Dubner and the New York Times, New York, NY, September 28, 2016 (airs November, 2016).

Teen Language Feelin' Some Type of Way, New York, NY, November 2, 2016 (airs December, 2016).

Minor Infractions: Languages above the Subway. CUNY TV, New York, NY, October 1, 2014.

Infographic tracks Languages above the Subways. Metro New York, New York, NY, August 4, 2014.

**INVITED
TALKS**

Spatial Visualizations, Maps and More. Invited Lecture for The Digital Praxis, CUNY Graduate Center. October 26, 2016.

The Birth of a Language: The emergence of Txt as an independent language form. Dressler Linguistics Colloquium, Columbia University. October 14, 2016.

Pragmatics of CMC. Invited Lecture for Sociolinguistics of CMC. September 20, 2016.

**CONFERENCE
PRESENTATIONS**

Did You Get My Message: The communicative cost of texting in a second language. Talk at Second Language Research Forum. September 24, 2016.

Lol! I didn't Mean It!. Talk at CIRCL, CUNY Graduate Center. March 8, 2016.

The Digital GC. Talk at CUNY IT Conference. December 3, 2015.

The Present and Future of the Digital Graduate Center. Talk at CUNY IT Conference. December 4, 2014.

Language is Power: Vernacular Literacy Practices Becoming Mainstream with Twitter. Talk at Theorizing the Web. April 25, 2014.

Conducting linguistic research using social media: Literacy practices on twitter. Talk at Queens College Linguistics Club. Queens College. March 19, 2014.

Using twitter to define bilingual literacy in a networked world. Panel at the Digital Media and Learning Conference, Copley Hotel, Boston. March 6, 2014.

Blogging to investigate the linguistic, social & historical aspects of African languages. Bronx CUNY EdTech Showcase, Lehman College. May 3, 2013.

Text is like talk but not like text. Talk at the 8th Annual SQUID Conference, CUNY GC. April 12, 2013.

Yeah, yeah, yeah, a discourse marker. Talk at the 7th Annual SQUID Conference, CUNY GC. March 30, 2012.

Moody negation: Tense, mood, and negation in Lusoga. Talk at the 43rd Annual Conference for African Linguistics, Tulane University. March 15-17, 2012.

Negation in the subjunctive: The morphological interaction of tense, modality and negation in Lusoga. Poster at WECOL 2011, Simon Fraser University. November 18-20, 2011.

Predication in the clause and noun phrase of Lusoga. Talk at 42nd ACAL, University of Maryland. June 10-12, 2011.

**SELECTED
WORKSHOPS**

Introduction to Programming with Python. GCDI Digital Research institute. The Graduate Center, New York, NY. June 7, 2016.

Text Analysis with the Natural Language Toolkit. GCDI Digital Research Bootcamp. The Graduate Center, New York, NY. January 21, 2016.

Computational Methods in Sociolinguistics. The Linguistics Department. The Graduate Center, New York, NY. November 3, 2015.

Social Media Scraping. CUNY Digital Fellows. The Graduate Center, New York, NY. April 28, 2015.

Digital Citing, Writing, Profiling. Linguistics Writing Workshop. The Graduate

Center, New York, NY. April 16, 2015.
Establishing an Academic Digital Profile. CUNY Digital Fellows. The Graduate Center, New York, NY. March 19, 2015.
CartoDB for Research. CUNY Digital Fellows. The Graduate Center, New York, NY. November 20, 2014.
Text mining with MALLET. CUNY Digital Fellows. The Graduate Center, New York, NY. November 13, 2014.
Advanced Wordpress. CUNY Digital Fellows. The Graduate Center, New York, NY. October 8, 2014.

**ACADEMIC
SERVICE**

Section Editor, Journal of Interaction Technology & Pedagogy, 2015
I am the inaugural editor for the Blueprints section which will debut in Issue 9, and showcase how digital projects come into existence.

Member Editorial Collective, JITP 2014-present
Peer reviewed, open access journal promoting open scholarly discourse around critical and creative uses of digital technology in teaching, learning, and research.

Peer Reviewer, First Monday Journal 2014-present

Member, Curriculum and Examination Committee 2012-2016
Elected position representing student interests in departmental curriculum and examination decisions.

Member, Graduate Council, The Graduate Center 2012-2016
Elected position representing student and departmental interests in governance of the Graduate Center.

Lead Coordinator, SQUID Student Conference 2011-2013
Student conference to showcase works in progress and present creative research.

Member, North East Linguistics Society Planning Committee 2011-2012

Member, Syntax Supper Planning Committee 2010-2013

Member, Colloquium Committee 2010-2012

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS Association of Internet Researchers, Association of Digital Humanities Organizations, International Pragmatics Association, Linguistic Society of America, Modern Languages Association, New York City Digital Humanities, PyData.

TECHNICAL SKILLS Audacity, Carto, Flask, HTML/CSS, Javascript, Latex, MALLET, Mapbox, MySQL, p5, Processing, Python, QGIS.

LANGUAGES Spanish (Comprehension, Reading), French (Comprehension, Reading), Lusoga (Comprehension, Speaking, Reading, Writing, Academic)