

## Michelle A. McSweeney

---

Center for Spatial Research | 1172 Amsterdam Avenue | New York, NY 10027  
m.mcsweeney@columbia.edu | www.michelleamcsweeney.com

**EDUCATION** 2016. Ph.D., Linguistics  
—— Certificate, Interactive Technology and Pedagogy  
The Graduate Center at CUNY, New York, NY

2014. M.A., Linguistics  
The Graduate Center at CUNY, New York, NY

2004. B.A., Chemistry & Mathematics  
Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

**PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENT** 2016-2018. Mellon Post-Doctoral Research Scholar  
Center for Spatial Research  
Columbia University, New York, NY

### **PUBLICATIONS Books**

In preparation. *The Pragmatics of Text Messaging: Making Meaning in Messages. Under contract with Routledge.*

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

### **Articles**

2017. I Text English to Everyone: Links between Second-Language Texting and Academic Proficiency. *Languages*, 2(3), 7. <http://doi:10.3390/languages2030007>

2017. Chatting with the Natives. *Harvard Design Magazine*, "Seventeen," Issue 44 F/W.

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

### **Manuals**

2010. *Lusoga Supplemental Manual*, US Peace Corps.

2009. *Analyzing Languages to Teach*, Kampala, Uganda. Peace Corps Uganda.

**FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS** 2014-2016. Digital Fellowship, The Graduate Center

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

2015. Advanced Research Collaborative Praxis Award, The Graduate Center

2015. Doctoral Student Research Grant, The Graduate Center

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

### **DIGITAL PROJECTS**

In preparation. Love Texts *early 2018*  
[www.michelleamcsweeney.com/love](http://www.michelleamcsweeney.com/love)

2017. Visualizing Urban Language Ecologies  
[www.c4sr.columbia.edu/urban-language-ecologies](http://www.c4sr.columbia.edu/urban-language-ecologies)

2016. Spanish-English BYTs (Bilingual Youth Text Messages)  
*www.byts.commons.gc.cuny.edu*

2015. Languages Above the Subways  
*www.subwaylanguages.michelleajohnson.com*

2014. Audio Visual Interface for Long Term English Learner Test  
*Second Language Acquisition Lab & NYC Department of Education*

## **MEDIA COVERAGE**

2017. Bennett, J. Laugh and the World Laughs With You, Type 'Ha,' Not So Much.  
*The New York Times*, New York, NY. July 8.

2017. Leslie, J. K. The Internet Tilde Perfectly Conveys Something We Don't Have  
the Words to Explain. *New York Magazine*, New York, NY. June 5.

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

2016. Lol. *Feelin' Some Type of Way*, New York, NY. November 2.

2014. 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.

## **INVITED TALKS**

2017. Yelling At Robots. Invited Panel Discussion for Social Media Week, New York  
City, NY. March 3.

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

## **SELECTED PRESENTATIONS**

2017. 'Excuse me, please, wya!' The Construction of Politeness on Cell Phones.  
NeMLA Conference, The Baltimore Marriott Waterfront, Baltimore, MD. March  
24.

2017. Laughing at Ourselves. New Media and Digital Design Program, Fordham  
University, New York, NY. March 5.

2017. Lol! I didn't Mean It! The illocutionary force of 'lol'. Linguistic Society of  
America Annual Conference, Marriott Conference Center, Austin, TX. January  
4.

2016. Did You Get My Message: The communicative cost of texting in a second  
language. Second Language Research Forum, Teacher's College at Columbia  
University, New York, NY. September 24.

2015. Building the Digital GC. CUNY IT Conference, John Jay College, New York,  
NY. December 4.

2015. Yeah Yeah Yeah: Discourse Markers in Urban Speech. Showcasing Quirky and  
Unique Ideas in Development Conference, The Graduate Center at CUNY, New  
York, NY. March 27.

2014. Language is Power: Vernacular Literacy Practices Becoming Mainstream with  
Twitter. Theorizing the Web, New York, NY. April 25.

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

2014. Using twitter to define bilingual literacy in a networked world. Digital Media and Learning, Marriott Convention Center. Boston, MA. March 6.

2012. Moody negation: Tense, mood, and negation in Lusoga. 43rd ACAL, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA. March 15.

2011. Predication in the clause and noun phrase of Lusoga. 42nd ACAL, University of Maryland, College Park, MD. June 11.

## TEACHING

### GRADUATE

#### **Columbia University: School of Architecture, Preservation & Planning**

Mapping for Architecture, Urbanism, and the Humanities (Fall 2017)

Conflict Urbanism: InfraPolitics (Fall 2017)

Conflict Urbanism: Language Justice (Spring 2017)

#### **Hunter College: School of Education**

Psychology of Language Learning and Teaching (Spring 2015, Fall 2015) *\*hybrid*

#### **The Graduate Center at CUNY, Linguistics Department**

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

### UNDERGRADUATE

#### **Lehman College: Languages & Literature Department**

Internet Linguistics (Fall 2014)

African Languages (Spring 2013, Spring 2014)

Syntax (Spring 2011, 2012, 2013)

Introduction to Linguistics (Spring 2012)

Pragmatics (Fall 2011, 2012, 2013)

Semantics (Fall 2011, 2012, 2013)

Language Acquisition (Summer, 2011, Winter 2015)

#### **Lansing Community College: TRiO Program, Lansing, MI**

Pre-Algebra (Fall 2005, Fall 2006, Fall 2007)

Algebra (Spring 2005, Spring 2006, Spring 2007)

Intermediate Algebra (Fall 2006, Fall 2007)

### PROFESSIONAL

#### **United States Peace Corps, Kampala, Uganda**

Analyzing Language to Teach (2010)

Principals of Language Learning and Teaching (2009, 2010)

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### 2014-2016. **Digital Fellow**

The Graduate Center at CUNY  
I founded the Python Users' Group, and served on the curriculum committee for the Digital Research Institute. As the Workshops Coordinator, I led the Fellows to double the number of workshops offered, reaching 4x as many students, faculty, and staff as in the previous 2 years. As a team member, I did outreach and consulting to help establish a culture of digitally informed research and pedagogy throughout the

Graduate Center.

2015-2016. **Graduate Coordinator** Guttman Community College  
With a critical approach to pedagogy, I offered structured academic guidance and skills development to ensure student success.

2012-2015. **Research Assistant** Second Language Acquisition Lab  
Worked on a large, multi-year grant from the NYC Department of Education to create computer-based adaptive assessments for academically underprepared students. I led the curation of materials and conceptualization of the interface for video-based aural assessments.

2013. **Research Assistant** Bridges to Academic Success  
Working with a team of bilingual translators, developed twenty-eight interactive iBooks across four languages and two target audiences.

2010. **Language Training Developer** Peace Corps Uganda  
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.

2008-2010 **Peace Corps Volunteer** Uganda  
Served as a Math instructor, won a grant to establish a library, and coordinated with 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.

2005-2008. **Education Specialist** TRiO at Lansing Community College  
Served as academic advisor, outreach coordinator, tutor, and mathematics instructor in a sheltered program for first generation, low income college students.

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

1999-2000. **Tour Guide and Waitress** Biwako-Kisen Company, Otsu Japan

## SELECTED WORKSHOPS

- 2017. Introduction to QGIS I and II. Columbia University, New York, NY. Spring.
- 2017. Introduction to Javascript with D3 and Leaflet. Columbia University, New York, NY. Spring.
- 2016. 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.
- 2015. 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.
- 2014. 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.

**ACADEMIC  
SERVICE**

2014-present. Member Editorial Collective, JITP

2014-present. Peer Reviewer, First Monday Journal

2012-2016. Member, Curriculum and Examination Committee

2012-2016. Member, Graduate Council, The Graduate Center

2011-2013. Lead Coordinator, Showcasing Quirky and Unique Ideas in Development, Linguistics Student Conference

2011-2013. Member, North East Linguistics Society Planning Committee

2010-2013. Member, Syntax Supper Planning Committee

2010-2012. Member, Colloquium Committee

**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.