

James German

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Employment

Postdoctoral Researcher, Laboratoire de Parole et Langage, Université de Provence, Aix-en-Provence.
Beginning September 2008.

Education

Ph.D. student, Department of Linguistics, Northwestern University (2001 to present)
Visiting student, Universität Salzburg, Austria. Coursework in German language and linguistics. (1999)
B.A., German Language and Literature, Texas A&M University (1999)
B.S., Wildlife and Fishery Biology, Texas A&M University (1998)

Research Interests

Formal Pragmatics: Prosodic and intonational meaning, theories of focus, formal applications of game theory and decision theory
Phonology: Intonational phonology, organization of the phonological grammar, linguistic encoding of social identity

Dissertation Title: "Strategies for Managing Mutual Beliefs in Discourse"
Dissertation Committee: Janet Pierrehumbert (chair), Stefan Kaufmann, Brady Clark

Research Experience

Research Assistant for Christopher Kennedy (2004)
Part of an NSF-funded study entitled "Scalar Representations in Natural Language Semantics".
The assistantship emphasized the application of dynamic theories of vagueness to representations of scalar meaning.

Research Internship with Janet Pierrehumbert and Katy Carlson (2002)
Collaboratively designed and conducted a large-scale speech production study, which is currently in the publication process. The study used dialect imitation (Scottish English) to target the overall organization and malleability of the mapping between lexical representations and allophonic variants, and it explored the role of social identity in encoding such mappings.

Journal Publications

Carlson, K., German, J. and Pierrehumbert, J. Under revision. Reassignment of the flap allophone in rapid dialect adaptation. *Journal of Phonetics*.

German, J., Pierrehumbert, J. and Kaufmann, S. 2006. Evidence for phonological constraints on nuclear accent placement, *Language* 82(1).

Conference Presentations

"The effect of the speaker's motivation on the interpretation of logical connectives." With E. Sagi (presenter), S. Kaufmann, B. Clark and M. Kim. Poster presented at the 29th meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Nashville, August 1-4, 2007.

"What can we learn about the brain from talking like a Scotsman?" Poster presented at the First Annual Complexity Conference, Northwestern Institute on Complex Systems, Evanston, April, 2006.

"The cost of prosodic markedness as a rationale for the placement and interpretation of accents." Games and Decisions in Pragmatics II, Berlin, January 2006.

"The role of the hearer's beliefs in the interpretation of logical connectives." Presenter with E. Sagi, B. Clark, M. Kim and S. Kaufmann. Games and Decisions in Pragmatics II, Berlin, January 2006.

"Allophonic Reassignment in Dialect Adaptation." Presenter with K. Carlson and J. Pierrehumbert. Poster presented at the 150th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Minneapolis, MN, October 2005.

"Mapping focus to phonology: stranded prepositions and accent placement," 78th Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Society of America, Boston, MA, January 2004.

Awards and Honors

Dissertation Year Fellowship, Northwestern University (AY 2007-2008)

Northwestern Institute on Complex Systems (NICO) Student Poster Award (2006)

Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute Fellowship (2003)

Northwestern University Fellow (2001-2002)

Teaching Experience

English as a Second Language (ESL) Instructor, "Written English for Non-native Speakers" (Spring 2007)

ESL Instructor, "Culture and Fluency" (Winter 2007)

ESL Instructor, "Introduction to Pronunciation, Intonation & Word Stress" (Fall 2006, Fall 2003)

Co-Instructor, "Foundations of American Law I & II". (Summer 2006) English and legal language course for incoming international students of the Northwestern School of Law.

Co-Instructor, "American Academic Culture". (Winter 2006) Introductory pedagogy course designed and taught in collaboration with the NU Searle Center for Teaching Excellence

ESL Instructor, "Preparing for the Test of Spoken English" (2004, 2005, 2006)

Linguistics Teaching Assistant, "Formal Introduction to Words and Sentences" (Winter 2004)

Introductory morphology and syntax curriculum

Linguistics Teaching Assistant, "Meaning" (Spring 2002)

Introductory semantics and pragmatics curriculum

ESL Tutor (Fall 2002, Winter 2003)

Administrative Experience

Assistant Director, NU English as a Second Language Program (2004-2006)

Lab Manager, Speech Production Laboratory (AY 2003-2004)

Professional Service

Graduate Student Faculty Representative, Dept. of Linguistics (AY 2004-2005)

Independent Book Referee, Oxford University Press (2005)

Consulting Editor, The LinguistList (1998)

Professional Affiliations and Memberships

Linguistic Society of America

Chicago Syn-Sem Circle (Chicago Area)

Language Dynamics Lab (Northwestern U.)

Game Theory and Meaning Workgroup (Northwestern U.)

Sound and Meaning Group (Northwestern U.)

Languages

German (high proficiency)

Spanish (basic speaking and reading)

Mandarin Chinese (rudimentary)

Community Service

School Projects Volunteer, Friends of the Chicago River (2003 to 2006)

River Restoration Site Captain, Chicago River Day (2004, 2005, 2006)