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NAME

Contact information

Address

Phone:

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Webpage:

Education

- 2001-Present Ph.D. Program in Linguistics
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Dissertation (proposal defended 5/2005) :
'Semantics and pragmatics of arbitrariness.'
Proposal URL :
Dissertation committee: Names
- 2003-Present M.A. Program in Mathematics
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Master's thesis: 'Maximising entropy as minimising loss: Decision-theoretic interpretation of an information-theoretic problem.'
Thesis supervisor:Name
- Summer 2001 **13th European Summer School in Logic Language and Information**, Helsinki, Finland
Courses:
Competence/Performance Modelling of Free Word Order Languages
Workshop on Information Structure, Discourse Structure and Discourse Semantic
Typology of Noun Phrases
Mathematical Structures in Natural Language
- 1997-2001 B. A. Summa Cum Laude, Linguistics and Mathematics
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Phi Beta Kappa
Undergraduate Honours Thesis in Linguistics: 'Attentional and informational

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structure of Russian: interaction of reference, coherence, and word order.'

Advisor: Name

Thesis URL :

Areas of specialisation

Formal semantics

Formal pragmatics

Syntax-semantics and semantics-pragmatics interfaces

Publications

- in press (In)definiteness-driven typology of arbitrary items. In S. Manninen, K. Hietamä, E. Kaiser, and V. Vihman eds., *Passives and Impersonals in European Languages*. John Benjamins.
Preprint URL:
- 2004 Arbitrariness: a definite account. In G. Garding and M. Tsujimura eds., *The Proceedings of WCCFL 23*. Somerville, MA: Cascadia Press, pp. 541-554.
Preprint URL:
- 2001 Centering in Russian. In E. Kaiser ed., *Penn Working Papers in Linguistics (Volume 7.2: Current Work in Linguistics)*. Philadelphia, PA, pp.96-108.
Preprint URL:
- 2000 Centering and scrambling: towards a pragmatic motivation for Russian word order. In S. Franks, T.H. King, and M. Yandroff eds., *The Proceedings of the Ninth Annual Workshop on Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics: the Bloomington Meeting*. Ann Arbor: Michigan Slavic Publications, pp. 173-190.
Preprint URL:

Conferences and talks

- 2006 (Non)- maximality and distributivity: a Decision Theory approach. *Semantics and Linguistic Theory 16 (SALT 16)*. Tokyo, Japan, March 22-24 2006
- 2006 Impersonal pronouns: where monsters might dwell (but do they?). Invited talk at *Topics in Semantics: seminar on pronouns* (Angelika Kratzer). University of Massachusetts, Amherst, March 7, 2006
- 2006 You and monsters. *Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting*. Albuquerque, NM, January 6, 2006

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- 2005 *Arbitrary monsters: you and one. LSA Workshop 'Context and content: topics in formal pragmatics.'* LSA Summer Institute, MIT, July 15, 2005
Manuscript URL:
- 2004 *Arbitrariness: a definite account. 23rd West Coast Conference for Formal Linguistics.* UC Davis, April 24, 2004
- 2004 *A definite approach to arbitrariness. 28th Penn Linguistics Colloquium.* University of Pennsylvania, February 28, 2004
- 2001 *Null subjects and entity-tracking in Russian. Fourth European Conference on Formal Description of Slavic Languages.* Potsdam University, November 29, 2001
- 2001 *Centring in Russian.* [poster presentation]. *International Workshop on Reference and Coherence.* Utrecht University, January 11, 2001
- 2000 *Centring and Scrambling: towards a pragmatic motivation for Russian word order. Ninth Annual Workshop on Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics.* University of Indiana at Bloomington, February 19, 2000

Teaching experience

Linguistics courses at University of Pennsylvania

- Spring 2005 **Substitute Instructor for LING 553: Formal Semantics 1** (graduate): introductory lecture (set theory, formal logic); lecture on intensionality: intensional expressions in natural language, implementation in formal logics
- Summer 2004 **Instructor for LING 001: Introduction to Linguistics:** Material includes notions of grammar; written versus spoken (and signed) language; the structure of sounds, words, sentences, and meanings; language in culture and society; language change over time; language acquisition and processing; comparison with non-human communication systems.
- Spring 2004 **Undergraduate Research Assistant:** advising undergraduate students in linguistic research.
- Fall 2003 **Teaching assistant for LING 106: Formal Methods in Linguistics:** Material includes set theory, propositional logic, information theory, formal language theory, automata theory, trees, as well as a brief introduction to the semantics of natural language.
- Spring 2003 **Teaching Assistant for LING 001: Introduction to Linguistics:** see above for detailed description.

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Fall 2002 **Teaching Assistant for LING 106: Formal Methods in Linguistics:** see above for detailed description.

Summer 2002 **Lecturer at the Fifth Annual IRCS/CCN Undergraduate Summer Workshop in Cognitive Science and Cognitive Neuroscience,** University of Pennsylvania
Intensive introductory lecture on Theoretical Linguistics

Other teaching and research experience

Summer 2005 **Private tutor,** New York, New York
Tutoring high-school mathematics, Pre-Calculus and Calculus I to high-school and college students.

Summer 2004 **Institute for Research in Cognitive Science / University of Pennsylvania,** Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Data annotator for Discourse Connectives Treebank Project: annotating argument structure of discourse connectives in text.

Summer 2003 **Private tutor,** Brooklyn, New York
Tutoring SAT I: Math and Verbal, Science High Schools Entrance Exam, and Calculus to high-school and junior high-school students.

Summer 2003 **Rutgers University Dept. of Linguistics,** New Brunswick, New Jersey
Research Assistant in African Anaphora Project [NSF grant: BCS-0303447, Principal Investigator: Dr. Kenneth Safir].
Collecting information on syntax and anaphora in a variety of African languages from native speakers, compiling a bibliography of relevant literature.
Project URL:

Summer 2002 **Double Discovery Center / Columbia University,** New York, New York
8th and 9th grade mathematics teacher for Early Intervention Initiative, trigonometry and Pre-Calculus teacher for Talent Search High School [5 classes].
Developing the curricula, syllabi, and lesson plans, and teaching mathematics to first-generation college-bound students from impoverished and disadvantaged backgrounds.

Summer 2001 **Institute for Research in Cognitive Science / University of Pennsylvania,** Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Summer Research Fellow. Initiating and compiling a corpus of spoken Russian narratives. Linguistic transcription for the corpus.

01/2000 – 08/2000 **Linguistics Data Consortium / University of Pennsylvania,** Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Linguistic technical translation: Russian - English

09/1999 – **Institute for Research in Cognitive Science / University of Pennsylvania,**

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- 01/2000 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Research Assistant in Psycholinguistics and First Language Acquisition
- Summer 1999 **KAPLAN Educational Services**, Brooklyn, New York
Teacher of SAT Preparation: preparing and teaching SAT prep to students 12-18 years of age
- Summer 1999 **Asociaciones Dominicanas/Summer Youth Employment Program**, New York, New York
Teacher of Pre-Employment Skills: curriculum development, lesson preparation, teaching and assessment of job search skills, resume writing, letter composition, interview skills, and networking to underprivileged city youth ages 14 - 21
- 09/1998 – 12/1999 **Tutoring and Learning Resources/University of Pennsylvania**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
01/2001 – 05/2001 Individual tutor for university students in Calculus I, II, III, and IV, and Physics I
- 01/1998 – 05/1998 **Wilson Elementary School/America Reads Project**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Classroom teacher assistant, afterschool program tutor. Teaching elementary school students to read.
- 11/1997 – 09/2000 **Math Department/University of Pennsylvania**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Approved math tutor for Calculus I, II and III.
- 09/1997 – 05/1998 **West Philadelphia Tutoring Project**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Volunteer. Tutoring mathematics, reading, and writing to middle school students.

Professional service

- 2005/2006 Reviewer for the annual **Penn Linguistics Colloquium, University of Pennsylvania**
- Fall 2004 Coordinator of **Penn Linguistics Speaker Series**.
Series URL :
- 2003/2004 President of **Penn Linguistics Club**, the academic organisation of the graduate linguistics student at Penn.
- 2002/2003 Chair of the **organising committee for the 27th Annual Penn Linguistics Colloquium**
Event URL :
- 2001/2002 Junior member of the **organising committee for the 26th Annual Penn Linguistics Colloquium**. Responsibilities: webmastering, conference schedule, miscellanea

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- 1998/1999 Member of the **Undergraduate Advisory Board** for the **Department of Mathematics, University of Pennsylvania**
- Spring 1998 Assistant organiser for the **Eighth Annual Workshop on Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics: the Pennsylvania meeting**

Awards

Fellowships

- 2001-2006 William Penn Fellowship
2001/2002 Andrew Mellon Fellow for Humanities

Scholarships

- 2000/2001 Richard Garfield Scholarship
1999/2000 Richard Garfield Scholarship
1998/1999 J.R. Scarlet Scholarship
1997-2001 Milken Scholars Program

Grants

- 2000 University Scholars Travel Grant to present at the Ninth Annual Workshop on Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics: the Indiana Meeting
- 2000 University Scholars Travel Grant to attend the conference on Scrambling, Tucson, Arizona
- 2001 University Scholars Travel Grant to present at the International Workshop on Reference and Coherence, Utrecht, the Netherlands
- 2001 University Scholars Research Grant to collect a corpus of spoken Russian: 37 hours of spoken Russian-language narratives from 23 native speakers in Central Russian and South Russian dialects.
- 2001 University Scholars Travel Grant to attend 13th European Summer School in Logic, Language and Information (ESSLLI), Helsinki, Finland
- 2001 University of Pennsylvania SAS and GSAC Travel Grant to present at the Fourth European Conference on Formal Descriptions of Slavic Languages, Potsdam, Germany
- 2004 University of Pennsylvania SAS Travel Grant to present at the 23rd West Coast Conference for Formal Linguistics, Davis, CA

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Grants written and awarded on behalf of Penn Linguistics Club

- Fall 2004 GSAC Merit Request for organising Penn Linguistics Speaker Series
- 2002/2003 GSAC Merit Request for organising Penn Linguistics Colloquium (Invited Speaker: Professor Edward Keenan)

Other honors

- Spring 2001 Phi Beta Kappa nomination
- 2001 Distinguished Tutor Award, University of Pennsylvania
- 1999 Distinguished Tutor Award, University of Pennsylvania
- 1998-2001 University Scholar, University of Pennsylvania
- 1998/1999 Dean's Scholar, University of Pennsylvania Undergraduate Arts and Sciences
- 1997-2001 Dean's List, University of Pennsylvania Undergraduate Arts and Sciences
- 1997 Columbia University Engineering Alumni Award
- 1997 St. John's University Science and Humanities Symposium Semifinalist
- 1997 Westinghouse Science Talent Search Semifinalist

Languages

Russian: native

English: fluent

Ukrainian: fluent

Italian: with dictionary

Latin: with dictionary

Sanskrit: basic reading knowledge