

Academic Education

- 2019 – 2024 **Doktor philosophiae in Linguistics**, *Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena*.
Dissertation Thesis: *Language variation in word meanings – Cross-linguistic patterns and causes of colexifications*.
Reviewers: Johann-Mattis List, Stephen C. Levinson, and Asifa Majid
Mentor: Mary Walworth
Grade: *summa cum laude* (“with distinction”)
- 2016 – 2019 **Master of Arts in Linguistics**, *Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*.
Final Grade: 1.2 (“very good”)
MA Thesis: *Body-part metaphors as a window to cognition – A cross-linguistic study of object and landscape terms*.
Reviewers: Elisabeth Verhoeven and Kilu von Prince
Grade: 1.3 (“very good”)
- 2013 – 2016 **Bachelor of Arts in German Linguistics and Scandinavian Studies**, *Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*.
Final Grade: 1.7 (“good”)
BA Thesis: *Emotionalisation through texts – A contrastive analysis of donation letters and stock market letters with the help of the Berlin Affective Word List Reloaded*.
Reviewers: Katharina Spalek and Manfred Krifka
Grade: 1.5 (“very good”)
- 2012 – 2013 **Bachelor of Arts in Culture & Technology – Language and Communication**, *Technische Universität Berlin*.

Grants and Awards

- 2019 – 2023 **Fellowship**, *International Max Planck Research Schools (IMPRS)*, Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, Jena.
- 2021 **Farzad Sharifian PhD Student Award**, for my presentation on “The face of the moon – Body part extensions in Vietnamese”, at 3rd Cultural Linguistics International Conference (CLIC-2021), Budapest.
- 2019 **Nomination for Humboldt-Price**, for best Master’s thesis at Sprach- und literaturwissenschaftlichen Fakultät, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.
- 2019 **Humboldt-Universität’s Equal Opportunities Fund**, for participation in a linguistics conference, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

Work Experience

- 2023 – present **Postdoctoral Researcher**, *Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology*, Leipzig, Department of Linguistic and Cultural Evolution.
Project: Exploring Diversity in Language and Cognition (EDLC)
- 2019 – 2023 **Doctoral Researcher**, *International Max Planck Research School (IMPRS)*, Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, Jena.
Project: Cross-Linguistic Strategies of Denotation – Advancing Data and Methods in Lexical Typology
- 2019 – 2019 **Research Associate**, *FAHMRRR project*, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, funded by European Research Council (ERC).
An investigation of how humans process meaning in utterances, concentrating on focus alternatives. Principal Investigator: Katharina Spalek

- 2017 – 2019 **Student Research Assistant**, *MelaTAMP project*, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, funded by German Research Foundation (DFG).
A corpus-based research on TAM and polarity expressions in Oceanic languages of Melanesia. Principal Investigators: Kilu von Prince and Manfred Krifka
- 2016 – 2019 **Student Research Assistant**, *FAHMRRR project*, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, funded by European Research Council (ERC).
Principal Investigator: Katharina Spalek
- 2018 – 2018 **Internship and Student Research Assistant**, *Modulation of Language Networks Group*, Max Planck Institute for Human Cognitive and Brain Sciences, Leipzig.
Group Head: Gesa Hartwigsen
- 2013 – 2016 **Assistant**, *World Wide Fund for Nature*, Berlin, Department of Dialog Marketing.

Publications

Journal Articles

- **Tjuka, Annika** & Johann-Mattis List. 2024. Partial Colexifications Reveal Directional Tendencies in Object Naming. *Yearbook of the German Cognitive Linguistics Association* 12(1). 95–114.
- **Tjuka, Annika**, Huong Thi Thu Nguyen, Ruben van de Vijver, & Katharina Spalek. 2024. Investigating the variation of intonation contours in Northern Vietnamese tones. *Frontiers in Education* 9. 1–9.
- **Tjuka, Annika**, Robert Forkel & Johann-Mattis List. 2024. Universal and cultural factors shape body part vocabularies. *Scientific Reports* 14(1). 1–12.
- **Tjuka, Annika**. 2024. Objects as human bodies: Cross-linguistic colexifications between words for body parts and objects. *Linguistic Typology*.
- Kim, Yoolim & **Annika Tjuka** (shared authorship). 2024. Cognitive Science from the Perspective of Linguistic Diversity. *Cognitive Science* 48(2). 1–7.
- Nomura, Keiko, Simon Rella, Haily Merritt, Mathieu Baltussen, Darcy Bird, **Annika Tjuka** & Dan Falk. 2024. Tipping Points of Space Debris in Low Earth Orbit. *International Journal of the Commons (Special Issue on Commons in Space)* 18(1). 17–31.
- **Tjuka, Annika**, Robert Forkel & Johann-Mattis List. 2023. Curating and Extending Data for Language Comparison in Concepticon and NoRaRe. *Open Research Europe* 2(141). 1–13.
- **Tjuka, Annika**, Robert Forkel & Johann-Mattis List. 2022. Linking Norms, Ratings, and Relations of Words and Concepts Across Multiple Language Varieties. *Behavior Research Methods* 54. 864–884.
- **Tjuka, Annika**, Huong Thi Thu Nguyen & Katharina Spalek. 2020. *Foxes, Deer, and Hedgehogs: The Recall of Focus Alternatives in Vietnamese. Laboratory Phonology (Special Issue on Prosody and Speech Processing across Languages and Varieties)* 11(1). 1–29.

Edited Volume

- Articles ○ **Tjuka, Annika**. 2023. Body Part Extensions with *Mặt* 'Face' in Vietnamese. In Kelsie E. Pattillo & Małgorzata Waśniewska (eds.), *Embodiment in Cross-Linguistic Studies: The 'Face,'* 237–255. Leiden: Brill.

Conference

- Proceedings ○ **Tjuka, Annika**. 2020. General Patterns and Language Variation: Word Frequencies Across English, German, and Chinese. In Michael Zock, Emmanuele Chersoni, Alessandro Lenci & Enrico Santus (eds.), *Proceedings of the Workshop on the Cognitive Aspects of the Lexicon*, 23–32. Online and Barcelona, Spain: Association for Computational Linguistics.
- **Tjuka, Annika**, Lena Weißmann & Kilu von Prince. 2019. Tagging Modality in Oceanic Languages of Melanesia. In Annemarie Friedrich, Deniz Zeyrek & Jet Hoek (eds.), *Proceedings of the 13th Linguistic Annotation Workshop*, 65–70. Florence, Italy: Association for Computational Linguistics.

- **Tjuka, Annika**, Lena Weißmann & Kilu von Prince. 2019. Habitual Aspect as a Property of Text Spans. In Zygmunt Vetulani & Patrick Paroubek (eds.), *Human language technologies as a challenge for computer science and linguistics. Proceedings of 9th Language & Technology Conference*, 195–199. Poznań, Poland: Wydawnictwo Nauka i Innowacje.

Invited Talks

- 2025 **Keynote**, *Lexical typology at scale – How databases transform the study of colexifications*, Emerging Topics in Typology (ETT) Conference, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany
- 2023 **Research Colloquium**, *If a car had feet, where would they be? Using the body as an analogy to name object parts*, Current Topics in General Linguistics, Heinrich Heine University, Düsseldorf, Germany

Summer School Participation

- 2022 **Complex Systems Summer School**, *A Study of Complex Behavior in Systems*, Santa Fe Institute, Santa Fe, United States.
An intensive four-week introduction to complex behavior in mathematical, physical, living, and social systems to transcend disciplinary boundaries, take intellectual risks, and ask big questions. Including lectures, workshops, and a group research project.
- 2022 **Semantic Shifts Summer School**, *From Lexicon to Grammar: Diachronic and Typological Perspectives*, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), Fréjus, France.
A two-week introduction exploring the crossover between two focal areas of research in semantics – grammaticalization and lexical semantics – from a range of interdisciplinary perspectives. Including courses, workshops, and a round table discussion.
- 2019 **Neurolinguistics Summer School**, *Experimental Linguistics in Less-studied Languages*, Center for Language and Brain at National Research University Higher School of Economics (HSE), Moscow, Russia.
A three days event of invited talks discussing psycho- and neurolinguistics findings from less-studied languages. Including a poster session with contributions from participants.

Teaching

- June 2025 **Teaching Material**, *The Evolution of Language*, for high-school students as part of the OpenEvo – Educational Innovation Research for Understanding Human.
Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany
- April 2024 **Guest lecture**, *Body part vocabularies across languages*, for Bachelor students as part of the seminar on Psychology of Language by Yoolim Kim, Wellesley College.
Massachusetts, USA (online)
- November 2024 **Guest lecture**, *Cognitive Science from the Perspective of Linguistic Diversity*, for PhD students as part of the International Max Planck Research School Core Seminar Week.
Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany
- Winter term 2023-24 **Seminar**, *Sprachdiversität und Mehrsprachigkeit (Language Diversity and Multilingualism)*, for Bachelor students, Lehrstuhl für Multilinguale Computerlinguistik.
Universität Passau, Germany.
- Winter term 2022-23 **Grundkurs (Undergraduate Course)**, *Sprachwissenschaftliche Fragestellungen und Methoden (Questions and methods in linguistics)*, for Bachelor students, Institut für Deutsche und Niederländische Philologie.
Freie Universität Berlin, Germany.
- September 2022 **Lecture**, *Computer-Assisted Approaches to Lexical Typology*, for Master and PhD students, co-teacher Johann-Mattis List, Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS).
SemanticShifts Summer School, Fréjus, France.

- Winter term 2021-22 **Seminar**, *Same same but different: Semantic relations in language and thought*, for Bachelor students, Department of English Studies.
Friedrich Schiller University, Jena, online.
- August 2021 **Lecture**, *Introduction to Linguistic & Cultural Evolution*, for Master and PhD students, Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
SHH Summer School - A doorway to human history, Jena, online.
- August 2021 **Class**, *Bayesian Phylogenetic Linguistics*, for Master and PhD students, co-teachers Nataliia Hübler and Olena Shcherbakova, Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
SHH Summer School - A doorway to human history, Jena, online.
- Summer term 2021 **Seminar**, *Words and their meanings across languages*, for Bachelor students, Department of English Studies.
Friedrich Schiller University, Jena, online.
- Winter term 2020-21 **Seminar**, *The mental lexicon from a cross-linguistic perspective*, for Bachelor students, Department of English Studies.
Friedrich Schiller University, Jena, online.

Supervision and Advisory Services

- 2024 – present **Deputy Open Science Ambassador**, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig.
- 2024–present **Supervisor**, *Department of Linguistic and Cultural Evolution*, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig.
Supervisee: Mira Ahmedovic (Student Research Assistant)
- 2024–present **Mentor**, *Emerging Topics in Typology (ETT) Conference*, organized by and for PhD students.
- 2022–2023 **Mentor**, *African Research Talents Experiencing Mentoring In Science (ARTEMIS) programme*, Max Planck Society, Germany.
Mentee: Mike Ofori Antwi (Masters Student at University of Ghana)
- 2022–2024 **Supervisor**, *Department of Linguistic and Cultural Evolution*, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig.
Supervisee: Mathilda van Zantwijk (Student Research Assistant)
- 2020 – 2021 **PhD Representative**, *Department of Linguistic and Cultural Evolution*, Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, Jena.
- 2017 – 2018 **Women's Representative**, *Institute of Romance Studies*, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

Professional Services

- 2021 – 2024 **Co-Editor**, *Computer-Assisted Language Comparison in Practice*, Blog.
calc.hypotheses.org
- Ad hoc Reviewer
- Journals
 - Scientific Data
 - Behavior Research Methods
 - Scientific Reports
 - Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology
 - Journal of Language Evolution
 - Frontiers in Psychology
 - Journal of Portuguese Linguistics
 - Conferences
 - CogSci Conference
 - Emerging Topics in Typology (ETT)

Event Organization

- 2024 **Workshop**, *Linguistic and Cognitive Science meet Diversity*, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany.
A 3-day workshop with 18 invited talks and 2 round table discussions organized together with Yoolim Kim and Yağmur Deniz Kısa.
Main Organizer
- 2023 **Workshop**, *Cross-Linguistic Data Formats – Graphs and Texts*, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany.
A 2-day workshop with invited talks and two practice sessions organized together with Johann-Mattis List and Robert Forkel.
Co-Organizer
- Theme Session**, *Cross-Linguistic Colexifications across Research Fields*, 16th International Cognitive Linguistics Conference, Düsseldorf, Germany.
A 1-day theme session with invited talks organized together with Johann-Mattis List.
Co-Organizer
- 2022 **Group Session**, *Science communication*, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany.
A 1-day workshop discussing science communication and a poster presentation.
Group leader
- 2021 **SHH Summer School**, *A doorway to human history*, Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, Jena, online.
A 2-week lecture and workshop series introducing the main aspects of archaeology, archaeogenetics, as well as linguistic and cultural evolution.
Organizing committee
- 2020 – 2021 **Journal Club**, *Department of Linguistic and Cultural Evolution*, Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, Jena.
Main Coordinator

Outreach Activities

- 2025 **Long Night of Science**, *Der Schatz der Sprachen – Warum wir Wortschätze in Datenbanken sammeln (The treasure of languages – Why we collect vocabularies in databases)*, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany.
Speaker
- 2025 **SoapBox Science goes to School**, *Anatomie der Sprache: Eine Reise von Kopf bis Fuß (Anatomy of language: A journey from head to toe)*, Peter-Ustinov-Schule, Berlin, Germany.
Speaker
- 2025 **SoapBox Science**, *Anatomie der Sprache: Eine Reise von Kopf bis Fuß (Anatomy of language: A journey from head to toe)*, Holzmarkt, Berlin, Germany.
Speaker
- 2024 **Three Minute Thesis competition ('3MT)**, *One body, many words: Linguistic diversity as a window into the mind*, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität, Jena, Germany.
Speaker
- 2023 **Quantum Entanglement – Science and Music Festival**, *Was wäre, wenn Du jede Sprache auf der Welt sprechen könntest?*, Heiter bis Wolke Café at Bürgerbahnhof Plagwitz, Leipzig, Germany.
Speaker
- 2022 **Tea with Teachers**, *The role of a lifetime – Portrayal of female scientists in today's movies and TV series*, Friedrich Schiller University, Department of English Studies, Jena, online.
Speaker, together with Olena Tykhostup
- 2021 **Tea with Teachers**, *Four ways to PhD*, Friedrich Schiller University, Department of English Studies, Jena, online.
Speaker, together with Olena Shcherbakova, Olena Tykhostup, and Barthe Bloom

2019 **Long Night of Science**, *Game: "Try to get food in the same way as the crows of New Caledonia"*,
Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, Jena.
Volunteer, together with Clemens Schmid

Languages

German First language
English Professional
Vietnamese Good passive knowledge

Computer Skills

Scripting & R, Python, Bash Shell, MATLAB, \LaTeX
Mark-up
Software PRAAT, Presentation, ELAN, EXMARaLDA, Cytoscape, Inkscape, NetLogo