

LUKE SMITH

(Last updated December 29, 2017.)

BASIC INFO

EMAIL: luke@lukesmith.xyz
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YOUTUBE: [LukeSmithxyz](#)

I like clarity of thought, rigor and non-pretentiousness. I've worked as a linguist, economic researcher and do freelance technical consultation. I mostly just have fun.

In linguistics and cognitive science, I'm mostly interested in motivating linguistic alternations and tendencies in non-linguistic externals, for theoretical economy, and for the unification of linguistics with other fields.

Since late 2016, I've also run a YouTube channel focusing on technology and GNU/Linux.

INSTITUTIONS

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| 2015–2018 | Ph.D. in Linguistics <i>University of Arizona, Tucson.</i> Focusing on biolinguistics, syntax and human language technology. Advisors: Tom Bever , Mike Hammond . |
| 2013–2015 | M.A. in Linguistics <i>University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia.</i> Major in Syntax; minor in Romance Languages . Thesis: <i>External Possession and the Undisentanglability of Syntax and Semantics</i> PDF . Advisor: Vera Lee-Schoenfeld . |
| 2012 | Exchange Program, Zhèngzhōu Dàxué (郑州大学) <i>Zhèngzhōu, China.</i> Studying Chinese history. |
| 2009–2012 | B.A. in International Economics and Modern Languages <i>Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Georgia State University, Atlanta.</i> Specializations in Spanish and Chinese. Certificates in Economic History and International Trade |








CLASSES TAUGHT

More teaching information, along with my teaching evaluations and some materials can be found on my website at lukesmith.xyz/classes.

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| 2018 | LING150 – “Language” Online Class <i>University of Arizona.</i> With Amy Fountain . |
| 2017–2018 | ESOC210 – “The History of Hacking and Open Source Culture” – Graduate Assistant <i>University of Arizona.</i> Under David Seng. |
| SPRING 2016 | LING300 – “Introduction to Syntax” – Teaching Assistant <i>University of Arizona.</i> Under Simin Karimi. Helped introduce undergraduates to the Gospel of Chomsky. Served as a substitute for main professor when gone, graded work and did administritiva. |
| 2015–2017 | LING150 – “Language” – Teaching Assistant <i>University of Arizona.</i> With Amy Fountain . I teach Friday sessions and conduct recitations for a break-out section of an auditorium classroom. I conduct my own activities and lectures off of my own syllabus. |
| 2014–2015 | LING2100 – “Study of Language” – Instructor PDF PDF <i>University of Georgia.</i> I worked through my own syllabus and class plan and focus mainly on how language relates to wider issues in cognitive science. Also focused on the philosophy of language and historical linguistics. |
| FALL 2014 | LING3150 – “Generative Syntax” – Co-teacher <i>University of Georgia.</i> Covered Phrase-Structure Rules and X-bar Theory. A writing intensive course. Taught with Jennimaria Palomäki . |
| FALL 2014 | Writing Intensive Program – Teaching Assistant <i>University of Georgia.</i> Guided and graded essay-writing for linguistics students. |

LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

Current projects and other information can be found on <http://lukesmith.xyz/linguistics>.

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| 2018 | "Scope without Syntax: Towards a Game Theoretic Approach"  <i>University of Arizona Synsalon.</i> |
| 2017 | "The Origins and Mechanics of the Greek Alphabet"  <i>Guest Lecture.</i> For Shannon Grippando's class <i>The Psychology of Writing Systems</i> |
| 2017 | "Language as Synesthesia"  <i>Seminar on language and consciousness.</i> Clarification of some points from my qualifying paper. |
| 2016 | "The Phonetics of Language" <i>Guest Lecture.</i> For Amy Fountain's class <i>Language</i> |
| 2016 | "Constituent Structure—What is it and where does it come from?" <i>Guest Lecture (series of 3).</i> For Simin Karimi's class <i>Introduction to Syntax</i> |
| 2016 | "An Introduction to Minimalism"  & "Optimizing Structure"  <i>Guest Lectures.</i> For Doug Merchant's class <i>Generative Syntax</i> |
| 2015 | "Towards Biolinguistic Clarity in Generative Syntax"  <i>The Interdisciplinary Linguistics Conference at UGA, 2015.</i> |
| 2015 | "Syntactic Theory and Psycholinguistics"  <i>Guest lecture.</i> For Doug Merchant's class <i>Psychology of Language</i> |
| 2015 | "Syntax is for Real! – Parameterization of Head Movement in Korean and its Effects on Scope and Alternations" <i>LSUGA Tiny Talks.</i> |
| 2015 | "External Possession and the Undisentanglability of Syntax and Semantics" <i>University of Georgia Linguistics Program Spring Colloquium.</i> |
| 2013 | "The acquisition of <i>tú</i> and <i>usted</i> by English speakers: A study of non-native knowledge and usage of forms of address" <i>Georgia State Undergraduate Research Conference.</i> |
| 2012 | "Theories of contraction: A survey of macroeconomic theories of depression" <i>Georgia State Undergraduate Research Conference.</i> |

SERVICE

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| 2017–Now | Manager for Tom Bever's Language and Cognition Lab site <i>University of Arizona.</i> http://coglanglab.com |
| FALL 2017 | Arizona Linguistic Circle Peer-Reviewer <i>University of Arizona.</i> Judged and gave feedback for scholarly articles submitted for the Arizona Linguistics Circle. |
| 2015–2016 | Indo-European Reading Group Director <i>University of Arizona.</i> Covering general historical linguistics, and the particulars of PIE morphology, phonology and development. Group materials located at lukesmith.xyz/pie . |
| 2014–2016 | LSUGA Website Manager <i>University of Georgia.</i> Created and managed the LSUGA website, http://www.lsuga.com . (Now apparently reformatted.) |
| 2014–2015 | LSUGA Interdisciplinary Conference in Linguistics Committee Member <i>University of Georgia.</i> Managed email and recording and audio and video for conference. |

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| 2014–2015 | Graduate Student Mentor <i>University of Georgia.</i> |
| FALL 2014 | Socio-Paths Sociolinguistics Reading Group Co-director <i>University of Georgia.</i> |
| SPRING 2014 | Typology Reading Group Director <i>University of Georgia.</i> Covered classical Greenbergian typology, particularly with relevance to historical linguistics. |

LANGUAGES

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| HUMAN | Spanish, Mandarin, Latin, reading knowledge of classical Greek and most Romance languages. Grammatical knowledge of a many Indo-European languages, Korean and others. |
| MACHINE | Python, Perl, R, PHP, Matlab, bash, some knowledge both of common LISP and Haskell, \LaTeX , HTML, CSS |

TOOLS I USE

USUAL WORKFLOW




I use a **vim**-based setup in a tiling window manager (**i3-gaps**). I compile documents using \LaTeX , and **biber** for references. I prefer to do multimedia manipulation in the terminal with tools like **imagemagick** and **ffmpeg**. **tmux**, **ranger**, **ssh**, **mutt/notmuch/OffinelMAP**. Have run Microsoft, MacOS and GNU/Linux systems (both Debian and Arch-based varieties). I currently run Parabola GNU/Linux-libre on my machines.

PROGRAMS I USE

Matlab, R/RStudio, Blender, Praat, Audacity, E-Prime, GIMP, pandoc, Jupyter. I've managed websites manually via **ssh** and **vim** using HTML/CSS/PHP and with tools such as Github Pages (Jekyll) WordPress via either **cpanel** or **wp-cli**.


PUBLIC CODE AND SCRIPTS




I'd just like to interject for a moment, everything I write should be inferred to be under the GPLv3 license.

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| IN PROGRESS | Corpus Latinum Lucae  <i>A planned linguistic corpus of the Latin language, to be searchable by regexes and grammatical category, with an interface written in Python. As of now I've constructed the parser to generate the corpus from raw text files..</i> |
| 2017 | Luke's Auto-Rice Bootstrapping Scripts (LARBS)  <i>A dynamic installer for an i3wm Arch Linux distribution.</i> |
| PRE-RELEASE | Memespeaker <i>Narrated slideshow creator.</i> An ffmpeg -based tool for illustrating audio talks and lectures with pictures, without the time-consuming process of using video-editing software. |
| 2016–Now | Voidrice  <i>Linux dotfiles.</i> A set of GNU/Linux dotfiles that I popularized on YouTube, aiming at creating a powerful, optimized, all-purpose and lightweight general computing environment. Innovated dynamically configured and synced rc files. |
| 2015–Now | http://LukeSmith.xyz <i>My website.</i> I proudly report my website is minimal, yet attractive, with no sore-eyed CSS pseudo-magic and good readability. Modern traditional feel. I generate the website offline with PHP and upload a static version of only HTML/CSS. |

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| 2016 | /Comfy/ Arch <i>Automatic ricing tool.</i> A web-based deployment system for configuration files which focuses on enabling novice Linux users to get immersed quickly in advanced ricing environments. No longer actively maintained, but likely to undergo an update. |
| 2013 | Vulgarizer <i>Sound Change Simulator.</i> A string-manipulation paradigm written in Python for simulating phonetic and phonological change over time. The original implementation focused on modeling changes between Latin and Spanish and then other Romance languages, but if I continue the project, my hope is to generalize this. |

ONLINE TUTORIALS

I produce screencasts and produce other videos for public use as tutorials on YouTube on my channel. 

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| TEX | Covering TEX basics and advanced techniques: formatting, use of bibtex for automatic citations sectioning, image-use, beamer presentations, macros.  |
| VIM | Covering the extensible text-editor vim: basic tips, use of text objects, macros, remaps for creating IDE-like environments and some screencasts of practical uses in my day-by-day life.  |
| LINUX RICING | Videos on hacking and modifying Linux graphical environments particularly on i3-gaps, including customization, window management, program-shortcutting, optimization.  |

WRITINGS

Section incomplete. Only contains major degree requirements now. To be updated.

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| SOON | Unnamed dissertation <i>Dissertation, University of Arizona.</i> Probable committee?: Tom Bever , Mike Hammond , Massimo Piattelli-Palmarini , Robert Henderson . |
| 2017 | Scope Without Syntax: A Game Theoretic Approach   <i>Second qualifying paper, University of Arizona.</i> Committee: Tom Bever , Massimo Piattelli-Palmarini , Robert Henderson , Mike Hammond . |
| 2017 | Syntax Without Syntax    <i>First qualifying paper, University of Arizona.</i> Committee: Mike Hammond , Simin Karimi , Heidi Harley . |
| 2015 | External Possession and the Undisentanglability of Syntax and Semantics  <i>Master's thesis, University of Georgia.</i> Committee: Vera Lee-Schoenfeld , Tim Gupton , Pilar Chamorro . |

HOBBIES

Classical languages, human evolution and prehistory, free (i.e. libre) software, survivalism, cybernetics, medieval thought, Rhaeto-Romance poetry.