

*Adam Liter*

Department of Linguistics  
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## EDUCATION

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**Ph.D., Linguistics** 08/2017 – (expected) 05/2022  
*University of Maryland, College Park, MD*

**M.A., Linguistics** 01/2013 – 05/2016  
*Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI*  
**Thesis:** The Acquisition and Syntax of the Passive in English  
**Advised by:** [Alan Munn](#) (Chair), [Cristina Schmitt](#), [Marcin Morzycki](#)

**2015 Linguistic Institute** 07/2015  
*University of Chicago, Chicago, IL*

**B.A., Linguistics (High Honors) & B.A., Philosophy (High Honors)** 08/2010 – 05/2014  
*Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI*  
**Thesis:** Passives in English: A Theoretical and Experimental Investigation Thereof  
**Advised by:** [Cristina Schmitt](#)

- Cognitive Science Specialization
- Women's and Gender Studies Minor

**2013 Linguistic Institute** 06/2013 – 07/2013  
*University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI*

## POSITIONS

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**Faculty Research Specialist** 06/2016 – 08/2017  
*Center for Advanced Study of Language, University of Maryland, College Park, MD*

## AWARDS, HONORS, & FELLOWSHIPS

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### FUNDED AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

**Flagship Fellowship** 08/2017 – 05/2022  
*University of Maryland, College Park, MD*

**Fellow, NSF-NRT Training Program** (NSF: #1449815) 09/2018 – 05/2020  
*University of Maryland, College Park, MD*

**Jacob K. Goldhaber Travel Grant** 01/2020  
*University of Maryland, College Park, MD*

**Outstanding Scholars Program Fellowship** (declined) 04/2017  
*University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut*

<b>Teaching Assistantship</b> <i>Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI</i>	08/2015 – 05/2016
<b>Research Assistantship</b> <i>Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI</i>	08/2014 – 05/2015
<b>Board of Trustees' Award</b> <i>Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI</i>	05/2014
<b>University Distinguished Scholarship</b> <i>Honors College, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI</i>	08/2010 – 05/2014
<b>National Merit Scholar</b> <i>Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI</i>	08/2010 – 05/2014
<b>Undergraduate Research Initiative – Grantee</b> <i>College of Arts and Letters, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI</i>	10/2013 – 05/2014
<b>2013 Linguistic Institute Fellowship</b> <i>Linguistic Society of America, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI</i>	06/2013 – 07/2013
<b>Genevieve Gillette Fellowship</b> <i>Honors College, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI</i>	05/2013 – 08/2013
<b>Undergraduate Research Initiative – Grantee</b> <i>College of Arts and Letters, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI</i>	10/2012 – 05/2013
<b>Professorial Assistantship</b> <i>Honors College, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI</i>	08/2010 – 05/2012

## HONORS

<b>2016 Outstanding Graduate Student in Linguistics</b> <i>Department of Linguistics and Languages, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI</i>	05/2016
<b>Outstanding Graduating Senior in LGSAAL</b> <i>Department of Linguistics and Languages, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI</i>	05/2014

## PRESENTATION AWARDS

<b>Award Winner, Poster Presentation</b> <i>MSULC, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI</i>	04/2014
<b>Category Winner (with C. Heffner)</b> <i>UURAF, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI</i>	04/2012
<b>Award Winner, Poster Presentation (with C. Heffner)</b> <i>MSULC, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI</i>	04/2012

## PUBLICATIONS

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### REFEREED JOURNALS

- 2020 Durvasula, Karthik & **Adam Liter**. There is a simplicity bias when generalising from ambiguous data. *Phonology* 37(2). 177–213. DOI: [10.1017/S0952675720000093](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0952675720000093).
- 2017 **Liter, Adam**, Christopher C. Heffner & Cristina Schmitt. The interpretation of plural morphology and (non-)obligatory number marking: An argument from artificial language learning. *Language Learning and Development* 13(4). 451–480. DOI: [10.1080/15475441.2017.1324307](https://doi.org/10.1080/15475441.2017.1324307).

### CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- 2021 **Liter, Adam** & Jeffrey Lidz. Non-actional passives can be comprehended by 4-year-olds. In Danielle Dionne & Lee-Ann Vidal Covas (eds.), *BUCLD 45: proceedings of the 45th annual Boston University conference on language development*, vol. 2, 513–527. Somerville, MA: Cascadia Press.
- 2020 **Liter, Adam** & Naomi H. Feldman. Modeling the learning of the Person Case Constraint. In Allyson Ettinger, Gaja Jarosz & Max Nelson (eds.), *Proceedings of the society for computation in linguistics*, vol. 3, 372–381. DOI: [10.7275/38dj-hj49](https://doi.org/10.7275/38dj-hj49).
- 2018 **Liter, Adam**, Tess Huelskamp, Christopher C. Heffner & Cristina Schmitt. Grammaticalized number, implicated presuppositions, and the plural. *Glossa: a journal of general linguistics* 3(1): *Acquisition of quantification*. Magda Oiry (ed.). DOI: [10.5334/gjgl.532](https://doi.org/10.5334/gjgl.532).

## PRESENTATIONS

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### INVITED TALKS

- 2019 Grolla, Elaine, **Adam Liter** & Jeffrey Lidz. “Why do you think why kids produce medial wh-phrases?: Grammar or performance?” Michigan State Undergraduate Linguistics Conference (MSULC), Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI.
- 2016 Durvasula, Karthik & **Adam Liter**. “Learning phonological patterns from ambiguous data.” North American Phonology Conference (NAPhC), Concordia University, Montréal, Canada.

### REFEREED CONFERENCE TALKS

- 2020 **Liter, Adam** & Naomi H. Feldman. “Modeling the learning of the Person Case Constraint.” Society for Computation in Linguistics (SCiL), New Orleans, LA.
- 2019 Munn, Alan, Rachel Stacey, Robert Felster, Adam Smolinski, **Adam Liter** & Cristina Schmitt. “Context effects in children’s calculation of scalar implicatures: The case of disjunction.” Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting (SRCD), Baltimore, MD.
- Muller, Hanna, Phoebe Gaston, Bethany Dickerson, **Adam Liter**, Karthik Durvasula, Mina Hirzel, Kasia Hitczenko, Margaret Kandel, Paulina Lyskawa, Jacqueline Nelligan, Maxime Papillon & Laurel Perkins. “Gender bias in representation and publishing rates across subfields.” Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA), New York, NY.

- 2018 Munn, Alan, Rachel Stacey, Robert Felster, Adam Smolinski, **Adam Liter** & Cristina Schmitt. “Scalar implicature variability in adults and children: the case of ‘or’.” *Scalar Implicatures: Formal and Experimental Exploration (SIFEE)*, Università di Siena, Siena, Italy.
- 2015 **Liter, Adam**, Tess Huelskamp, Christopher C. Heffner & Cristina Schmitt. “Non-grammaticalized number entails an exclusive interpretation of plural morphology.” *Workshop on Linguistics and Cognitive Aspects of Quantification (LCQ)*, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary.
- 2013 **Liter, Adam**, Christopher C. Heffner & Cristina Schmitt. “Inclusive plural interpretations depend on grammaticalized number: An argument from artificial language learning.” *Workshop on the Acquisition of Quantification*, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA.

## REFEREED CONFERENCE POSTERS

- 2020 **Liter, Adam** & Jeffrey Lidz. “Non-actional passives can be comprehended by 4-year olds.” *Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD)*, Boston University, Boston, MA.
- 2016 Durvasula, Karthik & **Adam Liter**. “Generalising from ambiguous data.” *Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA)*, Washington, DC.
- 2015 **Liter, Adam**, Tess Huelskamp, Susima Weerakoon & Alan Munn. “What drives the Maratsos Effect, agentivity or eventivity?” *Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD)*, Boston University, Boston, MA.
- Durvasula, Karthik & **Adam Liter**. “Learning generalisations in the face of ambiguous data.” *Annual Meeting on Phonology (AMP)*, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC.

## CONFERENCE TALKS

- 2014 **Liter, Adam**. “Toward an explanatory account of appositives.” *Graduate Workshop of the American Midwest and Prairies (GWAMP)*, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD

- LING 419E – “Investigating Linguistic Competence: Theory and Methods”** Fall 2020  
*Department of Linguistics, University of Maryland, College Park, MD*
- [Syllabus](#)
  - Designed & taught advanced undergraduate seminar with 8 students
  - Adapted format for online teaching due to COVID-19 pandemic
  - Graded & held office hours

### TA

- LING 312 – “Syntax II”** Spring 2021  
*Department of Linguistics, University of Maryland, College Park, MD*
- Co-taught course (≈ 15 students) with Juan Uriagereka
  - Graded & held office hours

## LING 311 – “Syntax I”

Spring 2020

*Department of Linguistics, University of Maryland, College Park, MD*

- Graded & held office hours
- Helped with transition to online teaching due to COVID-19 pandemic

## LING 200 – “Introductory Linguistics”

Fall 2018, Spring 2019

*Department of Linguistics, University of Maryland, College Park, MD*

- Taught 1 discussion section ( $\approx$  30 students)
- Graded & held office hours

## IAH 204 – “Asia and the World”

Fall 2015, Spring 2016

*Department of Linguistics and Languages, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI*

- Taught 3 discussion sections ( $\approx$  20 students each)
- Graded & held office hours

## TUTORING

### Departmentwide Undergraduate Tutor

Fall 2013, Spring 2014

*Department of Philosophy, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI*

- Tutored peers in all undergraduate philosophy courses weekly

## UNDERGRADUATE MENTORING

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### SPRING 2020

- Katie Kincaid
  - *Passives are known by everyone (even four-year olds)*
  - Poster presented at [UMD’s Undergraduate Research Day](#)

### FALL 2018

- Bekki Kline
  - *Acquisition of the English Passive*
  - Poster presented at [UMD Acquisition Lab poster session](#)

### SUMMER 2018

- Rosetta Previti
  - *What factors make passives easier for children to understand?*
  - Poster presented at [Language Science Day 2018](#)

### 2015 – 2016

- Tess Huelskamp
  - *Reassessing the Verbal Distinction of the Maratsos Effect*
  - Poster presented at [GLEEFUL](#) & [UURAF](#); talk given at [MSULC](#)
- Julia Andary, Robert Felster, & Natalie Chemey

- *It is either high or low: Investigating children's and adult's understanding of 'or'*
- Poster presented at [UURAF](#) & [MSULC](#)
- Rachel Stacey & Adam Smolinski
  - *C-or-pus: How children learn the properties of 'either/or'*
  - Poster presented at [UURAF](#) & [MSULC](#)

## 2014 – 2015

- Tess Huelskamp, Susima Weerakoon, & Adam Smolinski
  - *Seeking perfection in death*
  - Poster presented at [UURAF](#), [MSULC](#), & [GLEEFUL](#)
- Tess Huelskamp, Susima Weerakoon, & Taylor Sydow
  - *What underlies the Maratsos Effect, agentivity or eventivity?*
  - Poster presented at [UURAF](#), [MSULC](#), & [GLEEFUL](#)

## 2013 – 2014

- Tess Huelskamp & Emily Glaser
  - *An Artificial Language Investigation of Number & Number Neutrality*
  - Poster presented at [UURAF](#) & [MSULC](#)
- Adam Greene & Kevin Kain
  - *Accounting for Comprehension Asymmetries in Children's Acquisition of the Passive*
  - Poster presented at [UURAF](#) & [MSULC](#)

## ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

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### SERVICE

<b>COSIAC Committee Member</b> <i>Linguistic Society of America, Washington, DC</i>	07/2015 – present
<b>Organizing Committee Member</b> <i>Mayfest 2020 – 2020 Hindsight, University of Maryland, College Park, MD</i>	2019 –
<b>Organizing Committee Member</b> <i>Mayfest 2019 – WSCLA, University of Maryland, College Park, MD</i>	05/2019
<b>Co-Chair</b> <i>ECO-5, University of Maryland, College Park, MD</i>	02/2019
<b>Organizing Committee Member</b> <i>Mayfest 2018, University of Maryland, College Park, MD</i>	05/2018
<b>Organizing Committee Member</b> <i>MidPhon 21, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI</i>	09/2016
<b>President</b> <i>qUALMS, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI</i>	08/2012 – 05/2014

Chair ('13 & '14), Vice Chair ('11 & '12) <i>GLEEFUL</i> , Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI	04/2011, 04/2012, 04/2013, 04/2014
Vice Chair ('13 & '14), Chair ('11 & '12) <i>MSULC</i> , Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI	04/2011, 04/2012, 04/2013, 04/2014

## MANUSCRIPT REVIEWER

<i>Language Acquisition</i>	2020
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## CONFERENCE ABSTRACT REVIEWER

<i>GLEEFUL</i>	2015, 2016, 2017
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## EDITORIAL BOARD

Assistant Editorial Board Member <i>Stance</i> , Ball State University, Muncie, IN	2012 – 2014
Student Editorial Board Member <i>ReCUR</i> , Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI	2013

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member <i>Linguistic Society of America</i>	2012 – present
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## SKILLS

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### LANGUAGES

**Native** English (specifically, *North-Central American English*)

**Intermediate** German, French

**Beginner** Spanish, Brazilian Portuguese

### COMPUTING

**Advanced**  $\text{\LaTeX}$ , R (including knitr, Shiny), Linux, git, Docker, HTML, Jekyll

**Intermediate** Python (including NumPy, pandas), nginx, CSS, PsychoPy, E-Prime, psiTurk

**Beginner** JavaScript, CLAN, Praat, CorpusSearch, Django