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WEBSITE bchap.ca

EDUCATION **McGill University**, Montréal, QC, Canada

M.A., Linguistics 2023 – 2025
Thesis: *v*-al-ency: Causative-Applicative syncretism in Wolof (expected)
Committee: [Martina Martinović](#) and [Luis Alonso-Ovalle](#) (co-supervisors)

B.A., Computer Science & Linguistics 2019 – 2022
Thesis: *A Negative Alternation: Negation Head Movement Allomorphy in Igala*
Supervisor: Martina Martinović

Vanier College, Montréal, QC, Canada

D.C.S., Computer Science Technology 2016 – 2019

PAPERS To appear. A Negative Alternation: Negation Head Movement Allomorphy in Igala. *Selected papers from the 54th Annual Conference on African Linguistics*. Contemporary African Linguistics: Language Science Press, 12. [\[pre-pub\]](#)

2023. Unravelling the ‘not’: left peripheral blocking of negation in Kirundi. *Toronto Working Papers in Linguistics*, 46(1). [\[paper\]](#)

PRESENTATIONS **Conferences & Workshops**

2024. Irrealis mood enclosed negation in Igala. Sentential Negation Across the Globe Workshop ([SNAG 2024](#)). Université Paris Cité (Laboratoire de Linguistique Formelle). September 5-6. [\[handout\]](#)

2023. A negative alternation: Negation head movement allomorphy in Igala. 54th Annual Conference on African Linguistics ([ACAL 54](#)). University of Connecticut. June 12-14. [\[handout\]](#)

2022. Focusing on Negation in Kirundi. 1st Toronto-Montreal Bantu Colloquium ([Ba-ToM 1](#)). University of Toronto. May 27-28. [\[handout\]](#)

Other

2022. Igala Sentence-Final Particles at the edge of *v*P. Arts Undergraduate Research Event. McGill University. October 18. [\[poster\]](#)

2022. Genealogic Approach to Low-Resource Language Modelling. [MILA \(Quebec AI Institute\)](#) Poster Presentation. April 26.

AWARDS **Graduate Research Enhancement and Travel (GREAT) Award**. *Travel funding for SNAG Workshop in Paris*. Funded by the Faculty of Arts at McGill University via the Department of Linguistics. September 5-6 2024. \$750 (CAD).

Canada Graduate Scholarship - Master’s (CGS-M). *Left-peripheral properties of Negation in Niger-Congo*. Funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). 2024–2025 (12 months). \$27,000 (CAD).

Graduate Mobility Award (GMA). *Travel funding for 5 weeks of Thesis-related fieldwork in Senegal*. Funded by the Government of Quebec via McGill University. Summer 2024. \$1,800 (CAD).

Undergraduate Arts Research Internship Award (ARIA). *Igala Sentence-Final Particles at the edge of vP*. Funded by the Faculty of Arts at McGill University. Summer 2022. \$5,000 (CAD).

EMPLOYMENT	Teaching Assistant , McGill University	
	LING 360 - Introduction to Semantics	Fall 2024
	LING 371 - Syntax 1	Winter 2025
	Research Assistant , Martina Martinović, MULL Lab	2021 – 2023
	Igala (Volta-Niger) and Wolof (Atlantic) elicitation and annotation	
	Build and maintain Igala Wiki and MULL Lab Website	
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FIELDWORK	Igala (Yoruboid; Volta-Niger) , remotely (Nigeria & UK)	since May 2021
	Supervision by Martina Martinović	
	Wolof (Senegambian; Atlantic) , Saint-Louis & Dakar, Senegal	
	Research assistant for Martina Martinović	Apr – May, 2023
	M.A. thesis fieldwork	Jun – Jul, 2024
	Kirundi (JD.62; Great Lakes Bantu) , Montréal	Jan – Jun, 2022
	As part of Jessica Coon ’s Field Methods class (LING 415)	
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SERVICES	Mentorship & Outreach	
	Program for Undergraduate Research in Linguistics (PURL)	
	Emma Custer (mentee): Syntax of Igala perfectives	Winter 2024
	North American Computational Linguistics Open Competition (NACLO)	
	Training session leader	2024, 2025
	Reading Groups & Labs	
	Montreal Underdocumented Languages Linguistics Lab (MULL Lab)	
	(Co-)organizer	2023, 2024
	McGill Syntax-Semantics Reading Group (Syn-Sem)	
	Co-organizer	2023, 2024
	Conferences & Colloquia	
	55th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL 55), McGill	
	Organizing committee	2023 – 2024
	McGill Linguistics Colloquium Series	
	Co-organizer	2024, 2025
	Reviewing	
	55th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL 55), McGill	
	Abstract reviewer	2023
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TECHNICAL SKILLS	Systems/Software: Linux, Git, Docker, ELAN, Praat	
	Languages: Python, Java, Javascript, Kotlin, PHP, SQL, NodeJS, R, C# (.NET), Bash, C, L ^A T _E X	
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NATURAL LANGUAGES	Native: Français (Québec), English	
	Intermediate: 日本語	
	Elementary: Deutsch, Русский, español	
	Fieldwork/Structure: Igala (Volta-Niger), Wolof (Atlantic-Congo), Kirundi (Bantu), Tseltal and Tsotsil (Mayan), Tlingit, Eyak, and Navajo (Na-Dene)	