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WEBSITE bchap.ca

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

M.A., Linguistics 2023 – 2025
Thesis: *v-al-ency: Two sources of causation in the Wolof Causative-Benefactive syncretism*
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 2016 – 2019
D.C.S., Computer Science Technology

NON DEGREE **ESSLLI**, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany Summer 2025
[36th European Summer School in Logic, Language and Information](#)

PAPERS In Press. 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 371 - Syntax 1	Winter 2025
	LING 360 - Introduction to Semantics	Fall 2024
	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	
FIELDWORK	Igala (Yoruboid; Volta-Niger) , remotely (Nigeria & UK)	since May 2021
	Supervision by Martina Martinović	
	Wolof (Senegambian; Atlantic) , Saint-Louis & Dakar, Senegal	
	Fieldwork for collaborative project	June 2025
	M.A. thesis fieldwork	Jun – Jul 2024
	Research assistant for Martina Martinović	Apr – May 2023
	Kirundi (JD.62; Great Lakes Bantu) , Montréal	Jan – Jun, 2022
	As part of Jessica Coon 's Field Methods class (LING 415)	
SERVICES	Mentorship & Outreach	
	GitHub Website Workshop for Linguistics Graduate Students, McGill	Winter 2025
	Co-organizer	
	NACLO (North American Computational Linguistics Open Competition)	2024, 2025
	Training session leader	
	PURL (Program for Undergraduate Research in Linguistics), McGill	Winter 2024
	Emma Custer (mentee): Syntax of Igala perfectives	
	Reading Groups & Labs	
	Syn-Sem Reading Group , McGill	2023, 2024
	Co-organizer	
	MULL Lab (Montreal Underdocumented Languages Linguistics Lab)	2023, 2024
	(Co-)organizer	
	Conferences & Colloquia	
	McGill Linguistics Colloquium Series	2024, 2025
	Co-organizer	
	ACAL 55 (55th Annual Conference on African Linguistics), McGill	2023 – 2024
	Organizing committee	
	Reviewing	
	ACAL 55 (55th Annual Conference on African Linguistics), McGill	2023
	Abstract reviewer	
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	

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)