

# Brian Buccola

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Language, Logic, and Cognition Center  
Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
Mount Scopus  
Jerusalem, Israel

☎ +1 312-945-6857 (US)  
☎ +972 58-745-6857 (Israel)  
✉ [brian.buccola@gmail.com](mailto:brian.buccola@gmail.com)  
🌐 [brianbuccola.com](http://brianbuccola.com)

## EMPLOYMENT

2015–                      Postdoctoral fellow  
Language, Logic, and Cognition Center  
Hebrew University of Jerusalem

## EDUCATION

2010–2015              Ph.D., Linguistics, McGill University.  
Dissertation: *Maximality in the Semantics of Modified Numerals*  
Supervisory committee: Luis Alonso-Ovalle (co-supervisor), Bernhard Schwarz  
(co-supervisor), Michael Wagner (member)

2014                      Visiting student, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.  
Sponsor: Kai von Fintel

2009–2010              Qualifying Year Program, McGill University.  
(Permits strong candidates to make up gaps in their background by taking appropriate undergraduate courses.)

2004–2008              B.S., Mathematics, Honors College, Loyola University Chicago.  
B.A., Classics, Honors College, Loyola University Chicago.

1999–2004              Jesuit High School New Orleans.

## Summer Schools

2013                      European Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information (ESS-LLI 2013), Düsseldorf, Germany.

2012                      North American Summer School of Logic, Language, and Information (NASSLLI 2012), Austin, TX.

## SCHOLARSHIP

### Journal Articles

- in press      Brian Buccola and Benjamin Spector. Modified numerals and maximality. To appear in *Linguistics and Philosophy*. 2016. URL: <http://ling.auf.net/lingbuzz/002528>.
- 2012      Bernhard Schwarz, Brian Buccola, and Michael Hamilton. Two types of class B numeral modifiers: A reply to Nouwen 2010. In: *Semantics and Pragmatics* 5.1 (Feb. 2012), pp. 1–25. DOI: 10.3765/sp.5.1.

### Proceedings Papers

- in press      Brian Buccola. Severing maximality from *fewer than*: evidence from genericity. To appear in *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung* 20. 2016. URL: <http://ling.auf.net/lingbuzz/002847>.
- 2015      Brian Buccola. Variable monotonicity and *less than*: when Van Benthem’s problem is not a problem. In: *Proceedings of the 45th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS 45)*. Ed. by Thuy Bui and Deniz Özyıldız. Vol. 1. 2015, pp. 125–134. URL: <http://ling.auf.net/lingbuzz/002512>.
- 2013      Brian Buccola. On the Expressivity of Optimality Theory versus Ordered Rewrite Rules. In: *Proceedings of Formal Grammar 2012 and 2013*. Ed. by Glyn Morrill and Mark-Jan Nederhof. Vol. 8036. Lecture Notes in Computer Science. Berlin Heidelberg: Springer-Verlag, 2013, pp. 142–158. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-642-39998-5\_9. URL: <http://ling.auf.net/lingbuzz/002513>.

### Presentations

#### *Peer-reviewed Conferences*

- 2016      Brian Buccola. Modified and unmodified numerals: lessons from genericity. Talk presented at the workshop on the semantic contribution of Det and Num. (In)definiteness, genericity, and referentiality, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. May 2016.
- 2015      Brian Buccola. Severing maximality from *fewer than*: Evidence from genericity. Talk presented at Sinn und Bedeutung 20, Tübingen, Germany. Nov. 2015.

- 2015 Brian Buccola. Modified numerals, plurality, and boundedness. Talk presented at the Syntax and Semantics of Numerals workshop, Societas Linguistica Europaea. Nov. 2015.
- 2014 Brian Buccola. Global economic constraints: the case of Van Benthem's problem. Poster presented at the 45th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS), Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Oct. 2014.
- 2014 Brian Buccola and Morgan Sonderegger. On the expressivity of Optimality Theory versus rules: An application to opacity. Talk presented at the 88th Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Society of America, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Jan. 2014.
- 2013 Brian Buccola and Morgan Sonderegger. On the expressivity of Optimality Theory versus rules: An application to opaque patterns. Poster presented at Phonology 2013, UMass Amherst. Nov. 2013.
- 2013 Brian Buccola. On the Expressivity of Optimality Theory versus Ordered Rewrite Rules. Talk presented at the 18th conference on Formal Grammar, Düsseldorf, Germany. Aug. 2013.

#### *Local Workshops*

- 2016 Brian Buccola and Andreas Haida. Authoritative readings of superlative modified numerals. Poster presented at the annual Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Brain Sciences (ELSC) retreat, Ein Gedi, Israel. Jan. 2016.
- 2014 Brian Buccola. *Less than*, lower bounds, and distributivity/collectivity. Toronto-Ottawa-Montreal (TOM) semantics workshop, University of Toronto. Apr. 2014.
- 2013 Brian Buccola. A mathematical demonstration that classic Optimality Theory is expressively weaker than ordered rewrite rules. Montreal-Ottawa-Toronto (MOT) phonology workshop, University of Ottawa. Mar. 2013.
- 2012 Brian Buccola. The nature of epistemic implications arising from superlative quantifiers. Toronto-Ottawa-Montreal (TOM) semantics workshop. Mar. 2012.

- 2011 Brian Buccola. Phrasal and clausal comparatives: the *di* vs. *che* puzzle in Italian. Toronto-Ottawa-Montreal (TOM) semantics workshop, University of Toronto. Apr. 2011.

### Invited Talks

- 2016 Brian Buccola. Bare numerals and scalar implicatures in generic sentences. Invited talk presented at the LLCC Seminar, LLCC, Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Mar. 2016.
- 2015 Brian Buccola. Modified and unmodified numerals: lessons from genericity. Invited colloquium talk presented at Tel Aviv University. Nov. 2015.
- 2015 Brian Buccola. Maximal informativity and numeral modifiers: the case of *between*. Invited talk presented at the Leiden-Utrecht Semantics Happenings (LUSH) research group, Utrecht University. Nov. 2015.

### Edited Volumes

- 2014 Brian Buccola, Michael Hamilton, Alanah McKillen, and James Tanner, eds. *Proceedings from the Sixth Toronto-Ottawa-Montreal (TOM) Workshop in Semantics*. Vol. 24. McGill Working Papers in Linguistics 1. McGill University. Feb. 2014. URL: <https://www.mcgill.ca/mcgwpl/archives/volume-241-2014>.
- 2013 Alanah McKillen and Brian Buccola, eds. *Proceedings from the First Montreal-Ottawa-Toronto-Hamilton (MOTH) Workshop in Syntax*. Vol. 23. McGill Working Papers in Linguistics 1. McGill University. June 2013. URL: <https://www.mcgill.ca/mcgwpl/archives/volume-231-2013>.

### TEACHING

#### As Instructor

- Summer 2014 Introduction to Linguistics (LING 201), McGill University.  
Course description: introduction to the techniques of linguistic analysis; topics covered included phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics. Class size: 30.

## As Teaching Assistant

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Winter 2014 | <p>Phonetics (LING 330), McGill University.</p> <p>Duties included: weekly lecture (2 hours/week); office hours; grade assignments, midterm exam, and final exam.</p> <p>Instructor: Morgan Sonderegger.</p>               |
| Fall 2013   | <p>Semantics (LING 360), McGill University.</p> <p>Duties included: three lectures; office hours; grade assignments, midterm exam, and final exam.</p> <p>Instructor: Brendan Gillon.</p>                                  |
| Winter 2013 | <p>Phonetics (LING 330), McGill University.</p> <p>Duties included: weekly lecture (2 hours/week); office hours; grade assignments, midterm exam, and final exam.</p> <p>Instructor: Morgan Sonderegger.</p>               |
| Fall 2012   | <p>Semantics (LING 360), McGill University.</p> <p>Duties included: two lectures; office hours; grade assignments, midterm exam, and final exam.</p> <p>Instructor: Brendan Gillon.</p>                                    |
| Winter 2012 | <p>Phonetics (LING 330), McGill University.</p> <p>Duties included: weekly lecture (2 hours/week); office hours; grade assignments, midterm exam, and final exam.</p> <p>Instructor: Heather Goad.</p>                     |
| Fall 2011   | <p>Phonology I (LING 331), McGill University.</p> <p>Duties included: weekly lecture (1 hour/week); office hours; grade quizzes, assignments, midterm exam, and final exam.</p> <p>Instructor: Tobin Skinner.</p>          |
| Winter 2011 | <p>Phonetics (LING 330), McGill University.</p> <p>Duties included: weekly lecture (2 hours/week); office hours; grade quizzes, assignments, midterm exams, and final exam.</p> <p>Instructor: Sara Mackenzie.</p>         |
| Fall 2010   | <p>Intro to Linguistics (LING 201), McGill University.</p> <p>Duties included: weekly lecture (2 hours/week); office hours; grade quizzes, assignments, midterm exam, and final exam.</p> <p>Instructor: Tanya Slavin.</p> |
| Fall 2010   | <p>Neuroscience of Language (LING 370), McGill University.</p> <p>Duties included: grade assignments, midterm exam, and final exam.</p> <p>Instructor: Isabelle Deschamps, Andrea Santi.</p>                               |

## SERVICE

### Reviewing

- 2016 The MIT Press (1 book manuscript), IATL 32
- 2015 Journal of Semantics (1 journal article manuscript), NELS 46

### Other

- 2015– Organizer (with Andreas Haida), LLCC Semantics-Pragmatics Reading Group, Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
- 2015 Department publications manager, McGill University.  
Compiled a database of department publications for 2014, in Bib<sub>T</sub><sub>E</sub><sub>X</sub> format, for the department's Annual Report.
- 2013–2015 Organizing committee, Syntax-Semantics Research Group, McGill University.
- 2012–2014 Co-editor, McGill Working Papers in Linguistics (McGWPL).
- 2013 Organizing committee, Exploring the Interfaces 2: Implicatures, Alternatives, and the Semantics-Pragmatics Interface (ETI 2), McGill University.
- 2012 Graduate student representative for syntax job hire, McGill University.
- 2011–2012 Co-editor, McGill Linguistics Blog (McLing).

## AWARDS

- 2014 Faculty of Arts Graduate Student Teaching Award (\$500).  
University-wide, nomination-only award, which “recognizes outstanding teaching in the Faculty by graduate students.”
- 2014 Centre for Research on Brain, Language and Music (CRBLM) Graduate Travel Award (\$700).
- 2013 Graduate Student Travel Award, McGill University (\$1,500).
- 2013 Lara Riente Memorial Prize in Linguistics, Department of Linguistics, McGill University (\$500).

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|-----------|--|
| 2012–2013 | Cremona Memorial Fellowship in Linguistics, Department of Linguistics, McGill University (\$8,479).          |
| 2012–2013 | Graduate Excellence Fellowship, McGill University (\$7,000).   |
| 2012      | NASSLLI full scholarship (tuition, fees, accommodation, travel stipend) (\$410).                             |
| 2011–2012 | Graduate Excellence Fellowship, McGill University (\$6,500).   |
| 2010–2011 | Graduate Enrolment Recruitment Initiative, McGill University (\$5,000).                                      |
| 2010–2011 | McCall MacBain Award, McGill University (\$10,000).  |
| 2007–2008 | National SMART Grant (Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent), Loyola University Chicago (\$4,000). |
| 2004–2008 | National Merit Finalist Scholarship, Loyola University Chicago (~\$100,000).                                 |

## HONORS AND ASSOCIATIONS

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 2015 (joined)   | The Societas Linguistica Europaea.                                      |
| 2012 (joined)   | The Centre for Research on Brain, Language and Music, Montréal, Canada. |
| 2012 (joined)   | The Linguistic Society of America.                                      |
| 2008 (inducted) | Phi Beta Kappa.   |
| 2004            | National Merit Scholar.   |
| 1999 (accepted) | Mensa.  |

## LANGUAGES

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| English        | Native   |
| Italian        | Fluent   |
| French, German | Conversational; proficient in reading, writing |

|              |                                     |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| Latin, Greek | Proficient in translation; research |
| Spanish      | Working knowledge; research         |
| Hebrew       | Beginner                            |

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

Linux shell (Bash, Zsh); Python, Haskell; Git;  $\LaTeX$ , Bib $\TeX$ ; HTML, CSS; Praat.

## NON-ACADEMIC INTERESTS

History and philosophy of math and science.

Early American blues (Delta) and jazz (New Orleans).

Linux,  $\LaTeX$ , and other computery things.

Brewing beer, cooking.

Chess, puzzles.