

Brian Buccola

CONTACT INFORMATION

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EMPLOYMENT

2015– Postdoctoral fellow
 Language, Logic, and Cognition Center
 The 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](#).

Summer Schools

2013 European Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information ([ESSLI 2013](#)), Düsseldorf, Germany, Aug 2013.

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

SCHOLARSHIP

Journal Articles

under review Brian Buccola and Benjamin Spector. Modified numerals and maximality. Under review at *Linguistics & Philosophy*, 2015. [[pdf](#)]

2012 Bernhard Schwarz, Brian Buccola, and Michael Hamilton. Two types of class B numeral modifiers: A reply to Nouwen 2010. *Semantics and Pragmatics*, 5(1):1–25, February 2012. [[doi](#)]

Proceedings Papers

in prep. Brian Buccola. Severing maximality from *fewer than*: Evidence from genericity. In *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 20*, in prep. [[pdf](#)] (handout)

2015 Brian Buccola. Variable monotonicity and *less than*: when Van Benthem’s problem is not a problem. In Thuy Bui and Deniz Özyıldız, editors, *Proceedings of the 45th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS 45)*, volume 1, pages 125–134, 2015. [[pdf](#)]

2013 Brian Buccola. On the expressivity of Optimality Theory versus ordered rewrite rules. In Glyn Morrill and Mark-Jan Nederhof, editors, *Proceedings of Formal Grammar 2012 and 2013*, volume 8036 of *Lecture Notes in Computer Science*, pages 142–158, Berlin Heidelberg, 2013. Springer-Verlag. [[pdf](#)]

Presentations

Peer-reviewed Conferences

2015 Brian Buccola. Severing maximality from *fewer than*: Evidence from genericity. Talk presented at Sinn und Bedeutung 20, Tübingen, Germany, 11 September 2015.

- 2015 Brian Buccola. Modified numerals, plurality, and boundedness. Talk presented at the Syntax and Semantics of Numerals workshop, Societas Linguistica Europaea, 03 September 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, 31 October 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, 03 January 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, 09 November 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, 11 August 2013.

Local Workshops

- 2014 Brian Buccola. *Less than*, lower bounds, and distributivity/collectivity. Toronto-Ottawa-Montreal (TOM) semantics workshop, University of Toronto, 12 April 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, 16 March 2013.
- 2012 Brian Buccola. The nature of epistemic implications arising from superlative quantifiers. Toronto-Ottawa-Montreal (TOM) semantics workshop, 10 March 2012.
- 2011 Brian Buccola. Phrasal and clausal comparatives: the *di* vs. *che* puzzle in Italian. Toronto-Ottawa-Montreal (TOM) semantics workshop, University of Toronto, 09 April 2011.

Invited Talks

- 2015 Brian Buccola. Modified and unmodified numerals: lessons from genericity. Invited colloquium talk presented at Tel Aviv University, 19 November 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, 07 September 2015.

Edited Volumes

- 2014 Brian Buccola, Michael Hamilton, Alanah McKillen, and James Tanner, editors. *Proceedings from the Sixth Toronto-Ottawa-Montreal (TOM) Workshop in Semantics*, volume 24 of *McGill Working Papers in Linguistics*. McGill University, February 2014. [[issue](#)]
- 2013 Alanah McKillen and Brian Buccola, editors. *Proceedings from the First Montreal-Ottawa-Toronto-Hamilton Workshop in Syntax*, volume 23 of *McGill Working Papers in Linguistics*. McGill University, June 2013. [[issue](#)]

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 Phonetics (LING 330), McGill University.
Duties included: weekly lecture (2 hours/week); office hours; grade assignments, midterm exam, and final exam.
Instructor: [Morgan Sonderegger](#).

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

2015 Journal of Semantics, NELS 46

Other

2015– Organizer (with [Andreas Haida](#)), LLCC Semantics-Pragmatics Reading and Research Group, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

2015 Department publications manager (in charge of compiling a database of department publications for 2014, in Bib_TEX format, for the department’s Annual Report), McGill University.

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: Implications, Alternatives, and the Semantics-Pragmatics Interface ([ETI 2](#)), McGill University, Apr–Jun 2013.

2012 Graduate student representative for syntax job hire, McGill University, May–Jun 2012.

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).

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

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Linux shell (Bash, Zsh); Python, Haskell; Git; \LaTeX , \BibTeX ; 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.

Last updated: 27 Nov 2015