

Robert E. Lewis Jr.

Last Updated: 27 January 2021

Department of Linguistics
The University of Chicago
1115 E. 58th St.
Chicago, IL 60637 USA

Email: r.lewis@uwinnipeg.ca

Research Interests

Potawatomi, language revitalization, discourse markers, language pedagogy, morphology and syntactic theory, law

Education

- 2020 Ph.D. in Linguistics, The University of Chicago
Dissertation: *Potawatomi Discourse Markers*
Committee: Amy Dahlstrom (chair), Itamar Francez, Lenore Grenoble
- 2013 M.A. in Linguistics, University of Kansas
Thesis: *Complementizer Agreement in Najdi Arabic*
Committee: Harold Torrence (chair), Jason Kandybowicz, Andrew McKenzie
- 2011 B.A. in Linguistics, University of Kansas
- 2010 A.A. in Liberal Arts, Haskell Indian Nations University

Academic Positions

- 2021- Assistant Professor, The University of Winnipeg

Publications

Papers

- to appear Robert E. Lewis Jr. The Scattered Evidential System of Potawatomi. *Papers of the 51st Algonquian Conference*.
- 2019 Robert E. Lewis Jr. Theme signs in Potawatomi as object agreement and the inverse. *Papers of the 48th Algonquian Conference*, ed. by Monica Macaulay and Margaret Noodin, 123-142. Michigan State University Press.
- 2017 Robert E. Lewis Jr. There's no mii in Potawatomi: The diachronic nature of six discourse markers in the Ojibwe-Potawatomi branch. *Proceedings of the 43rd Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistic Society*, ed. by Julia Nee, Margaret Cychosz, Dmetri Hayes, Tyler Lau and Emily Ramirez, 483-496. Berkeley Linguistics Society.

Edited volumes

- 2016 Ershova, Ksenia, Joshua Falk, Jeffrey Geiger, Zachary Hebert, **Robert E. Lewis Jr.**, Patrick Munoz, Jacob B. Phillips, and Betsy Pillion, eds. *Proceedings of the Fifty-First Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society. CLS*.

Reviews

- 2020 Robert E. Lewis Jr. Review of Michael D. Sullivan Sr.. *Relativization in Ojibwe*. University of Nebraska Press. 2020. *International Journal of American Linguistics*, 581-583.

Presentations

- upcoming Robert E. Lewis Jr. *The Immediate Future Tense in Potawatomi*. 23rd Workshop on American Indigenous Languages. Santa Barbara, California, USA.
- 2021 Robert E. Lewis Jr. *Towards a Grammar of Potawatomi Interjections*. Presentation at The Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas, San Francisco, California, USA.
- 2020 Robert E. Lewis Jr. *A History of Potawatomi Language Planning and Policy: Education Funding from 1819 to 1848*. 52nd Algonquian Conference. Madison, Wisconsin, USA.
- Robert E. Lewis Jr. *The Evidential System of Potawatomi*. Presentation at The University of Chicago's Workshop on Language, Variation and Change, Chicago, Illinois, USA.
- Robert E. Lewis Jr. *Narrative Structure of a Potawatomi Text*. Presentation at The Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA.
- 2019 Robert E. Lewis Jr. *The Scattered Evidential System of Potawatomi*. Presentation at The 51st Algonquian Conference, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.
- 2018 Robert E. Lewis Jr. *Additivity in Potawatomi*. Presentation at The University of Chicago's Workshop on Language, Variation and Change, Chicago, Illinois, USA.
- Robert E. Lewis Jr. *Potawatomi mine: conjunction, adverbial, adjectival, and additive focus particle*. Presentation at Workshop in General Linguistics 15, Madison, Wisconsin, USA.
- Robert E. Lewis Jr. *Learning how to advocate for community language rights: Citizen Potawatomi Nation*. Presentation at Let's Talk In Our Own Words: Native Language Revival and Preservation in the Indigenous Americas, South Bend, Indiana, USA.
- 2017 Robert E. Lewis Jr. *The Potawatomi particle na: How and where to use it*. Presentation at The 49th Algonquian Conference, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.
- Robert E. Lewis Jr. *Wi can help to focus and cleft: Towards an understanding of the Potawatomi particle wi*. Presentation at Workshop in General Linguistics 14, Madison, Wisconsin, USA.
- Robert E. Lewis Jr. *The Potawatomi particle gé: An additive, coordinator, and possibly a topic marker*. Presentation at Illinois Language and Linguistics Society 9, Urbana, Illinois, USA.
- Robert E. Lewis Jr. *Indigenous Languages of North America*. Guest Lecture for The University of Chicago's Languages of the World, Chicago, Illinois, USA.
- Robert E. Lewis Jr. *There's no mii in Potawatomi: The diachronic nature of six discourse markers in the Ojibwe-Potawatomi branch*. Presentation at The 43rd Berkeley Linguistic Society, Berkeley, California, USA.
- 2016 Robert E. Lewis Jr. *Theme signs in Potawatomi as object agreement and the inverse*. Presentation at The 48th Algonquian Conference, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA.

Cherry Meyer and **Robert E. Lewis Jr.** *Ojibwe and Potawatomi*. Guest Lecture for The University of Chicago's Languages of the World, Chicago, Illinois, USA.

Robert E. Lewis Jr. *Information structure conditioned word order in Potawatomi*. Presentation at The Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas, Washington D.C., USA.

2015 Robert E. Lewis Jr. *Determining that Potawatomi word order is pragmatically conditioned*. Presentation at The 47th Algonquian Conference, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

Fellowships and Grants

2021 Endangered Language Fund.
Native Voices Endowment Grant: *Building Potawatomi Verbs*. \$10,000.

2019-20 The University of Chicago, Division of the Humanities.
Mellon Humanities Dissertation Completion Fellowship.

2018 Endangered Language Fund.
Native Voices Endowment Grant: CoLang Fellowship. \$2,559.

2017-18 American Philosophical Society.
Phillips Fund for Native American Research: *Discourse Markers in Potawatomi*. \$2,800.

2012 United State Department of Education
Foreign Languages and Areas Studies Fellowship. Arabic, Morocco.

Teaching Experience

The University of Winnipeg

2021 Winter *Lecturer*, Language Revitalization.

The University of Chicago

2018 Winter *Lecturer*, Introduction to Morphology.

University of Kansas

2013 Spring *Lecturer*, Introduction to Linguistics.

2012 Fall *Lecturer*, Introduction to Linguistics.

Work Experience

2018-2019 Linguist, Forest County Potawatomi Community.

2017 Summer Linguistic Curricula Developer, Forest County Potawatomi Community.

2016 Summer Linguistic Curricula Developer, Forest County Potawatomi Community.

Research Project Mentorship

2018 Summer Project Supervisor for a Odyssey Scholar:
Department of Linguistics, The University of Chicago.
Supervised an undergraduate who worked through Potawatomi texts to look for a possible same object vs. different object system for the conjunction particles *mine* and *=the*.

Service

- 2014-2015 Officer/organizer, The 51st Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistics Society.
- 2013-present Abstract reviewer, Chicago Linguistic Society.
- 2012-2013 Colloquium organizer, University of Kansas Linguistics Colloquiums.

Professional Societies

- Member, Linguistic Society of America.
- Member, Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas.

Languages

- Natural English (native), Potawatomi, French, Spanish, Modern Standard Arabic.
(*in decreasing order of proficiency*)
- Research Najdi Arabic.
- Programming \LaTeX , python, java.