

## FELICIA BISNATH

[fbisnath@umich.edu](mailto:fbisnath@umich.edu) | <https://fbisnath.github.io/>

---

### EDUCATION

- 2019-2024 **PhD in Linguistics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor**  
Advisor: Dr. Savithry Namboodiripad
- 2016-2018 **rM.A. in Linguistics, University of Amsterdam (UvA)**  
Thesis: *wh-questions in the Trinidad and Tobago Signing Community*  
Supervisors: Dr. Roland Pfau & Professor Enoch O. Aboh  
Available at: <http://www.scriptiesonline.uba.uva.nl/scriptie/658796>
- 2015-2016 **B.A. in Linguistics (Major), Speech and Language Pathology (Minor) (First Class Honours), University of the West Indies (UWI)**  
Thesis: *Higgins' Taxonomy of Copular Clauses in Trinidadian French Creole*  
Supervisor: Dr. Jo-Anne Ferreira
- 

### AWARDS

- 2020 **"(A)Symmetries in spoken and signed languages" (German Science Foundation)**  
Travel grant to present at LinG3 (€500,00)
- 2019 **Rackham Conference Travel Grant (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor)**  
Travel grant to present a poster at TISLR13 conference (University of Hamburg, Germany) (\$1050.00)
- 2018 **University of Amsterdam Horizon Fund**  
Travel grant to present at IGDAL 6 conference (University of Haifa, Israel) (€300.00)
- 2015-2016 **University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago**  
John Reinecke Memorial Prize for Linguistics  
Douglas Taylor Prize for Caribbean Linguistics  
Departmental Prize for Linguistics Research  
**University of the West Indies Development and Endowment Fund Star Scholarship** (\$TT15,000.00, approximately \$US2,300.00)
- 

### PUBLICATIONS

- 2018 Felicia Bisnath & Silvia De Grandis. 2018. A Diachronic Study of Transparency in Sranan. *Linguistics in Amsterdam 11*(2). 179-210
- 

### PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 *Wh-questions in the Trinidad and Tobago Signing Community* at

- Chicago Linguistics Society (CLS56) at the University of Chicago.  
April 30th-May 2nd, 2020 (Talk)
- Wh-questions in the Trinidad and Tobago Signing Community* at  
Linguistics in Göttingen 3 (LinG3) at Georg-August-Universität,  
Göttingen, Germany. February 5-6th, 2020 (Talk)
- 2019 *Wh-questions in the Trinidad and Tobago Signing Community* at  
Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research 13 (TISLR13) at the  
University of Hamburg, Germany. September 26-28th, 2019 (Poster)
- 2018 *Verb Types in Trinidad and Tobago Sign Language (TTSL)* at the International  
Conference for Graduate Students on Diverse Approaches to Linguistics 6  
(IGDAL6) at the University of Haifa, Israel. 23 April, 2018 (Talk)
- 2017 *Quantifiers in NGT: A Corpus Study* at the T.W.I.S.T. Student Conference at  
the University of Leiden, The Netherlands. 21-22 April, 2017 (Poster)  
*A Diachronic Study of Transparency in Sranan* with Silvia De Grandis at the  
38th TABU Dag Conference at the University of Groningen, The  
Netherlands. 22-23 June, 2017 (Poster)
- 2016 *Higgins' Taxonomy of Copular Clauses in Trinidadian French Creole* at the 21st  
Biennial Conference of the Society for Caribbean Linguistics (SCL) at the  
University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica. August 1-6, 2016 (Talk)

---

## TEACHING

- Sep-Dec 2018* **University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad & Tobago**  
**(Department of Modern Languages & Linguistics)**  
**Part-Time Lecturer**, Structure and Usage of Caribbean Sign  
Language II (LING2820)  
**Substitute tutor** (6 classes), Introduction to Language (LING 1005)  
**Guest lecturer** (Tuesday October 30th, 2018), Language  
Acquisition (LING 2101): "Sign Language Acquisition"

---

## OTHER ACADEMIC TRAINING

- Sep 2019* **Doing Reproducible and Rigorous Science with Deaf Children, Deaf  
Communities, and Sign Languages: Challenges and Opportunities at the  
Department of Deaf Studies and Sign Language Interpreting,  
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany. 23 September, 2019.**  
Pre-conference meeting of TISLR13 aiming to move toward a set of Deaf-  
informed, community-appropriate, scientific best practices for Sign  
Language Linguistics and Deaf Studies
- Jan 2018* **LOT Winter School 2018 at the Vrije University, Amsterdam. 8-19  
January, 2018**

	Courses on the neurobiology of language, language evolution, phonetics and phonology and multilingualism
<i>May 2017</i>	<b>SIGN-HUB LABEX Summer School in Sign Language Linguistics in Gargnano. 8-12 May, 2017</b>
	Courses on sign language information structure, phonology and syntax
<i>Jul 2016</i>	<b>Research internship, Jamaican Language Unit, University of the West Indies, Mona</b>
	<u>Supervisor</u> : Prof. Hubert Devonish
	<u>Content</u> : Compilation of preliminary grammar of Aruban English Creole

---

## WORK EXPERIENCE

<i>April 2016</i>	Orthographic transcription (English) of 2.8 hours of focus group data (3-5 participants) for the Centre for Language Learning, UWI, St. Augustine
<i>Oct-Nov 2018</i>	Orthographic transcription (English) of 15 hours of interview data

---

## SERVICE

<i>2016</i>	<b>President of the University of the West Indies Linguistics Society</b>
-------------	---

---

## RESEARCH SKILLS

R, Eudico Linguistic Annotator (ELAN), Python for Data Science

---

## LANGUAGES

English (native), Trinidadian English Creole (native), Trinidad and Tobago Sign Language (beginner), American Sign Language (beginner)