

Jamie Y. Findlay

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Syntax, semantics, grammatical theory and the syntax-semantics interface (especially Lexical Functional Grammar and Glue Semantics), philosophy of language, pragmatics, (critical) discourse analysis, language & gender, language & sexuality.

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Since Oct. 2019 Departmental Lecturer in Syntax, University of Oxford.

Since Oct. 2019 Stipendiary Lecturer in Linguistics, Jesus College, University of Oxford.

Oct. 2018–
Sept. 2019 Stipendiary Lecturer in Linguistics, St Hugh's College, University of Oxford.

EDUCATION

2015–2019 **D.Phil.** in Comparative Philology & General Linguistics.
University of Oxford.

Thesis title: *Multiword expressions and the lexicon*. [pdf]

Supervisors: Ash Asudeh, Mary Dalrymple.

2012–2014 **M.Phil.** (with distinction) in General Linguistics & Comparative Philology.
University of Oxford.

Thesis title: *The prepositional passive: a Lexical Functional account*.

Supervisor: Mary Dalrymple.

2011 Graduate Programme in Linguistics.
McGill University.

Attended for one term. GPA 3.92.

2007–2011 **B.A.** (with First Class Honours) in Modern Languages (French) & Linguistics.
University of Oxford.

TEACHING QUALIFICATIONS

2017 SEDA-PDF Supporting Learning award.

Mapped to Descriptor 1 of the UK Professional Standards Framework: equivalent to Associate Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

My portfolio submission is available online [here](#).

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Since July 2012 Freelance linguistic consultant on various NLP tasks.

Dec. 2014–
Oct. 2015 Research Assistant, Oxford English Dictionary, Oxford University Press.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Note: My publications and talks are given on pp. 6ff. This section gives details of some recent projects, with (clickable) cross-references to related publications and talks.

Multiword expressions and the lexicon

[syntax, semantics]

- OVERVIEW:** My D.Phil. thesis ([1]) gives an analysis of multiword expressions (MWEs), especially idioms. It argues against approaches which conceive of idioms like *spill the beans* as being made up special versions of *spill* and *beans*, and in favour of approaches which reaffirm the mixed nature of MWEs as partially word-like and partially phrase-like. It then develops a concrete example of the latter kind of theory, integrating insights from Tree-Adjoining Grammar into the Lexical Functional Grammar architecture.
- OUTCOMES:** I have presented this work at peer-reviewed conferences for computational linguists ([16]), theoretical syntacticians ([14]), and for more general linguistics audiences ([12]). The work has also appeared in the proceedings of two of these conferences ([6], [7]). I have also organised a collaboration with researchers at the Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main, where I conducted a research visit in June 2018.
- FUTURE WORK:** I have a number of psycholinguistic experiments planned to test the validity of certain theoretical claims, and also intend to delve more deeply into the semantic properties of idioms. Sascha Bargmann, Manfred Sailer and I are developing a semantic theory of the ‘extended’ use of idioms, exemplified in e.g. *Once this cat is out of the bag, a lot of people are going to get scratched*, where the underlying metaphor is used to make sense of a figurative continuation ([9], [10], [19], [22]). I ultimately plan to synthesise these findings with my thesis work into a book.

Honorification in Korean

[pragmatics]

- OVERVIEW:** Yoolim Kim and I have been developing a formal account of honorification in Korean. Little attention has been paid to how the *target* of honorification (the honoured one) is identified, and we give a novel analysis of this problem.
- OUTCOMES:** We have presented this work at the annual meeting of the LAGB ([13]) and at LangUE, a postgraduate student conference at the University of Essex ([15]), as well as at a number of informal venues.
- FUTURE WORK:** We intend to submit an article to the *Journal of Pragmatics* in the near future.

Discourses of homosexuality

[sociolinguistics, corpus linguistics]

- OVERVIEW:** I conducted a short research project using corpus linguistic and critical discourse analysis tools to examine the UK House of Lords debates on same-sex marriage in 2013. This contributed to a growing literature both on debates around same-sex marriage legislation and also on implicit homophobia.
- OUTCOMES:** My findings were reported at the IGALA conference in 2014 ([18]) and published in the *Journal of Language and Sexuality* ([3]).
- FUTURE WORK:** I would like to continue this research by examining parliamentary debates from other countries where discursive norms differ in interesting ways, such as the focus on family values and religion in Uganda or the USA.

TEACHING

I have taught **syntax, semantics & pragmatics, sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics**, and **general linguistics** at both the introductory and advanced undergraduate level. At the graduate level, I have TA-ed classes in **syntax, phonology**, and **formal foundations of linguistics** (an introduction to set theory, logic, and formal language theory for linguists). This teaching experience covers small group and tutorial settings, larger classes, and lectures, including designing tutorial courses and lecture series. I hold a SEDA-PDF Supporting Learning award (see above).

Note: In this section, years shown stand for the academic year which starts in that calendar year (e.g. 2017 = the 2017/18 academic year).

University of Oxford

Note: At Oxford, 'Prelims' = first year undergraduate level; 'FHS (Final Honour School)' = advanced undergraduate level.

As course convenor

- 2019 Prelims Grammatical Analysis.
An introduction to both syntax and morphology.
- 2018 FHS Psycholinguistics.

As lecturer

- 2019 Graduate Advanced Syntax ('Contemporary syntactic theory').
- 2019 Graduate Introduction to Syntax.
- 2018 Prelims Psycholinguistics.
- 2017 Prelims Semantics & pragmatics.
- 2016–2017 Occasional lectures in undergraduate and graduate syntax.

As tutor

- 2018–2019 FHS General Linguistics (group size: 2–3).
A survey module which covers the historical developments of linguistic theory since the 19th century along with some big-picture questions about e.g. the nature of variation in language or the possibility of an adequate semantic theory.
- 2014, 2018–2019 Prelims General Linguistics (group size: 2).
An introductory course which covers topics in general linguistics proper, along with psycholinguistics, semantics & pragmatics, sociolinguistics, and historical linguistics.
- 2014, 2018–2019 Prelims Grammatical Analysis (group size: 3–6).
- 2018 FHS Psycholinguistics (group size: 1–3).
- 2017–2018 FHS Sociolinguistics (group size: 1–3).
- 2014–2017 FHS Semantics & Pragmatics (group size: 1–3).
- 2014–2016 FHS Syntax (group size: 1–3).

As TA

- 2017–2018 Graduate Formal Foundations of Linguistics (group size: ~25).
An introduction to set theory, logic, and formal language theory for linguists.
- 2015–2016 Graduate Introduction to Syntax (group size: ~25).
- 2014 Graduate Introduction to Phonology (group size: 12).

Irregular classes

- 2016, 2018 ‘Language and identity: the view from linguistics’.
An introduction to sociolinguistics for first year English language and literature undergraduates.
Handout available [here](#).
- 2017 Graduate class on corpus methods in sociolinguistics.
- 2016–2017 Workshops: ‘ \LaTeX basics’, ‘Advanced topics in \LaTeX ’.
Two workshops to introduce graduate students in linguistics to \LaTeX .
Handouts available [here](#) and [here](#).

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- May 2018 Scatcherd European Scholarship.
Value: £1,000.
- Mar. 2018 Santander Academic Travel Award.
Value: £1,000.
- 2015–2017 Professor Paul Slack Scholarship, Linacre College, University of Oxford.
All fees covered; total value: ~£14,000.
- 2015–2017 AHRC Studentship, Faculty of Linguistics, Philology & Phonetics, University of Oxford.
Total value: £28,353.
- July 2014 George Wolf Prize for best overall performance in the M.Phil. or M.St. degree, Faculty of Linguistics, Philology & Phonetics, University of Oxford.
- June 2014 Graduate student essay prize, International Gender and Language Association.
- 2012–2014 AHRC Studentship, Faculty of Linguistics, Philology & Phonetics, University of Oxford.
Total value: ~£38,000.
- 2011 McCall McBain Fellowship, McGill University.
Total value: ~CAN\$62,000 for 2 years; partially declined.
- 2008–2011 Casberd Scholarship, St. John’s College, University of Oxford.
Awarded for achieving a distinction in first year examinations. Total value: ~£900.

SERVICE

To the department

- 2019–2020 Personal tutor and ‘Linguistics Organising Tutor’, Jesus College.
Providing pastoral support and coordinating teaching for undergraduate linguistics students.
- 2018–2020 Member of Undergraduate Studies Committee, Faculty of Linguistics, Philology & Phonetics, University of Oxford.
- 2015–2019 Admissions interviewing for undergraduate degrees involving linguistics, University of Oxford.

- 2018–2019 Personal tutor and Linguistics Organising Tutor, St Hugh’s College.
- 2017–2018 Co-founder and co-convenor, D.Phil. workshop, Faculty of Linguistics, Philology & Phonetics, University of Oxford.
- 2017 Convenor (Hilary Term), Syntax Working Group, University of Oxford.

To the profession

- Grant reviewer Narodowe Centrum Nauki (Polish National Science Centre) (2019).
- Manuscript reviewer *Poznan Studies in Contemporary Linguistics* (2019), *Journal of Language and Sexuality* (2019), *Proceedings of the LFG Conference* (2018, 2019), *Corpora and Discourse Studies* (2018), *Journal of Linguistics* (2015, 2017).
- Abstract reviewer *International Lexical Functional Grammar Conference* (2019), *Conference of the Student Organisation of Linguistics in Europe (ConSOLE)* (2018).
- Marker UK Linguistics Olympiad (since 2014).
- Copy editor *Journal of Language Modelling* (since 2017).

LANGUAGES

- Natural English (native), French (near-fluent), Latin (intermediate), German (basic).
- Programming Bash (Unix shell), Python.
- Markup \LaTeX / \BibTeX , HTML/CSS.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Since 2017 Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL).
- Since 2014 International Lexical Functional Grammar Association (ILFGA).
- Since 2012 Canadian Linguistic Association (CLA/ACL).
- Since 2011 Linguistics Association of Great Britain (LAGB).
- Since 2011 International Gender and Language Association (IGALA).

SCHOLARSHIP

Note: To the right of each item below, I provide, where possible, a link to an accessible version. When that is a published version, I indicate its Open Access status by making the text [gold](#) or [green](#).

Thesis

- [1] **2019** Jamie Y. Findlay. *Multiword expressions and the lexicon*. D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. [\[thesis\]](#)

Articles in Refereed Journals and Books

- [2] **2019** Mary Dalrymple and Jamie Y. Findlay. Lexical Functional Grammar. In András Kertész, Edith Moravcsik, and Csilla Rákosi (eds.), *Current approaches to syntax: a comparative handbook*, 123–154. De Gruyter Mouton. [\[paper\]](#)
- [3] **2017** Jamie Y. Findlay. Unnatural acts lead to unconsummated marriages: discourses of homosexuality within the House of Lords debate on same-sex marriage. *Journal of Language and Sexuality* 6(1), 30–60. [\[paper\]](#)
- [4] **2016** Jamie Y. Findlay. Mapping theory without argument structure. *Journal of Language Modelling* 4(2), 293–338. [\[paper\]](#)
- [5] **2013** Janak Bechar, Jamie Y. Findlay, and Joseph Hardwicke. Understanding medical words of Greek and Latin origin. *Student BMJ* 21. [\[paper\]](#)

Articles in Refereed Conference Proceedings

- [6] **2017** Jamie Y. Findlay. Multiword expressions and lexicalism. In Miriam Butt and Tracy Holloway King (eds.), *Proceedings of the LFG'17 Conference*, 209–229. Stanford, CA: CSLI Publications. [\[paper\]](#)
- [7] **2017** Jamie Y. Findlay. Multiword expressions and lexicalism: the view from LFG. In *Proceedings of the 13th Workshop on Multiword Expressions (MWE 2017)*, 73–79. Association for Computational Linguistics. [\[paper\]](#)
- [8] **2016** Jamie Y. Findlay. The prepositional passive in Lexical Functional Grammar. In Doug Arnold, Miriam Butt, Berthold Crysmann, Tracy Holloway King, and Stefan Müller (eds.), *Proceedings of the Joint 2016 Conference on Head-driven Phrase Structure Grammar and Lexical Functional Grammar*, 255–275. Stanford, CA: CSLI Publications. [\[paper\]](#)

Refereed Presentations

- [9] **30 Mar., 2019** Extended idioms as metaphors. Joint work with Sascha Bargmann and Manfred Sailer. Poster presented at the Conference on the Creative Power of Metaphor, Worcester College, University of Oxford. [\[poster\]](#)
- [10] **24 Jan., 2019** Why the butterflies in your stomach can have big wings: combining formal and cognitive theories to explain productive extensions of idioms. Joint work with Sascha Bargmann and Manfred Sailer. Presented at the International Conference of the Europäische Gesellschaft für Phraseologie (EUOPHRAS 2019): Productive Patterns in Phraseology, Santiago de Compostela, Spain. [\[slides\]](#)

- [11] **18 July, 2018** Lexical and grammatical meaning: attributive adjectives in French. Joint work with Hannah Senior. Presented at the 23rd International Lexical Functional Grammar Conference, University of Vienna. [slides]
- [12] **8 Mar., 2018** Conspiracy theories: the problem with lexical approaches to idioms. Presented at the Workshop on One-to-Many Relations in Morphology, Syntax and Semantics at the 40th Annual Meeting of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Sprachwissenschaft (DGfS 2018), Universität Stuttgart. [slides]
- [13] **6 Sept., 2017** The logic of Korean honorification. Joint work with Yoolim Kim. Presented at the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Association of Great Britain (LAGB 2017), University of Kent, Canterbury. [slides]
- [14] **27 July, 2017** Multiword expressions and lexicalism. Presented at the 22nd International Lexical Functional Grammar Conference, University of Konstanz. [handout]
- [15] **15 June, 2017** When the subject honorific brings honour to all: the expanding role of pragmatics in Korean honorification. Joint work with Yoolim Kim. Presented at the 12th Language at the University of Essex Postgraduate Conference (LangUE 2017), Colchester. [slides]
- [16] **4 Apr., 2017** Multiword expressions and lexicalism: the view from LFG. Poster presented at the 13th Workshop on Multiword Expressions (MWE 2017), Valencia. [poster]
- [17] **29 July, 2016** The prepositional passive in Lexical Functional Grammar. Presented at the Joint 2016 Conference on Head-driven Phrase Structure Grammar and Lexical Functional Grammar (HeadLex16), Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw. [handout]
- [18] **5 June, 2014** Unnatural acts lead to unconsummated marriages: discourses of homosexuality in the House of Lords revisited. Presented at the 8th International Gender and Language Association Conference, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver. [handout]

Invited Talks

- [19] **27 Nov., 2018** When the cat you let out of the bag has claws: the role of metaphor in understanding idioms. Presented at the Linguistics and English Language Research Seminar, University of Manchester. [slides]
- [20] **25 June, 2018** How (not) to analyse multiword expressions. Presented at the Linguistics Oberseminar, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main. [slides]
- [21] **31 Jan., 2017** The pseudopassive: not so phoney after all. Presented at the Linguistics Departmental Seminar Series, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London. [handout]

Other Presentations

- [22] **4 Aug., 2018** Pulling a pretence rabbit out of the hat. Joint work with Sascha Bargmann and Manfred Sailer. Presented (by Manfred Sailer) at the Workshop on Form-Meaning Mismatches in Natural Language (FMM2018), Georg-August-Universität Göttingen. [slides]
- [23] **26 May, 2018** Lexicalised LFG. Presented at the 25th South of England LFG Meeting, SOAS, London. [handout]
- [24] **13 May, 2017** When the subject honorific brings honour to all: the expanding role of pragmatics in Korean honorification. Joint work with Yoolim Kim. Presented at the 23rd South of England LFG Meeting, SOAS, London. [slides]

- [25] **4 Feb., 2017** Multiword expressions and lexicalism. Presented at the 22nd South of England LFG Meeting, SOAS, London. [handout]
- [26] **20 Feb., 2016** Idioms in LFG. Presented at the 19th South of England LFG Meeting, SOAS, London. [handout]
- [27] **1 Nov., 2014** Mapping theory without argument structure. Presented at the 15th South of England LFG Meeting, SOAS, London. [handout]
- [28] **22 Oct., 2013** The pseudopassive: a Lexical Functional account. Presented at the MPhil/PRS Thesis Workshop, University of Oxford. [handout]
- [29] **8 May, 2013** The pseudopassive in LFG: some preliminary thoughts. Presented at the Syntax Working Group, University of Oxford. [handout]