Gretchen Kern
Curriculum Vitae
Fall, 2023

grekern@alum.mit.edu
https://grekern.github.io/

Areas of specialization

Phonology, language revitalization, language documentation, philology, morphology, syntax, Irish, Sahaptin (Ičiškíin)

Professional experience

2023 – present	**Owens Valley Career Development Center**, Visalia, CA Nüümü Yadoha Language Program Language Manager I oversee a language program of up to 25 employees that teaches seven indigenous languages (and culture) at multiple urban and rural sites across seven counties in central California.
2019 – 2022	**Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation**, Pendleton, OR Language Program, Department of Education Tribal Linguist I helped preserve the three languages of the reservation by documenting language with fluent speakers, creating teaching materials, and improving the quality of the archives.
2015 – 2018	**IPSoft, Inc.**, New York, NY Research & Development Corpus Linguist I improved the performance of artificial intelligence language understanding and generation by providing training data in eight languages and advising engineers with linguistic insights.

Education

2010 – 2015	**Massachusetts Institute of Technology**, Cambridge, MA Department of Linguistics and Philosophy PhD in Linguistics (specialization in phonology) Dissertation: *Rhyming Grammars and Celtic Phonology* Committee: Donca Steriade (chair), Adam Albright, Edward Flemming
2009 – 2010	**University of Wisconsin-Madison**, Madison, WI Department of Linguistics MA in Linguistics Thesis: *On Secondary Stress in Old Irish* Advisor: Marlys Macken
2007 – 2009	**Aberystwyth University**, Aberystwyth, Wales, UK Department of Welsh MA in Irish Thesis: *Ogam Inscriptions of Ireland: A relative chronology based on linguistic evidence* Advisor: Patrick Sims-Williams
1999 – 2003	**University of Southern California**, Los Angeles, CA Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures BA in East Asian Languages and Cultures (specialization in Japanese)
2002	**Waseda University**, Tokyo, Japan Center for International Education Study abroad exchange program, spring semester

Publications

Submitted	Kern, G. The phonetic basis of early Irish rhyme: An analysis of sonority contours in *Saltair na Rann*. *Ériu*.
2022	Geary, J. & G. Kern. Word order variation in interrogative sentences in Northwest Sahaptin texts. *Proceedings of WAIL 24.* https://sites.google.com/view/wailconferenceucsb/proceedings

Other manuscripts

2022	Papáču Ímatalam Sínwit
A six-chapter textbook for intermediate Umatilla Sahaptin, covering conversation, grammar, and vocabulary, with practice exercises. Written with and for the CTUIR Language Program.
2022	Úyit Ímatalam Sínwit
A twelve-chapter textbook for beginning Umatilla Sahaptin, covering conversation, grammar, and vocabulary, with practice exercises, glossaries and indices. Written with and for the CTUIR Language Program. Used with UMA101 at Blue Mountain Community College and at Nixyáawi Community High School.
2020	Gilbert Minthorn Texts
Edited a collection of five historical tales collected by Morris Swadesh from Cayuse/Nez Perce speaker Gilbert Minthorn in 1930. The texts had been translated and glossed by Noel Rude.

Conference presentations & posters

2022	Geary, J. & G. Kern. *Word order variation in interrogative sentences in Northwest Sahaptin texts.* 24th Workshop on American Indigenous Languages (WAIL24), UC Santa Barbara.
2021	Kern, G. & J. Geary. *Developing teaching materials for the Umatilla Sahaptin language: Balancing insights from linguistic theory with learners' communicative needs.* Poster, 39th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL39). University of Arizona (online).
2015	Kern, G. *Syntactically unjustified morphs and other strategies for hiatus resolution in Irish prepositions.* 12th Old World Conference in Phonology, Universitat de Barcelona.
2014	Kern, G. *The (Dis)use of the syllable in the rhymes of Dafydd ap Gwilym.* 34th Harvard Celtic Colloquium. Harvard University.
2013	Kern, G. *Old Irish Pronouns, Agreement and Disagreement.* 33rd Harvard Celtic Colloquium. Harvard University.
2012	Kern, G. *Aspects of Old and Middle Irish Rhyme.* 32nd Harvard Celtic Colloquium. Harvard University.
2012	Kern, G. *Perceptual Similarity in Sonority Contours: Evidence from Early Irish Rhyming Patterns.* 7th Celtic Linguistics Conference, Université Rennes 2, France.
2012	Kern, G. *Perceptual Similarity in Sonority Contours: Evidence from Early Irish Rhyming Patterns.* Poster, 20th Manchester Phonology Meeting. University of Manchester, England.
2010	Kern, G. *On Secondary Stress in Old Irish.* 32nd Annual University of California Celtic Studies Conference, UCLA.

Invited talks & workshops

2023	Kern, G. *Sounds and Writing.* 1st Annual Yokuts, Miwok, and Mono Conference. Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians Language Program, Coarsegold, CA.
2012	Kern, G. *Rhyme and Meter in Early Irish Verse.* Literary Linguistics Research Group. University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland.

2012	Kern, G. *The Phonetic Basis of Early Irish Rhyme.* Indo-European Workshop, Harvard University.
2012	Kern, G. *Perceptual Similarity in Sonority Contours: Evidence from Early Irish Rhyming Patterns.* MIT Phonology Circle.

Grants & awards

2022 - 2025	Administration for Native Americans Native Languages Preservation & Maintenance Grant Grantee: Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation This funds the creation of a three-textbook series, with accompanying video lessons and audio recordings, as well as hiring three language apprentices.
2022	Bureau of Indian Affairs Living Languages Grant Grantee: Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation This funded the hiring of a preschool Umatilla immersion teacher for one year, the development of immersion curriculum, and a variety of classroom supplies.
2021	Administration for Native Americans Non-competitive funding Grantee: Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation This grant funded the professional digitization of the CTUIR's physical audio recordings and the collection of information about the content of the recordings to enter into the digital archives.
2020	National Endowment for the Humanities CARES Act grant Grantee: Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation This grant funded hiring two oral historians and to create professionally recorded video interviews with tribal elders about prior experience with pandemics and natural disasters.
2012	Association Francophone de la Communication Parlée Conference travel funding.
2010	US Department of Education Foreign Language and Area Studies Summer Fellowship, through the UW-Madison. This funded six weeks of intensive Irish study at Oideas Gael in Donegal, Ireland.
2009	Diebold Fellowship in Indo-European Studies Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute funding This covered tuition at the LSA Summer Institute at UC Berkeley.

Teaching experience

Blue Mountain Community College, Pendleton, OR

Fall 2022	UMA101, Introduction to Umatilla (teaching assistant, course developer) Instructor: Fred Hill
Fall 2021	UMA101, Introduction to Umatilla (teaching assistant, course developer) Instructor: Fred Hill, co-teaching assistant: Jonathan Geary
Spring 2021	UMA101, Introduction to Umatilla (teaching assistant, course developer) Instructor: Fred Hill, co-teaching assistant: Jonathan Geary

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA

Fall 2013	24.961 (graduate introduction to phonology) (teaching assistant) Instructor: Michael Kenstowicz

Fall 2012	24.900 (undergraduate introduction to linguistics) (teaching assistant) Instructor: David Pesetsky

TESOL experience

Fall 2004	Lycée de l'Elorn. Landerneau, France, through the Teaching Assistant Program in France USA English teaching assistant (Assistante d'anglais)
Spring 2003	University of Southern California Language Academy. Los Angeles, CA Classroom assistant

Courses & workshops

2022	University of Chicago Language Center Assessment-Driven, Reverse-Designed Language Pedagogy
2021	Center for Applied Linguistics Assessment for Language Instructors: The Basics
2019	Africa Consultants International, Dakar, Senegal 40 hours of French and Wolof courses
2019	Durban Language School, Durban, South Africa CELTA (Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages), 120-hour TEFL course
2011	Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies, Dublin, Ireland Two-week intensive Old and Classical Modern Irish course
2010	Oideas Gael, Gleann Cholm Cille & Gleann Fhinne, Co. Donegal, Ireland Six-week intensive Modern Irish language course
2009	University of California, Berkeley Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute
2009	University of Arizona, Tucson Formal Approaches to Celtic Linguistics Mini-course
2008	Welsh for Adults, Aberystwyth, Wales Week-long intensive Welsh course

Certifications

2019	CELTA (Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)
2017	Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) N1

Service

2021 – 2023	MIT Alumni Association Educational Council, Oregon & Fresno, CA, chapters. Alumni interviewer for undergraduate admissions
2021	Two Rabbits, Washington, D.C. Finance and administrative support for ASTRADHE, Cameroon
2013	Graduate Women@MIT Co-chair, Graduate Orientation Women's Welcome Lunch
2012 – 2013	MIT Linguistics Department Student representative
2010	UW-Madison Linguistics Department Organizing committee, Workshop in General Linguistics 8

Technology

Python (nltk, sci-kitlearn), RegEx, Linux, praat

Languages

Native: English
Advanced: Japanese (JLPT N1), French
Intermediate: Modern Irish, Haitian Creole, Umatilla Sahaptin
Novice: Welsh, Wolof, Nez Perce