

# Henrik Discher *Curriculum vitae*

📍 Freie Universität Berlin  
Institut für Deutsche und Niederländische Philologie  
Habelschwerdter Allee 45  
14195 Berlin

☎ + 49 (0) 30 383 65498

✉ henrik.discher@fu-berlin.de

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## Research interests

Variational pragmatics, variational linguistics and dialectology, semantics and pragmatics, sociolinguistics, experimental pragmatics and psycholinguistics, experimental methods and statistical modelling

## Current position

Since 01/2023                      Research associate (Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter) at Freie Universität Berlin, “Variational pragmatics of German: Comparing communicative patterns”, principal investigators: Tanja Ackermann, Christa Dürscheid, Stephan Elspaß, Horst Simon

## Previous positions

01/2021 – 09/2022              Research assistant (Wissenschaftliche Hilfskraft) at the University of Potsdam, “Scales in language processing and acquisition (SPA)”, principal investigator: Nicole Gotzner

06/2020 – 02/2021              Student assistant (Studentische Hilfskraft) at Leibniz-Centre General Linguistics (ZAS), “Experimental game theory and scalar implicatures: Investigating variation in context and scale type (SIGames)”, principal investigator: Anton Benz

## Education

Since 01/2023                      Dr. phil. in Linguistics, Freie Universität Berlin

04/2020 – 09/2022              M.A. in Linguistics, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, final grade: 1.1

10/2016 – 02/2020              B.A. in German studies and Mathematics, Freie Universität Berlin, final grade: 1.2

## Theses

Pragmatic inferences of gradable adjectives in German: The effect of scale structure, polarity, and negation on the interpretation of absolute and relative adjectives  
M.A. thesis supervised by Berit Gehrke and Nicole Gotzner

Das Berlinische und seine Verbreitung: Eine Merkmalanalyse des Berliner Sprachgebrauchs um 1880 am Beispiel historischer Wenkerbogen  
B.A. thesis in German studies supervised by Klaas-Hinrich Ehlers and Horst Simon

## Skills

<i>Language</i>	German (native), English (C1), French (B2)
<i>Coding</i>	R, Python, HTML, JavaScript
<i>Experimental tools</i>	PCIBex, ScoSci Survey
<i>Annotating tools</i>	Praat, EXMARaLDA, ANNIS

**Conference proceedings**

Alexandropoulou, Stavroula, Henrik Discher, Marisha Herb, & Nicole Gotzner. 2022. Incremental pragmatic interpretation of gradable adjectives: The role of standards of comparison. *Proceedings of Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT)* 32. 481-497. <https://doi.org/10.3765/salt.v1i0.5399>

**Other publications**

Discher, Henrik & Janel Zoske. In press. Variationspragmatik: Bericht zur Tagung der Arbeitsgemeinschaft Linguistische Pragmatik (ALP e.V.) an der Universität zu Köln am 07. März 2023. *Zeitschrift für Germanistische Linguistik*.

**Conference presentations**

Ackermann, Tanja & Henrik Discher. 09-14 July 2023. *The impact of the factors 'nation' and 'region' on pragmatic variation in pluricentric German: First results*. Talk given at the 18th International Pragmatics Conference (IPrA), Université Libre de Bruxelles.

Alexandropoulou, Stavroula, Marisha Herb, Henrik Discher, & Nicole Gotzner. 22-23 September 2022. *Incremental processing of scalar inferences of adjectives: The role of comparison standards*. Talk given at the 9th Experimental Pragmatics Conference (XPRAG), IUSS Pavia.

Alexandropoulou, Stavroula, Marisha Herb, Henrik Discher, & Nicole Gotzner. 08-10 June 2022. *Incremental pragmatic interpretation of gradable adjectives: The role of standards of comparison*. Poster/alternate talk given at the 32th Semantics and Linguistic Theory Conference (SALT), El Colegio de México.

Alexandropoulou, Stavroula, Marisha Herb, Henrik Discher, & Nicole Gotzner. 06-08 May 2022. *Incremental processing of scalar implicatures of adjectives: The role of lexical semantics*. Online talk given at the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Department of Linguistics (AMGL), Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

Discher, Henrik. 17-21 November 2021. *Measure phrases as modifiers of negative adjectives*. Talk given at the 70th Studentische Tagung Sprachwissenschaft (StuTS), University of Vienna.

**Other presentations**

Discher, Henrik. 16 May 2023. *Variational pragmatics and discourse completion tasks*. Online talk given at the psychosemantics seminar by Nicole Gotzner at the University of Osnabrück.

Discher, Henrik. 14 December 2022. *Pragmatische Inferenzen in Deutsch und Englisch: Interpretation von absoluten und relativen Adjektiven im Sprachvergleich*. Talk given at the research colloquium by Ferdinand von Mengden at Freie Universität Berlin.

Discher, Henrik. 30 November 2022. *Warum bedeutet nicht gut nicht schlecht? Pragmatische Inferenzen von graduierbaren Adjektiven im Deutschen*. Talk given at the research colloquium on German grammar by Christian Zimmer at Freie Universität Berlin.

Discher, Henrik. 26 April 2022. *Scale structure and negation: Inferences of gradable adjectives in German*. Talk given at the syntax and semantics colloquium by Stefan Müller and Elisabeth Verhoeven at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

**Public outreach**

Discher, Henrik & Janel Zoske. 17 June 2023. *Essen und Höflichkeit: Regionale Variation von kommunikativen Routinen*. Talk given at Lange Nacht der Wissenschaften, Freie Universität Berlin.

### **Teaching**

Sprachwissenschaftliche Fragestellungen und Methoden, winter term 2023/2024, B.A. German studies, Freie Universität Berlin

### **Participation in summer schools**

Eastern Generative Grammar Summer School (EGG), 25 July – 05 August 2022, Masaryk University Brno

### **Organization of workshops**

9th Linguistik Meetup Berlin-Brandenburg, 29 September 2022, University of Potsdam

### **Membership**

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Sprachwissenschaft (DGfS)

International Pragmatics Association (IPrA)

### **References**

Horst Simon

Freie Universität Berlin

Habelschwerdter Allee 45

14195 Berlin

Nicole Gotzner

University of Osnabrück

Wachsbleiche 27

49090 Osnabrück

Berit Gehrke

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Unter den Linden 6

10099 Berlin

Berlin, 08 September 2023