

# Henrik Discher *Curriculum vitae*

📍 Freie Universität Berlin  
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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

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

## Publications

Alexandropoulou, S., Discher, H., Herb, M., & Gotzner, N. (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>

## Conference presentations

Alexandropoulou, S., Herb, M., Discher, H., & Gotzner, N. (2022, 22-23 September). *Incremental processing of scalar inferences of adjectives: The role of comparison standards*. Talk given at the 9th Experimental Pragmatics conference (XPRAG), University School for Advanced Studies IUSS Pavia.

Alexandropoulou, S., Herb, M., Discher, H., & Gotzner, N. (2022, 08-10 June). *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, S., Herb, M., Discher, H., & Gotzner, N. (2022, 06-08 May). *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, H. (2021, 17-21 November). *Measure phrases as modifiers of negative adjectives*. Talk given at the 70th Studentische Tagung Sprachwissenschaft (StuTS), University of Vienna.

## Colloquium presentations

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

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

Discher, H. (2022, 26. April). *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.

## 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

## References

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|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Horst Simon              | Nicole Gotzner          | Berit Gehrke                   |
| Freie Universität Berlin | University of Osnabrück | Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin |
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Berlin, 28. February 2022