

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

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

Language	German (native), English (C1), French (B2)
Coding	R, Python, HTML, JavaScript
Experimental tools	PClbex, ScoSci Survey
Annotating tools	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.

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

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