

John Sylak-Glassman

Curriculum Vitae

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Résumé available by request

Center for Language and Speech Processing
Johns Hopkins University
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Baltimore, MD 21218

Professional Experience

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, *Center for Language and Speech Processing* June 2014 - Present
Johns Hopkins University; P.I.: Prof. David Yarowsky

Education

Ph.D., Linguistics, **University of California, Berkeley** May 2014
Dissertation: *Deriving natural classes: The phonology and typology of post-velar consonants*
Committee: Sharon Inkelas (Chair), Andrew Garrett, Keith Johnson, Darya Kavitskaya
M.A., Linguistics, **University of California, Berkeley** May 2010
B.A. with General Honors, Linguistics with Honors, **University of Chicago** June 2008
Honors Thesis: *Lak verbal morphology*. Advisor: Victor Friedman.
Minor: Slavic Languages & Literatures (Russian)

Awards

Best Student Abstract Award, Linguistic Society of America 2013 Annual Meeting Sept. 2012
National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (NSF GRFP) - Apr. 2010
Honorable Mention
Phi Beta Kappa, Beta Illinois - University of Chicago Chapter (inducted as third-year undergraduate) Apr. 2007
Dean's List, University of Chicago (all years attended) 2004 - 2008

Grants and Fellowships

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (stipend plus tuition, fees, and benefits) June 2013
Robert L. Oswalt Graduate Student Support Endowment for Endangered Language Documentation Dec. 2012
(for Ditidaht Language Documentation Project)
Graduate Division Summer Grant (for Ditidaht Language Documentation Project) Apr. 2012
Robert L. Oswalt Graduate Student Support Endowment for Endangered Language Documentation Dec. 2011
(for Ditidaht Language Documentation Project)
Dean's Normative Time Fellowship (stipend plus tuition, fees, and benefits) June 2011
Graduate Division Summer Grant (for Máíjiki Language Documentation Project) Apr. 2011
Diebold Linguistics Graduate Fellowship (stipend plus non-resident tuition, fees, and benefits for first year of graduate school) June 2008

Beinecke Brothers Foundation Scholarship (supplemental support for graduate school)	Apr. 2007
Whirlpool Sons & Daughters Scholarship (support for college)	Apr. 2004

Publications

- SYLAK-GLASSMAN, JOHN** and KIROV, CHRISTO; MATT POST; ROGER QUE; and DAVID YAROWSKY. To appear (Fall 2015). A universal feature schema for rich morphological annotation and fine-grained cross-lingual part-of-speech tagging. *Proceedings of the Fourth International Systems and Frameworks for Computational Morphology Conference*. Berlin: Springer.
- SYLAK-GLASSMAN, JOHN**; CHRISTO KIROV; DAVID YAROWSKY; and ROGER QUE. To appear (July 2015). A language-independent feature schema for inflectional morphology. *Proceedings of the 53rd Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics and The 7th International Joint Conference of the Asian Federation of Natural Language Processing (ACL-IJCNLP 53)*. Stroudsburg, PA: Association for Computational Linguistics.
- SYLAK-GLASSMAN, JOHN**. 2014. The effects of post-velar consonants on vowels in Ditidaht. *Proceedings of the 49th Annual International Conference on Salish and Neighbouring Languages* ed. by Natalie Weber, Emily Sadlier-Brown, and Erin Guntly, 17-38. Vancouver, BC: University of British Columbia Working Papers in Linguistics.
- SYLAK-GLASSMAN, JOHN**. 2014. An emergent approach to the guttural natural class. In *Supplemental Proceedings of Phonology 2013*, ed. by John Kingston, Claire Moore-Cantwell, Joe Pater, and Robert Staubs. Washington, DC: Linguistic Society of America.
- SYLAK-GLASSMAN, JOHN**. 2013. Review of *Writing Quechua: The Case For a Hispanic Orthography* by David J. Weber. *International Journal of American Linguistics* 79(4): 580-582.
- SYLAK-GLASSMAN, JOHN**. 2013. Affix ordering in Imbabura Quichua. In *Structure and Contact in Languages of the Americas, Survey Reports, Vol. 15*, ed. by John Sylak-Glassman and Justin Spence, 311-335. Berkeley, CA: Survey of California and Other Indian Languages.
- SYLAK, JOHN**. 2013. Pharyngealization in Chechen is gutturalization. In *Proceedings of the 37th Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society*, ed. by Chundra Cathcart, Shinae Kang, and Clare S. Sandy, 81-95. Berkeley, CA: Berkeley Linguistics Society and Washington, DC: Linguistic Society of America.
- RIGGLE, JASON; MAX BANE; JAMES KIRBY; and **JOHN SYLAK**. 2011. Multilingual learning with parameter co-occurrence clustering. In *Proceedings of the 39th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (Volume 1)*, ed. by Suzi Lima, Kevin Mullin, and Brian Smith, 67-82. Amherst, MA: GLSA.
- SYLAK, JOHN**. 2008. Lak reduplication: Neither morphological nor phonological fixed segmentism, 15 pp. Reviewed and accepted for publication in *Chicago Working Papers in Linguistics*.
- RIGGLE, JASON; MAX BANE; EDWARD KING; JAMES KIRBY; HEATHER RIVERS; EVELYN ROSAS; and **JOHN SYLAK**. 2007. Erculator: A web application for constraint-based phonology. *University of Massachusetts Occasional Papers in Linguistics 36: Papers in Theoretical and Computational Phonology*, ed. by Michael Becker, 135-50. Amherst, MA: GLSA. Note: The Erculator program formed a basis for the current CLML program PyPhon.

Edited Volume

- JOHN SYLAK-GLASSMAN** and Justin Spence (eds.). 2013. *Structure and Contact in Languages of the Americas, Survey Reports, Vol. 15*. Berkeley, CA: Survey of California and Other Indian Languages.

Manuscripts in Preparation

SYLAK-GLASSMAN, JOHN; STEPHANIE FARMER; and LEV MICHAEL. Nasalization and nasal harmony in Máíjiki. 35 pp.

SYLAK-GLASSMAN, JOHN. The phonetic properties of voiced stops descended from nasals in Ditidaht. 22 pp.

Conference Presentations

SYLAK-GLASSMAN, JOHN. 30 June 2015. Grounding typological variation in articulatory reality: Place features for the post-velar consonants. Poster presented at *Phonetics and Phonology in Europe 2015 (PaPE 2015)*. University of Cambridge.

SYLAK-GLASSMAN, JOHN. 25 April 2015. Deriving natural classes using phonological entailments. Talk given at the *51st Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS 51)*. University of Chicago.

SYLAK-GLASSMAN, JOHN; STEPHANIE FARMER; and LEV MICHAEL. 19 May 2014. An Agreement by Correspondence analysis of Máíhiki nasalization harmony. Talk given at the *ABC↔Conference*. University of California, Berkeley. (Updated version of work presented at WSCLA 18.)

SYLAK-GLASSMAN, JOHN. 10 Nov. 2013. An emergent approach to the guttural natural class. Poster presented at *Phonology 2013*. University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

SYLAK-GLASSMAN, JOHN. 10 Aug. 2013. The effects of post-velar consonants on vowels in Ditidaht. Talk given at the *48th International Conference on Salish and Neighbouring Languages*. Victoria, BC, Canada.

SYLAK-GLASSMAN, JOHN. 5 Apr. 2013. An Agreement by Correspondence analysis of Máíhiki nasalization harmony. Talk given at the *18th Workshop on Structure and Constituency in Languages of the Americas (WSCLA 18)*. Berkeley, CA.

SYLAK-GLASSMAN, JOHN. 3 Jan. 2013. The phonetic properties of voiced stops descended from nasals in Ditidaht. Talk given at the *87th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America*. Boston, MA.

MICHAEL, LEV; STEPHANIE FARMER; and **JOHN SYLAK**. 26 Apr. 2012. La nasalidad silábica y la armonía nasal en Máíhiki [Syllabic nasality and nasal harmony in Máíhiki]. Talk given at *Amazonicas 4*. Lima, Perú.

SYLAK, JOHN. 9 Jan. 2012. Pharyngealization in Chechen is gutturalization. Poster presented at the *86th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America*. Portland, OR.

SYLAK, JOHN. 12 Feb. 2011. Pharyngealization in Chechen is not just pharyngeal. Talk given at the *37th Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society*. Berkeley, CA.

CAMPBELL, AMY; ANDREW GARRETT; HANNAH HAYNIE; JUSTIN SPENCE; RONALD SPROUSE; and **JOHN SYLAK**. 9 Jan. 2011. Geographical metadata in the California Language Archive. Poster presented at the *85th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America*. Pittsburgh, PA.

SYLAK, JOHN. 8 Jan. 2011. Exhaustive and restrictive syllabification in Bella Coola (Nuxalk). Talk given at the *85th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America*. Pittsburgh, PA.

SYLAK, JOHN. 10 Jan. 2009. Lak reduplication challenges OT fixed segmentism. Poster presented at the *83rd Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America*. San Francisco, CA.

RIGGLE, JASON; MAX BANE; and **JOHN SYLAK**. 5 Jan. 2008. Distinguishing grammars in multilingual learning using parameter co-occurrence. Talk given at the *82nd Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America*. Chicago, IL.

Invited Talks and Workshop Presentations

SYLAK, JOHN. 2 May 2011. Exhaustive and Restrictive Syllabification in Bella Coola (Nuxalk). *Phonetics and Phonology Workshop*, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University.

CHANG, WILLIAM; **JOHN SYLAK**; and MELINDA FRICKE. 5 Oct. 2009. Quichua phonology so far: A presentation of ongoing work by students in LING 240A (Field Methods). *Phonetics and Phonology Forum*, Department of Linguistics, University of California, Berkeley.

SYLAK, JOHN. 10 Jan. 2009. A one-stem approach to the Lak verb. Invited talk given at the *Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting* as part of the *2009 LSA Symposium on the Languages of the Caucasus*. San Francisco, CA.

Research Experience

Postdoctoral Fellow, *Center for Language and Speech Processing* June 2014 - Present
Johns Hopkins University; P.I.: Prof. David Yarowsky

Collaborating on developing methods to improve the handling of morphology by machine translation and natural language processing systems. Using findings from linguistic typology and descriptive theory, the project focuses on facilitating translation between many languages through a cross-linguistically applicable representation of the meanings encoded by morphology.

Graduate Student Researcher, *Survey of California and Other Indian Languages* Aug. 2010 - Aug. 2012
University of California, Berkeley; Supervisor: Prof. Andrew Garrett

Archived linguistic data in compliance with established best practices by organizing materials received (e.g. manuscripts, field notes, books, maps, reels, cassettes, CDs), accessioning them into the Survey's digital catalog, and storing them in an archivally-safe manner. Assisted migration of Survey and Berkeley Language Center digital catalogs to California Language Archive. Maintained Survey website and participated in the design of the California Language Archive (<http://cla.berkeley.edu/>). Provided access to archival materials for patrons from both academic and Native American communities, with a focus on facilitating digital access. Trained colleagues in digitizing and accessioning archival materials.

Graduate Student Researcher, *Phonology-Morphology Interface* Summer 2010
University of California, Berkeley; Supervisor: Prof. Sharon Inkelas

Collected example data and summarized theoretical findings and arguments on topics related to the phonology-morphology interface. This work is being used for an overview volume on the phonology-morphology interface being prepared by Prof. Sharon Inkelas. Topics for which data and theoretical arguments were provided: Morphologically conditioned phonology, process and non-concatenative morphology, templates, non-parallelism between phonological and morphological structure, phonology interfering with morphology, and paradigmatic effects.

Graduate Student Researcher, *Chechen Pharyngeal Consonants* Spring 2010
University of California, Berkeley; Supervisor: Prof. Johanna Nichols

Surveyed literature in Russian and English on pharyngealized consonants in Chechen to determine their phonetic, phonological, and historical characteristics. Used Praat scripting to extract acoustic measurements from digital recordings, and statistically analyzed data in *R*. This work formed the basis for Sylak (2013) "Pharyngealization in Chechen is Gutturalization."

Undergraduate Research Assistant, *Chicago Language Modeling Lab*
University of Chicago; Supervisor: Prof. Jason Riggle

Apr. 2007 - Aug. 2008

Collaborated as part of a team with the director of the Advanced Simulations Technologies Center at Argonne National Laboratory on conceptual details of incorporating a language module into the ENKIMDU simulation. Drafted progress reports for funding agencies. Compiled a comprehensive phonological feature chart to be used for computationally evaluating Optimality Theoretic constraints in Erculator. Co-wrote manual for Erculator program as a submission to *UMOP* 36. Provided and edited content for lab website. Beta-tested lab software.

Field Research Experience

<i>Language</i>	<i>ISO 639-3</i>	<i>Field Site</i>	<i>Duration</i>
Ditidaht	DTD	Nitinaht Lake (Malachan 11), British Columbia, Canada	5 weeks in summer 2012 (ongoing project)
Máíjiki	ORE	Nueva Vida, Loreto, Perú	8 weeks in summer 2011
Imbabura Quichua	QVI	Berkeley, CA (field methods class)	2009-2010 academic year

Primary Research Interests

Morphology; phonology, phonetics, and the phonetics-phonology interface; linguistic typology; description of endangered languages; computational linguistics, esp. improving NLP & MT by integrating linguistic knowledge

Teaching and Mentoring Experience

Linguistics Research Apprenticeship Practicum (LRAP) Spring 2013 - Spring 2014
University of California, Berkeley; Department of Linguistics

Currently mentoring an undergraduate doing phonological typology research on post-velar consonants, especially in the Athabaskan languages.

Graduate Student Instructor, *The American Languages* (LING 55AC) Fall 2009
University of California, Berkeley; Department of Linguistics

Led three one-hour discussion sections weekly with a total of 49 students. The class focused on language ideology and policy in the US, dialectal variation in American English, and the languages spoken by immigrants to the US and Native Americans. Overall teaching effectiveness: 6.2 / 7.0.

Residential Tutor, *Computer Science* and *Spanish* June - Aug. 2006
University of Massachusetts, Boston, Upward Bound

Guided students and assisted teachers daily for 6 weeks in classes on HTML and Spanish by helping to correct code or improve language skills, respectively. Students were low-income, first-generation college-bound high school students from Boston.

Volunteer ESL Tutor, *Students Teaching at the Ray School (STARS)* Sept. 2005 - May 2008
University of Chicago and Ray Elementary School, Chicago, IL

Tutored two students (grades 3 and 5) from Russian-speaking backgrounds and one student (grade 6) from a Swahili-speaking background twice a week throughout the school year in reading and mathematics.

Primary Teaching Interests

Phonology; phonetics; field methods; typology; morphology; historical linguistics; Native American languages; languages of the North Caucasus.

Service

- Co-organizer with ANDREW GARRETT, LEV MICHAEL, LINE MIKKELSEN, RICHARD RHODES, and KATIE SARDINHA. *Workshop on the Structure and Constituency of Languages of the Americas (WSCLA) 18*. University of California, Berkeley. Oct. 2012 - Apr. 2013
- Organizer. *Group in American Indian Languages (GAIL)*. Survey of California and Other Indian Languages. University of California, Berkeley. Aug. 2010 - May 2012
- Co-organizer with JESSICA CLEARY-KEMP, ANDREW GARRETT, CLARE SANDY, and TAMMY STARK. *Fieldwork Forum (FForum)*. Department of Linguistics. University of California, Berkeley. Aug. 2010 - May 2012
- Co-organizer with SHINAE KANG. *Phonetics and Phonology Forum (Phorum)*. Department of Linguistics. University of California, Berkeley. Aug. 2010 - Dec. 2011
- Mentor for Chochenyo Ohlone language. *The 9th Breath of Life California Indian Language Restoration Workshop*. Advocates for Indigenous California Language Survival. University of California, Berkeley. June 2010
- Co-organizer with JESSICA CLEARY-KEMP, CLARA COHEN, STEPHANIE FARMER, LAURA KASSNER, and MELINDA WOODLEY (FRICKE). *36th Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society (BLS 36)*. Aug. 2009 - Feb. 2010
- Volunteer. *Linguistic Society of America Summer Linguistic Institute: Linguistic Structure and Language Ecologies*. University of California, Berkeley. July - Aug. 2009
- Abstract Reviewer. *Berkeley Linguistics Society (BLS)*. Served on following committees: Negation, Phonology (2009); Phonology (2010); Phonology (2011); Morphology (chair), Language Contact (2012). 2009 - 2012
- Associate Justice. *Judicial Council*. Associated Students of the University of California (ASUC). University of California, Berkeley. Feb. 2009 - May 2011
- Delegate for Department of Linguistics. *Graduate Assembly*. Associated Students of the University of California (ASUC). University of California, Berkeley. Served on technology subcommittee. Fall 2008 - Spring 2009
- Volunteer. *Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting*. Served at meetings in Chicago (2008), San Francisco (2009), and Pittsburgh (2011). 2008, 2009, 2011

Technical Skills

Computational: Python, R, Praat scripting, L^AT_EX, CSS, HTML

Other: audio recording, data and metadata management, archiving physical, analog, and digital materials

Languages

Reading and Speaking: English (native), Russian (advanced), Spanish (intermediate), French (beginner)

Structural Knowledge: Ditidaht (Wakashan; Vancouver Island, BC), Máihiki (Western Tukanooan; Peruvian Amazon), Imbabura Quichua (Quechua; Ecuador), Chechen (Northeast Caucasian; Russia), Lak (Northeast Caucasian; Russia)