**Timetable for research project**

**“The intersection of temporal & modal interpretation (Yolŋu Matha)”**

*Josh Phillips*

**Current state**

My dissertation investigates interactions in the temporal and modal (i.e. “verbal inflectional”) domains in a number of languages of Arnhem Land and has implications for linguistic theories of displacement and intensionality.

Particularly notable in this proposal is the fact that the remaining fieldwork is ‘broken’ into two discrete trips. The motivation for this is that for each day spent working with speakers of the language, about 2 extra days are required of preparation, transcription and analysis. The most efficient use of time is to do a large amount of preparation in advance of going, and perform the bulk of transcription and analysis outside the field. However, it is very difficult to prepare for 8 weeks of research in advance of going, given the somewhat organic nature of linguistic fieldwork and the development of questions and analyses over the course of a project.

**Initial fieldtrips (SE Arnhem: June-August 2016; Darwin/Ngukurr July 2017)**

Here I collected the bulk of data for the first ‘part’ of the dissertation as outlined in prospectus on apprehensional marking in Australian Kriol. This work was undertaken predominantly in Ngukurr (and surrounding outstations) in SE Arnhem Land, NT.   
The second trip (July 2017) also comprised initial exploratory work with Ritharrŋu-Wägilak (Yolŋu) speakers and initial consideration, planning for subsequent fieldwork in NE Arnhem land (the work proposed in this application) and enrolling in a language & culture program through the Charles Darwin University in the Northern Territory.

**Fieldtrip I (NE Arnhem: June-August 2018)**

Comprehensive documentation and elicitation of verbal inflectional categories in Yolŋu varieties (esp. Gupapuyŋu, Djambarrpuyŋu) spoken in the community of Galiwin’ku with multiple speakers. Interactions between verbal morphology and temporal reference, polarity marking and reality status.

**Fieldtrip II (NE Arnhem: April-June 2019)**

In view of the developed analyses of novel data collected during fieldtrip I, a subsequent (slightly shorter) trip to the Northern Territory will collect further data on additional varieties of Yolŋu in neighbouring communities and further test/nuance the analysis contained within the dissertation after the 2018/2019 academic year.

**Timetable (post-candidacy)**

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| 3 Dec. 2017 | Prospectus defended and approved |
| 10 June 2018 –  2 Aug. 18 | Planned fieldwork trip to NE Arnhem Land, NT, Australia |
| 30 April 2019 –  6 june 2019 | Final field trip to NE Arnhem Land, NT, Australia |
| summer 2019 | Complete and defend dissertation |
| fall 2019 | Submit dissertation |