Joshua Lieberstein

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jmlieberstein.github.io

Education

University of California, Santa Cruz (2021–Present)
BA, Linguistics *cum laude*, June 2025
MA, Linguistics, Expected June 2026

Publications

1. **Lieberstein, Joshua**. *Ambiguity Advantage Effect in Wh-Questions*, Accepted in UGA Working Papers.

Presentations

Talks at conferences

T1. **Lieberstein, Joshua**. *Cláusulas sin verbo en el k'iche' chichicasteco: un enfoque (no) copulativo*, Guatemalan Scholars Network (GSN). July 2025.

Other talks

T2. **Lieberstein, Joshua**. *Polarity, Ellipsis and Verb-Initial Order in K'iche' (Mayan)*, American Indian Seminar (AIS), UCLA. Sept. 2025.

T3. **Lieberstein, Joshua**. *Polarity, Ellipsis and Verb-Initial Order in K'iche' (Mayan)*, Syntax and Semantics Circle (S-Circle), UC Santa Cruz. Oct. 2025.

T4. **Lieberstein, Joshua**. *Specific Subjects and the Ergative Extraction Constraint in K'iche'*, American Indian Seminar (AIS), UCLA. Sept. 2025.

T5. **Lieberstein, Joshua**. *Verbless Clauses in Mayan K'iche': A Copular Investigation*, Syntax and Semantics Circle (S-Circle), UC Santa Cruz. Feb. 2025.

Posters

P1. **Lieberstein, Joshua**. *Ambiguity Advantage in Wh-Questions*, Human Sentence Processing (HSP38), University of Maryland. Mar. 2025.

P2. **Lieberstein, Joshua**. *Verbless Clauses in K'iche' (Mayan): A (Non)-Copular Investigation*, Linguistics Undergraduate Research Colloquium, UC Santa Cruz. May 2025.

P3. Green, S., Karasso, S. & **Lieberstein, Joshua**. *Ambiguity Advantage in Wh-Questions*, Linguistics Undergraduate Research Colloquium, UC Santa Cruz. June 2023.

Research Experience

2024-Present	Fieldwork, Chichicastenango K'iche' (Eastern Mayan)
2022-2024	Research Assistant, IntERPrET Lab, UC Santa Cruz, (Advisor: Dr. Liv Hoversten)
2022-2023	Research Assistant, Sentence Processing Lab, UC Santa Cruz, (Advisor: Dr. Stephanie Rich)

Additional Education

Tulane University (2025)
Mayan Language Institute, Advanced K'iche', Summer 2025

Awards & Honors

2025	FLAS Fellowship (Summer), Vanderbilt University ($8500)
2025	The Humanities Institute Fellowship, UC Santa Cruz ($1000)
2022-2024	Dean's Honors, UC Santa Cruz

Teaching

UC Santa Cruz

	LING53: Semantics 1
Winter 2026	Teaching Assistant, Instructor: *Pranav Anand*
	Guest Lecturer, Instructor: *Pranav Anand*

	LING50: Intro to Linguistics
Fall 2025	Teaching Assistant, Instructor: *Matt Wagers*

	LING112: Syntax 1
Fall 2024	Tutor, Instructor: *Roumyana Pancheva*
Winter 2024	Tutor, Instructor: *Maziar Toosarvandani*
Winter 2023	Tutor,Instructor: *Ivy Sichel*

Academic Service

2024-Present	**Member**, Linguistics Events Planning Committee, *UC Santa Cruz*
2024	**Volunteer/Student**, INEPAS, Quetzaltenango, Guatemala. Spanish Language School/Social Work

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Last updated: January 13, 2026