

Maša Bešlin

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Education

- 2019– **Ph.D. in Linguistics**, *University of Maryland*.
Advisors: Dr. Maria Polinsky (UMD) and Dr. David Embick (UPenn)
EXPECTED COMPLETION: FALL 2024
- 2015–2019 **B.A. in English Language and Literature**, *University of Novi Sad*.
- 2016 **Erasmus+ Student Mobility Program**, *University of Deusto*.

Research Interests

- BROAD (morpho)syntax, syntax-phonology interface, syntax-semantics interface
- NARROW (mixed) categories, locality, raising, case, bare-NP adverbials, NP/DP debate, argument/event structure, grammatical aspect, tense, Slavic, Mayan

Publications

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- in prep* **Bešlin, Maša**. Reconsidering phase-based locality: Domain mismatches in the syntax and morphophonology of Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian adjectives.
- in prep* **Bešlin, Maša**. Apparent Voice mismatches in K'iche' ellipsis: Consequences for the Syntactic Identity Condition and theories of features.
- accepted w/ minor revisions* **Bešlin, Maša**. Active participles are (deverbal) adjectives. *Journal of Linguistics*.
- 2023 **Bešlin, Maša**. Revisiting Passive Participles: Category Status and Internal Structure. *Linguistic Inquiry* 54 (4), 729-758.

PROCEEDINGS

- in press* **Bešlin, Maša**. On the incompatibility of two types of phases. In *Proceedings of the North East Linguistics Society (NELS 54)*. MIT: MIT press.
- in press* **Bešlin, Maša**. DP in a model NP language: Evidence from Serbo-Croatian personal pronouns. In *Proceedings of the Israeli Association for Theoretical Linguistics (IATL 36)*, *MIT Working Papers in Linguistics*.
- in press* Milićev, Tanja and **Maša Bešlin**. Word Order in Old English Embedded Clauses: Syntactic Instantiation and Pragmatic Factors. In *Proceedings of ELALT 6, Annual Review of the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad*.
- 2023 **Bešlin, Maša**. Reanalyzing K'iche' as a Tensed Language. In J. A. G. Douglas-Tavani & G. Belmar Viernes (eds.), *Proceedings of the Workshop on American Indigenous Languages (WAIL 25)*, UC Santa Barbara Linguistics Department.

- 2023 **Bešlin, Maša.** Passive *vP* is not phasal in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian. In *Proceedings of the Linguistic Society of America (PLSA)* 8(1). 5499.
- 2022 **Bešlin, Maša.** Raising as a free syntactic operation: Evidence from Serbian. In P. Kovačević, T. Milićev, & N. Milićević (eds.), *Proceedings of SinFonIJA 14, Annual Review of the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad*. 63–86. University of Novi Sad: Faculty of Philosophy.
- 2019 Milićev, Tanja and **Maša Bešlin.** Instrumental: Why It is Absent from the Clitic System in Serbian/Croatian. In V. Lopičić & B. Mišić-Ilić (eds.), *Proceedings of Jezik, književnost, teorija*. 153–168. University of Niš: Faculty of Philosophy.

VOLUMES EDITED

- under contract* **Bešlin, Maša,** Katherine Howitt, Alexandra Krauska, Luisa Seguin, and Juan Uriagereka. *Structured Sentences and Computational Theory of Mind*. Cambridge University Press.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 2023 **Bešlin, Maša.** Exceptives in K'iche'. In *Variation in Exceptive Structures*. Zenodo. DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.8059592
- 2023 **Bešlin, Maša.** Exceptives in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian. In *Variation in Exceptive Structures*. Zenodo. DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.7851016.

--- Presentations

INVITED TALKS

- 2024 **Bešlin, Maša.** TBA. *Formal Descriptions of Slavic Languages (FDSL 17)*, Masaryk University, Brno.
- 2024 **Bešlin, Maša.** What's in Universal Grammar? On participles and the inventory of grammatical primitives. Presented at:
- *Princeton Linguistics Colloquium Series*, Princeton University
 - *UW-Madison Language Sciences Colloquium*, UW-Madison
 - *University of Florida Linguistics Colloquium*, University of Florida
- 2023 **Bešlin, Maša.** Domain Mismatches in Syntax and Morphophonology: Consequences for Phase Theory. *SynNYU workshop*, NYU.
- 2023 **Bešlin, Maša.** The Darwin-Plato tension, grammatical primitives, and linguistic principles. *Theoretical and Experimental Syntax Colloquium Series*, Hungarian Research Centre for Linguistics.
- 2021 **Bešlin, Maša.** A Mayan temporal puzzle. *Berkeley Syntax and Semantics Circle*, University of California, Berkeley.

CONFERENCE TALKS

- 2024 **Bešlin, Maša.** Domain mismatches in syntax and morphophonology: The case of Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian adjectives (poster). *North East Linguistics Society 54* (NELS 54), Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
- 2024 **Bešlin, Maša.** Apparent Voice Mismatches in K'iche' Ellipsis: Consequences for the Syntactic Identity Condition. *Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics (FAMLi VII)*, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México.

- 2023 **Bešlin, Maša.** Distinct locality domains above and below the ‘word’ level: Evidence from Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian adjectives. *Rencontres d’Automne de Linguistique Formelle (RALFE)*, Université Côte d’Azur.
- 2023 **Bešlin, Maša.** Temporal interpretation in K’iche’. *Workshop on American Indigenous Languages (WAIL 25)*, UC Santa Barbara.
- 2023 **Bešlin, Maša.** Reanalyzing K’iche’ (Mayan) as a Tensed Language. *The Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas (SSILA) Annual Meeting* (online).
- 2023 **Bešlin, Maša.** Passive *vP* is not phasal in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian. *Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting (LSA 97)*, Denver, CO.
- 2022 Milićev, Tanja and **Maša Bešlin.** Embedded Clauses in Old English: Between Syntax and Pragmatics. *Formal Approaches to Embedding workshop, English Language and Anglophone Literatures Today 6 (ELALT 6)*, University of Novi Sad.
- 2021 **Bešlin, Maša.** On raising-to-subject as a free syntactic operation. *Crossing boundaries: Empirical and theoretical aspects of A-dependencies in complementation workshop, 46th Austrian Linguistics Conference (ÖLT 46)*, University of Vienna (online).
- 2021 **Bešlin, Maša.** On personal and impersonal *trebati* ‘need’ in Serbo-Croatian: Implications for raising. *14th Conference on Syntax, Phonology and Language Analysis (SinFonJA 14)*, University of Novi Sad (online).
- 2021 **Bešlin, Maša.** On the distribution of full object-pronouns in Serbo-Croatian. *16th Annual Meeting of the Slavic Linguistics Society (SLS 16)*, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (online).
- 2021 **Bešlin, Maša.** DP in a model NP language: Evidence from Serbo-Croatian personal pronouns. *36th Annual Conference of the Israel Association for Theoretical Linguistics (IATL 36)*, Bar Ilan University (online).
- 2020 **Bešlin, Maša.** Encoding the eventive/resultative/stative distinction on passive participles cross-linguistically. *13th Conference on Syntax, Phonology, and Language Analysis (SinFonJA 13)*, Research Institute for Linguistics, Hungarian Academy of Sciences (online).
- 2020 **Bešlin, Maša.** No such thing as a *verbal participle*. *14th European Conference on Formal Description of Slavic Languages (FDSL 14)*, University of Leipzig (online), moved to June 2021 due to COVID-19.
- 2020 **Bešlin, Maša.** What’s in a name? The syntax of passive participles. *15th Annual Meeting of the Slavic Linguistics Society (SLS 15)*, Indiana University Bloomington (online).
- 2019 **Bešlin, Maša.** On the categorial status of the passive participle in Serbo-Croatian. *Novi Sad Linguistic Colloquium 9*, University of Novi Sad.
- 2019 Milićev, Tanja and **Maša Bešlin.** Case alternations with temporal bare-NP adverbials in Old English. *English Language and Anglophone Literatures Today 5 (ELALT 5)*, University of Novi Sad.
- 2018 **Bešlin, Maša.** How often is *subotom*? Some observations on temporal instrumentals in Serbo-Croatian. *Novi Sad Linguistic Colloquium 8*, University of Novi Sad.

- 2018 **Bešlin, Maša** and Predrag Kovačević. An argument in favor of a rescue-by-PF-deletion analysis of P-stranding under sluicing in Serbo-Croatian. *EGG School Open Podium*, University of Banja Luka.
- 2018 Milićev, Tanja and **Maša Bešlin**. Instrumental: A Curious Gap in the Clitic System. *Jezik, književnost, teorija*, University of Niš.
- 2017 **Bešlin, Maša**. The Case of Temporal Bare-NP Adverbials in Serbo-Croatian. *Novi Sad Linguistic Colloquium 7*, University of Novi Sad.

Awards and Honors

- 2023 Howard Lasnik Award for Distinguished Teaching by a Graduate Student
- 2023 College of Arts and Humanities Summer Fellowship, UMD
- 2023 Southeast European Studies Association Travel Grant
- 2022 Charles E. Townsend Memorial Award for outstanding scientific contribution to the Slavic Linguistics Society
- 2022 College of Arts and Humanities Graduate Student Travel Award, UMD
- 2022 College of Arts and Humanities Summer Fellowship, UMD
- 2021 Honorable Mention: Charles E. Townsend Memorial Award, Slavic Linguistics Society
- 2020 Honorable Mention: Charles E. Townsend Memorial Award, Slavic Linguistics Society
- 2020–2024 Dean’s Fellowship, UMD
- 2019–2020 University Fellowship, UMD
- 2018–2019 Serbian Government Scholarship for Gifted Students
- 2017–2018 Serbian Government Scholarship for Undergraduate Students
- 2016 Erasmus+ Scholarship
- 2014–2015 Woodhouse Grove School Academic Scholarship
- 2013–2014 The Headmasters’ and Headmistresses’ Conference (HMC) Projects in Central and Eastern Europe Scholarship

Teaching Experience

INSTRUCTION

- FALL 2022 **LING 420 Word Formation**, UMD
DUTIES: designing and teaching a seminar-style class with 15 students, mentoring the students on their final research papers, grading, office hours
- JULY 2022 **Introduction to Generative Syntax**, NYI Global Institute of Cultural, Cognitive and Linguistic Studies (online), with Dr. Paulina Lyskawa
DUTIES: teaching a two-week class with 80 students, office hours
- JAN 2022 **Introduction to Generative Syntax**, NY–St. Petersburg Institute of Linguistics, Cognition and Culture (online), with Dr. Paulina Lyskawa
DUTIES: teaching a two-week class with 60 students, office hours

ASSISTANTSHIP

- JULY 2022 ***Verb-initial languages*** (*emphasis on Austronesian and Mayan*),
The 4th Crete Summer School of Linguistics (CreteLing)
DUTIES: preparing materials, grading, office hours
INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Maria Polinsky
- SPRING 2022 **LING 312 *Syntax II***, UMD
DUTIES: preparing materials, grading, office hours
INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Omer Preminger
- FALL 2021 **LING 311 *Syntax I***, UMD
DUTIES: preparing materials, grading, office hours
INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Tonia Bleam
- JULY 2021 ***Introduction to Generative Syntax***, NY-St. Petersburg Institute of
Linguistics, Cognition and Culture (online)
DUTIES: handling Zoom chat/issues, grading, office hours
INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Omer Preminger
- SPRING 2021 **LING 200 *Introductory Linguistics***, UMD (online)
DUTIES: leading 3 weekly discussion sections, grading, office hours
INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Tonia Bleam

GUEST LECTURING

- DEC 2020 *Theory and Methodology in Morphological Analysis: A Case Study of
Passive Participles*, Theoretical Grammar undergraduate seminar,
University of Novi Sad
Instructor: Dr. Tanja Milićev

Research Assistantship

- SPRING 2023 Variation in Exceptive Structures NSF-funded project
PIs: Dr. Maria Polinsky & Dr. Eric Potsdam
DUTIES: investigating the lexical, morphological, and syntactic properties
of exceptives in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian (native) and K'iche' (fieldwork)

Schools and Workshops

- 2023 *NYI Global Institute of Cultural, Cognitive, and Linguistic Studies*, online
- 2023 *Eastern Generative Grammar Summer School*, University of Novi Sad
- 2022 *The 4th Crete Summer School of Linguistics*, University of Crete
- 2021 *Eastern Generative Grammar Summer School*, online
- 2021 *NY-St. Petersburg Institute of Linguistics, Cognition and Culture*, online
- 2021 *Ri K'iche' Tijob'al Keb' Tz'i'*, online intensive 2-week course in K'iche',
co-organized by UMD, University of Toronto and Wugu' Kawoq
- 2020 *Kab'lajuj Ey 2020*, intensive 2-week course in Kaqchikel at the UMD Lan-
guage Science Center's Guatemala Field Station in Patzún, Guatemala
- 2019 *Introduction to Statistics: R*, University of Novi Sad
- 2018 *Eastern Generative Grammar Summer School*, University of Banja Luka
- 2018 *6th Novi Sad Workshop on Psycholinguistic, Neurolinguistic and Clinical
Linguistic Research*, University of Novi Sad

- 2017 *Eastern Generative Grammar* Summer School, Palacký University Olomouc
 2017 *Introduction to Neurolinguistics*, University of Novi Sad

Service

REVIEWING

Journals

Annual Review of the Faculty of Philosophy, UNS
 Catalan Journal of Linguistics
 Folia Linguistica
 Glossa: A journal of general linguistics
 Journal of Slavic Linguistics

Books

Cambridge Handbook of Comparative Syntax, CUP
 Semantics of Slavic Languages, Language Science Press

Conferences

SinFonIJA 14, SinFonIJA 16 & SinFonIJA 17

OTHER SERVICE

- 2022– Proofreader for Language Science Press
 2024 Co-organizer for *Mayfest 2024* in honor of Masha Polinsky, UMD
 2023 Co-organizer for *Mayfest 2023* in honor of Howard Lasnik, UMD
 2022 Co-organizer for *Mayfest 2020(+2)* in honor of Norbert Hornstein, UMD
 2022 Volunteer at *Maryland Day*, open house at UMD for the local community
 2022 Proctor for the *North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad*
 2021–2023 Student Representative for the Linguistics department, Dean's Graduate Advisory Board, UMD
 2021 Co-organizer for *Syntax, Phonology and Language Analysis 14 (SinFonIJA 14)*, University of Novi Sad (online)
 2020–2021 Co-organizer, General Linguistics Lab Meeting, UMD
 2018 Co-author and coordinator of the *Universal Grammar and Language Ability* workshop at the International Festival of Science and Education, University of Novi Sad
 2017 Volunteer at the International Festival of Science and Education, University of Novi Sad. WORKSHOPS: *When Pigs Fly*, *What Type of Linguist Are You*, *Aphasia: When Language Goes Bad*

Work Experience

- 2015– Freelance translator for the following language combinations:
 English>Serbian, Spanish>Serbian, Serbian>English
 2018 Interpreter (Spanish>Serbian, Serbian>Spanish) at *Koteks Viscofan* in Novi Sad, Serbia
 2016–2019 Tutor for the courses English grammar 3, English Grammar 4, Generative Syntax 1 and Generative Syntax 2 at the University of Novi Sad

2015–2018 Freelance language teacher for English and Spanish

Professional Membership

2022– Society for the Study of Indigenous Languages of the Americas (SSILA)

2020– Linguistic Society of America (LSA)

2020– Slavic Linguistics Society (SLS)

Technical Skills

MS Office, PsychoPy, SPSS, L^AT_EX

Languages

native Serbian (Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian)

fluent English, Spanish

beginner German

fieldwork K'iche'

References (in order)

Professor Maria Polinsky

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Professor David Embick

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Professor Norbert Hornstein

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Dr. Tonia Bleam

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1401E Marie Mount Hall
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Associate Professor Tanja Milićev

University of Novi Sad
Dr Zorana Đinđića 2,
21000 Novi Sad
tanja.milicev@ff.uns.ac.rs

Dr. Omer Preminger

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previously Associate Professor
at the University of Maryland
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CV Last Updated: March 22, 2024