# May Helena Plumb (she/her), PhD Candidate

University of Texas at Austin | Department of Linguistics

305 E. 23rd St. STOP B5100
RLP 4.304 Dept of Linguistics
Austin, TX 78712

Email: mayhplumb@utexas.edu
Website: www.mayhplumb.com
Twitter: @mayhplumb

## Education

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|---|---|
| In progress | **Ph.D. in Linguistics**, University of Texas at Austin<br>Advisor: Anthony C. Woodbury |
| 2020 | **M.A. in Linguistics**, University of Texas at Austin<br>Report: The imperfective space in Tlacochahuaya Zapotec |
| 2016 | **B.A. in Linguistics**, Haverford College (Tri-College Program)<br>Thesis: Conjunction in Colonial Valley Zapotec |

## Positions Held

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|---|---|
| 2021–Present | **Instructional Support Technician**. Liberal Arts Instructional Technology Services, University of Texas at Austin.<br>Supervisor(s): Chad Vredingburgh |
| 2020/06–08 | **Research Consultant**. Ticha Project, Haverford College.<br>Supervisor(s): Brook Danielle Lillehaugen |
| 2019/07–08 | **Graduate Research Assistant**. Linguistics Department, University of Texas at Austin (Archive of the Indigenous Languages of Latin America).<br>Supervisor(s): Susan Kung, J. Ryan Sullivant |
| 2018–2019 | **Graduate Teaching Assistant**. Linguistics Department, University of Texas at Austin. |
| 2016–2017 | **Guest Teacher**. Substitute Teacher Service, Greater Philadelphia Area. |
| 2016/06 | **Assistant Coordinator**. Oaxaca Site, Linguistics Field School (NSF REU Site Grant #1461056), Tri-College Consortium.<br>Supervisor(s): Brook Danielle Lillehaugen, Theodore B. Fernald |
| 2013–2016 | **Research Assistant**. Linguistics Department, Haverford College.<br>Supervisor(s): Brook Danielle Lillehaugen |

## Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

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|---|---|
| 2020 | Broadwell, George Aaron, Moisés García Guzmán, Brook Danielle Lillehaugen, Felipe H. Lopez, May Helena Plumb & Mike Zarafonetis. **Ticha: Collaboration with Indigenous communities to build digital resources on Zapotec language and history**. *Digital Humanities Quarterly* 14.4 (Digital Humanities & Colonial Latin American Studies, ed. by Hannah Alpert-Abrams & Clayton McCarl). URL: http://www.digitalhumanities.org/dhq/vol/14/4/000529/000529.html |

2019            Plumb, May Helena. **Conjunction in Colonial Valley Zapotec**. *International Journal of American Linguistics* 85.2, pp. 213–245. DOI: [10.1086/701802](https://doi.org/10.1086/701802)

## Fellowships

2019–2024    **Graduate Research Fellowship** (National Science Foundation).

2017–2022    **Donald D. Harrington Doctoral Fellowship** (University of Texas at Austin).

## Awards

2021            **Archives, Libraries, and Digital Scholarship Section Award** (Latin American Studies Association). For *Caseidyneën Saën – Learning Together: Colonial Valley Zapotec Teaching Materials*, with Xóchitl Flores-Marcial, Moisés García Guzmán, Felipe H. Lopez, George Aaron Broadwell, Alejandra Dubcovsky, Mike Zarafonetis, and Brook Danielle Lillehaugen.

2021            **Best DH Blog Post or Series** ([Digital Humanities Awards](#)). For Ticha Project 2020 Blog Series, with Ticha Project team (Brook Danielle Lillehaugen et al.).

2016            **Best Descriptive Thesis** (Linguistics Department, Haverford College). For "Conjunction in Colonial Valley Zapotec", B.A. Thesis.

## Research Grants

*External*

2020–2022    DLI-DEL Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (National Science Foundation). **Doctoral Dissertation Research: The expression of temporal-modal semantics in an endangered language** ([Award #2019441](#)). Anthony C. Woodbury (PI), May Helena Plumb (Co-PI), August 2020–July 2022. $6,673.

2020–2022    Individual Grant (Jacobs Research Funds). **Dissertation Project: Temporality and Modality in Tlacochahuaya Zapotec**. May Helena Plumb (PI), Anthony C. Woodbury (Sponsor), August 2020–July 2022. $3,000.

2020–2021*   Florence Terry Griswold Scholarship II (Pan American Round Tables of Texas). **Documentation & Description of Tlacochahuaya Zapotec**. May Helena Plumb (PI), May 2020–April 2021. $2,000.
                *No-cost extension through April 2022 due to COVID-19.

*Internal, University of Texas at Austin*

2019            Carlota Smith Fellowship (Linguistics Department). **Documentation of San Jerónimo Tlacochahuaya Zapotec**. May Helena Plumb (PI), June 2019. $500.

2018        Joel Sherzer Research Grant (Center for Indigenous Languages of Latin America). **Beginning Fieldwork on Central Zapotec**. May Helena Plumb (PI), June 2018. $500.

*Internal, Haverford College*

2016        Off-Campus Research Funding (Louis Green Fund). **Linguistics Field School Research Assistantship**. Brook Danielle Lillehaugen (Supervisor), May Helena Plumb (Research Assistant), June 2016. $1,275.

2015        Student Research Assistantship Grant (Hurford Center for the Humanities). **Summer Research for the Ticha Project**. Brook Danielle Lillehaugen (Supervisor), May Helena Plumb (Research Assistant), May–August 2015. $3,520.

2014        International Summer Research Internship Grant (Center for Peace and Global Citizenship). **Connecting the Zapotec People with their Ancestral Documents**. May Helena Plumb (Researcher), July 2014. $2,700.

## Peer-Reviewed Conference Presentations

In prep.    Lillehaugen, Brook Danielle, Xóchitl Flores-Marcial, May Helena Plumb, George Aaron Broadwell & Felipe H. Lopez. **Recovering Words, Reclaiming Knowledge, and Building Community: Ticha Conversatorios**. Paper to be presented at the *LASA2021 Virtual Congress: Crisis global, desigualdades y centralidad de la vida* (Virtual).

2021        Broadwell, George Aaron, Janet Chávez Santiago, Laura Curiel, Xóchitl M. Flores-Marcial, Moisés García Guzmán, Rogelio Hernández Sernas, Eloise Kadlecek, Collin Kawan-Hemler, Brook Danielle Lillehaugen, Felipe H. Lopez, Edith Matías, Yaneth Molina, May Helena Plumb, Ignacio Santiago & Maria Velasco-Vasquez. **Caseidyneën Saën: The collaborative creation of open educational materials as a pedagogical practice and act of resistance**. Paper presented at the *7th International Conference on Language Documentation and Conservation* (Virtual). URL: https://youtu.be/4AmOX0skxXI

2020        Plumb, May Helena. **The imperfective in Central Zapotec: Evidence from Tlacochahuaya Zapotec**. Paper presented at the *Texas Linguistics Society* (TLS) annual meeting, Austin, TX. DOI: 10.17613/dtwz-g482

2020        Plumb, May Helena. **The semantic distribution of Tlacochahuaya Zapotec r-**. Paper presented at the *Society for the Study of Indigenous Languages of the Americas* (SSILA) annual meeting, New Orleans, LA. DOI: 10.17613/rd2z-p742

2019        Plumb, May Helena. **A modern Valley Zapotec translation of a Colonial Valley Zapotec text**. Paper presented at the *Society for the Study of Indigenous Languages of the Americas* (SSILA) annual meeting, New York, NY.

2018      Lillehaugen, Brook Danielle (organizer/discussant), Janet Chávez Santiago (organizer), Felipe H. Lopez, Moisés García Guzmán, Yaneth Molina, May Helena Plumb, Xóchitl M. Flores-Marcial & Arnauld Avendano. **Twitter y las lenguas de Oaxaca**. Panel discussion at the *Coloquio sobre Lenguas Otomangues y Vecinas (COLOV) VIII: Antonio Peñafiel*, Oaxaca City, Mexico.

2017      Plumb, May Helena. **Resumptive subject pronouns in Colonial Valley Zapotec relatives**. Paper presented at the *Conference on Indigenous Languages of Latin America (CILLA) VIII*, Austin, TX. DOI: 10.17613/M6SN0139X

2016      Lillehaugen, Brook Danielle, George Aaron Broadwell, Michel R. Oudijk, Laurie Allen, Michael Zarafonetis & May Helena Plumb. **Humanidades digitales multilingual y multicultural: el caso de Ticha, un explorador digital de texto para el zapoteco colonial**. Paper presented at the *Encontro de Humanidades Digitales*, Mexico City, Mexico. URL: www.academia.edu/28287127/

2016      Lillehaugen, Brook Danielle, George Aaron Broadwell, Michel R. Oudijk, Laurie Allen, Michael Zarafonetis & May Helena Plumb. **Leyendo documentos coloniales en zapoteco del Valle**. Workshop at the *Coloquio sobre Lenguas Otomangues y Vecinas (COLOV) VII: Juan José Renón Monzón*, Oaxaca City, Mexico.

2016      Lillehaugen, Brook Danielle, George Aaron Broadwell, Michel R. Oudijk, Laurie Allen, Michael Zarafonetis & May Helena Plumb. **Ticha, un explorador digital de texto para el zapoteco colonial: creando conexiones**. Paper presented at the *Coloquio sobre Lenguas Otomangues y Vecinas (COLOV) VII: Juan José Renón Monzón*, Oaxaca City, Mexico.

2015      Plumb, May Helena. **The pragmatics of conjunction in Colonial Valley Zapotec**. Paper presented at the *Society for the Study of Indigenous Languages of the Americas* (SSILA) annual meeting, Portland, OR. DOI: 10.17613/M6RH1H

2014      Plumb, May Helena. **La pragmática de las conjunciones en el zapteco colonial del Valle**. Paper presented at the *Coloquio sobre Lenguas Otomangues y Vecinas (COLOV) VI: Mario Molina Cruz*, Oaxaca City, Mexico. URL: www.academia.edu/6847558/

## Archival Collections and Datasets

2019–2020      Plumb, May Helena (Collector, Depositor). **Zapotec Collection of May Helena Plumb**. The Archive of the Indigenous Languages of Latin America, ailla.utexas.org. Access: public. PID ailla:257460. URL: https://www.ailla.utexas.org/islandora/object/ailla:257460

2020　　Josserand, Kathryn (Researcher, Collector), J. Ryan Sullivant (Depositor, Compiler, Editor), May Helena Plumb (Data technician) & TranscribeAILLA Volunteers (Transcribers). **Transcriptions of Mixtec Language Surveys**. The Archive of the Indigenous Languages of Latin America, ailla.utexas.org. Access: public. PID ailla:271571. URL: https://ailla.utexas.org/islandora/object/ailla:271571

## Reports

2020　　Sullivant, J. Ryan & May Helena Plumb. **The TranscribeAILLA Project: Objectives, Methods, and Lessons**. Whitepaper for NEH Grant #PW-259116-18. URL: https://securegrants.neh.gov/publicquery/main.aspx?f=1&gn=PW-259116-18

## Pedagogical Materials

In prep.　　Flores-Marcial, Xóchitl, Moisés García Guzmán, Felipe H. Lopez, George Aaron Broadwell, Alejandra Dubcovsky, May Helena Plumb, Mike Zarafonetis & Brook Danielle Lillehaugen (eds.). *Caseidyneën Saën — Learning Together: Colonial Valley Zapotec Teaching Materials*. Ticha Project, PressBooks. URL:　　http://ds-wordpress.haverford.edu/ticha-resources/modules/.
Spanish version: http://ds-wordpress.haverford.edu/ticha-resources/recursos-de-ticha/

In prep.　　Plumb, May Helena. **Ticha**. In Xóchitl Flores-Marcial et al. (eds.), *Caseidyneën Saën — Learning Together: Colonial Valley Zapotec Teaching Materials*. Ticha Project, PressBooks. URL:　　http://ds-wordpress.haverford.edu/ticha-resources/modules/chapter/ticha-pedagogical-unit-1-introduction-to-the-ticha-project/.
Spanish version: http://ds-wordpress.haverford.edu/ticha-resources/recursos-de-ticha/chapter/materiales-pedagogicos-unidad-1-introduccion-al-proyecto-ticha/

## Digital Scholarship

2020　　Lillehaugen, Brook Danielle, Claire Benham, Janet Chávez Santiago, Emily Drummond, James Arthur Faville, Eloise Kadlecek, Collin Kawan-Hemler, Avery A. King, Bridget Murray, Tomas Paris, Heewon Park, Tristan Jacobo Pepin, May Helena Plumb, Mindy Renee Reutter, James E. Truitt, Christina Nicole Ulowetz, Mike Zarafonetis & Ian Fisher. **Digital edition of Fray Leonardo Levanto's 1766 *Cathecismo de la lengua Zaapoteca*, first edition**. Ticha Project. URL: https://ticha.haverford.edu/en/texts/levanto/.
Previously: Beta version (2017)

2019　　Lillehaugen, Brook Danielle, Moisés García Guzmán, with Kathryn Goldberg, María Mercedes Méndez Morales, Benjamin Paul, May Helena Plumb, Chantel Reyes, Cecilia G. Williamson & David K. Harrison. **Tlacochahuaya Zapotec Talking Dictionary**. Version 2.1. Living Tongues Institute for Endangered Languages. URL: www.talkingdictionary.org/tlacochahuaya.
Previously: Version 2.0 (2018), Version 1.0 (2016)

2017    Lillehaugen, Brook Danielle, Janet Chávez Santiago, with Kathryn Goldberg, Tess A. Harty, Nick Kalivoda, Sam Katz, Teresa Martínez Chavez, Javier A. Pina, May Helena Plumb, Diamond C. J. Ray, Cornelio Santos & Jamie A. Thomas. **Teotitlán del Valle Zapotec Talking Dictionary**. Version 1.2. Living Tongues Institute for Endangered Languages. URL: [www.talkingdictionary.org/teotitlan](www.talkingdictionary.org/teotitlan).
Previously: Version 1.1 (2016); Now outdated, replaced by Version 2.0 (2019)

2016    Lillehaugen, Brook Danielle, George Aaron Broadwell, Michel R. Oudijk, Laurie Allen, May Helena Plumb & Mike Zarafonetis. **Ticha: a digital text explorer for Colonial Zapotec, first edition**. URL: [http://ticha.haverford.edu](http://ticha.haverford.edu).
Reviewed in: Ortega, Élika. 2019. Review: Ticha. *Reviews in Digital Humanities*, I(1). [https://reviewsindh.pubpub.org/pub/ticha/release/14](https://reviewsindh.pubpub.org/pub/ticha/release/14)

2016    Lillehaugen, Brook Danielle, Felipe H. Lopez, Pamela Munro, with Tess A. Harty, Sam Katz, Javier A. Pina, May Helena Plumb, Diamond C. J. Ray & Cornelio Santos. **San Lucas Quiavini Zapotec Talking Dictionary**. Version 1.0. Living Tongues Institute for Endangered Languages. URL: [www.talkingdictionary.org/sanlucasquiavini](www.talkingdictionary.org/sanlucasquiavini).
Now outdated, replaced by Version 2.0 (2019)

2015    [various collaborators including] Lillehaugen, Brook Danielle & May Helena Plumb. **Ethnographic Interviews on Valley Zapotec**. YouTube. Enduring Voices. URL: [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLExWnB1-dLglKaXMrKw0wBgxDcanrwvII](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLExWnB1-dLglKaXMrKw0wBgxDcanrwvII)

## Publications & Events in Public Forums

*Writing*

2021    Plumb, May Helena. **Lessons from Caseiyneën Saën: Creativity, resilience, and collaborative scholarship**. Blog post as part of a collaboration between the Community-based Global Learning Collaborative and the Ticha Project. URL: [https://compact.org/lessons-from-caseiyneen-saen-creativity-resilience-and-collaborative-scholarship/](https://compact.org/lessons-from-caseiyneen-saen-creativity-resilience-and-collaborative-scholarship/)

*Talks*

2021    Plumb, May Helena. **Ticha: Una herramienta digital para investigar la historia de las lenguas y culturas zapotecas**. Invited talk at the Universidad del Pueblo, Tlacolula (Virtual). URL: [http://www.facebook.com/102120957834920/videos/1370298846642392](http://www.facebook.com/102120957834920/videos/1370298846642392)

2020    Chávez Santiago, Janet, Xóchitl M. Flores-Marcial, Moisés García Guzmán, Felipe H. Lopez, Kimberly Aguero Martins, George Aaron Broadwell, Brook Danielle Lillehaugen, May Helena Plumb & Mike Zarafonetis. **Speaking, Writing, and Resisting: Celebrating Zapotec Language Activism**. Panel presentation at the *Center for Peace and Global Citizenship*. URL: [https://youtu.be/Z9T1HugTEjk](https://youtu.be/Z9T1HugTEjk)

*Media Appearances*

2020　　　Caldwell, Brendan (Host), Pip Warr (Co-host) & May Helena Plumb (Guest). **How does a language die? (Heaven's Vault)**. *Hey Lesson.* [podcast episode]. URL: https://heylesson.net/podcast/how-do-languages-die-heavens-vault/

## Academic Service

*Academic Publishing*

Reviewer for　**Tlalocan** (2021)

*Conference Organization*

Organizer of　**Texas Linguistics Society** (2019)

Reviewer for　**Texas Linguistics Society** (2021, 2020);
　　　　　　　**Conference on Indigenous Languages of Latin America** (2019)

Moderator at　**Texas Linguistics Society** (2021, 2020);
　　　　　　　**Conference on Indigenous Languages of Latin America** (2019, 2017);
　　　　　　　**Symposium About Language and Society, Austin** (2019)

*University & Departmental Service, University of Texas at Austin*

Member of　　**ASOL Dissertation Defense Committee** (2019–Present);
　　　　　　　**ASOL Digital Resources Committee** (2017–Present)

Judge for　　**Capital of Texas Undergraduate Research Conference** (2021/02)

Drafter of　　**ASOL Anti-Racism Statement** (2020/08)

*Professional Affiliations*

Member of　　**Linguistic Society of America** (2019–Present);
　　　　　　　**Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas** (2014–Present);
　　　　　　　**Latin American Studies Association** (2020);
　　　　　　　**American Association for the Advancement of Science** (2009–2020);
　　　　　　　**Philological Society** (2014–2019)

## Other Professional Activities & Skills

*Language skills*

Communicative knowledge: **English** (native); **Spanish** (proficient); **Colonial Mexican Spanish** (reading experience); **Tlacochahuaya Zapotec** (basic)

Research knowledge: **Central and Northern Zapotec** (Otomanguean, [zap]); **Windesi Wamesa** (Austronesian, [wad]); **Southern Bolivian Quechua** (Quechuan, [quh])

*Community-based research experiences*

2018–2019 **Pre-dissertation graduate research in Oaxaca, Mexico**. San Jerónimo Tlacochahuaya Zapotec (Otomanguean, [zab]). 10 weeks over 2 separate trips.

2015–2016 **Linguistics Field School with Brook Danielle Lillehaugen in Oaxaca, Mexico**. Central and Northern Zapotec (Otomanguean). 5 weeks over 2 separate trips.

2014 **Undergraduate research in Oaxaca, Mexico**. Colonial Zapotec (philological research & archival work); San Jerónimo Tlacochahuaya Zapotec (Otomanguean, [zab]). 4 weeks.