

Matthew Kogan

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⌂ Personal Website

📍 University of California, Santa Cruz
Department of Linguistics
1156 High St, Santa Cruz, CA 95064

Education

2021 - 2026 **PhD in Linguistics, UC Santa Cruz**

2021 - 2023 **MA in Linguistics, UC Santa Cruz**

Advisor : Matt Wagers

Thesis : Maintaining Syntactic Positions and Thematic Roles in Memory

2018 - 2021 **BA with Honors in Linguistics, UC Santa Cruz**

with Minor in Literature

Non-degree programs

2024 **Graduate Pedagogy Fellowship Program, UC Santa Cruz**

Pedagogical Leadership Certificate, Teaching and Learning Center, UC Santa Cruz

Papers

under review **Subject islands are not reducible to construction-specific discourse function**
Mandy Cartner, **Matthew Kogan**, Niko Webster, Matt Wagers, and Ivy Sichel

2025 **Revisiting interference effects in subject retrieval**
Qualifying Exam (Manuscript)

2024 **Or What? Questions as Complex Exclamative Speech Acts**
Second Qualifying Paper (Manuscript)

2023 **Maintaining Syntactic Positions and Thematic Roles in Memory**
MA Thesis

Peer-Reviewed Presentations (* = first author)

2025 **Sources of distortion and confusion in distributed representations of morphosyntactic structure***
Poster at the California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP) 8, UC Davis (with Ruoqing Yao* and Matt Wagers)

2025 **Subject islands do not reduce to construction-specific discourse function**
Poster at the Meeting of the North East Linguistics Society (NELS) 56, New York University (with Niko Webster, Mandy Cartner, Matt Wagers, and Ivy Sichel)

2025 **Subject islands are not caused by information structure clashes : Cross-constructional evidence***
Poster at the Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP) 38, University of Maryland. (with Mandy Cartner*, Niko Webster*, Matt Wagers, and Ivy Sichel)

2025 **Information structure alone cannot account for subject islandhood : an experimental study***
Talk at Generative Linguistics in the Old World (GLOW) 47, Goethe University. (with Niko Webster*, Mandy Cartner*, Matt Wagers, and Ivy Sichel)

- 2024 **Subject Islands are not Caused by Information Structure Clashes : Evidence from Topicalization***
Poster at Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP) 30, University of Edinburgh. (with Niko Webster, Mandy Cartner, Ivy Sichel, and Matt Wagers)
- 2024 **Probing Facilitatory and Inhibitory Interference with English Ditransitives***
Poster at the Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP) 37, University of Michigan. (with Matt Wagers)
- 2024 **Canonical Argument Alignment Modulates Gap, but not RP, Acceptability in English***
Poster at the Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP) 37, University of Michigan. (with Mandy Cartner, Ivy Sichel, Maziar Toosarvandani, and Matt Wagers)
- 2024 **Investigating Syntactic Gating during Subject Retrieval with English Ditransitives***
Talk at California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP) 6, Stanford. (with Matt Wagers)
- 2023 **Maintaining Syntactic Positions and Thematic Roles in Memory : Evidence from Ditransitive Alternations in English***
Poster at Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP) 29, BCBL. (with Matt Wagers)
- 2023 **The Subject-Object Asymmetry in Embedded Questions : Evidence from the Maze***
Talk at California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP) 5, UCLA. (with Matt Wagers)
- 2023 **Developing Computer Games in Field Methods Classes : A tool for language teaching and revitalization**
Talk in special session *Engaging the Community : Using field methods classes for community outreach* at the Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas (SSILA) Annual Meeting. (Giorgia Troiani, Jeremías Salazar, Guillem Belmar, Andrew Hedding, Jack Duff, Natalia Gracida Cruz, & Fe Silva-Robles)
- 2023 **Implementing Game of Tones***
Tutorial in special session *Engaging the Community : Using field methods classes for community outreach* at the Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas (SSILA) Annual Meeting. (with Andrew Hedding, Jack Duff, and Mykel Lorne Brinkerhoff)
- 2022 **"It's alive!" : Animacy-based structural expectations rapidly update with context**
Poster at the Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP) 35, UCSC. (with Stephanie Rich, Lalitha Balachandran, Jack Duff, Nicholas Van Handel, Maya Wax Cavallaro, and Matt Wagers)

Local presentations

- 2025 **Modeling interference with distributed representations of lexical, morphological, and positional information.**
Talk at Bay Area Language Processing Interest Group (BAyLI), UCSC. (with Ruoqing Yao)
- 2025 **Subject islands are not reducible to discourse function**
Talk at Linguistics At Santa Cruz, UCSC. (with Niko Webster, Mandy Cartner, Matt Wagers, and Ivy Sichel)
- 2024 **Or What? Questions As Complex Exclamative Speech Acts**
Talk at Linguistics Spring Research Symposium, UCSC
- 2023 **The Role of Specifiers in a Content-Addressable Retrieval Mechanism**
Talk at Linguistics Spring Research Symposium, UCSC

Research Experience

- 2024 **Graduate Student Researcher** (Assessment for Learning Excellence and Equity Center, UCSC)
Institutional analyses of equity gaps in undergraduate student performance
PI : Anna Sher

2023	Graduate Student Researcher (UCSC) <i>Probing Facilitatory and Inhibitory Interference with English Ditransitives</i> PI : Matt Wagers
2023	Graduate Student Researcher (UCSC, NSF Grant BCS-201984) <i>Animacy and Resumption at the Border of Cognition and Grammar</i> PIs : Maziar Toosarvandani, Ivy Sichel, and Matt Wagers
2021 - 2022	Undergraduate Research Assistant (UCSC, NSF Grant BCS-201984) <i>Animacy-based structural expectations rapidly update with context</i> PIs : Maziar Toosarvandani, Ivy Sichel, and Matt Wagers
2020 - 2021	Undergraduate Research Assistant (UCSC) <i>Studying Implicit Prosody with Delexicalized Melodies</i> PIs : Nicholas Van Handel and Matt Wagers

Teaching

Lead Instructor, UCSC

Fall 2024 **Pedagogy of Linguistics** Faculty Mentor : Rachel Walker

Teaching Assistant, UCSC

Spring 2025	Psycholinguistics and Linguistic Theory	Instructor : Amanda Rysling
Winter 2025	Syntax I	Instructor : Mia Gong
Spring 2024	Psycholinguistics and Linguistic Theory	Instructor : Matt Wagers
Winter 2024	Introduction to Linguistics	Instructor : Andrew Angeles
Fall 2023	Phonology II	Instructor : Ryan Bennett
Sum. 2023	Psycholinguistics and Linguistic Theory	Instructor : Jack Duff
Spring 2023	Introduction to Linguistics	Instructor : Ivy Sichel
Fall 2022	Semantics I	Instructor : Maziar Toosarvandani

Grader, UCSC

Spring 2024 **Introduction to Linguistics** Instructor : Andrew Angeles

Small Group Tutor, UCSC Learning Support Services

Spring 2022	Syntax I	Instructor : Jorge Hankamer
Winter 2022	Semantics II	Instructor : Jess H.K. Law
Fall 2021	Psycholinguistics and Linguistic Theory	Instructor : Matt Wagers

Service

2023 - 2025	Reviewer , <i>California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP)</i>
2024 - 2025	Co-Coordinator , <i>SPLAP Reading Group</i> Organized weekly reading group on semantics, philosophy of language, and pragmatics.
2023 - 2024	Chair , <i>Colloquia Events Committee</i> Led and coordinated with subcommittees to prepare for and execute Linguistics Department Colloquia.
2023	Organizing Committee Volunteer , <i>West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics</i> Assisted with organizing and execution of 41st WCCFL hosted at UCSC
2022 - 2023	Co-Coordinator , <i>SPLAP Reading Group</i> Organized weekly reading group on semantics, philosophy of language, and pragmatics.

- 2022 - 2023 **Hospitality Subcommittee Chair, Colloquia Events Committee**
Managed hospitality and reception for Departmental Colloquia.
- 2022 - 2023 **Lead Student Organizer, Nido de Lenguas**
Organized community-facing outreach events celebrating indigenous Oaxacan languages; Developed a web-based memory game for learning lexical tones
- 2018 - 2019 **Voting Delegate, Porter College Senate**
Represented students in campus-wide decisions regarding university policy changes and funding

Mentorship

- 2025 **s/lab Summer Program, UCSC Linguistics Dept.**
Research Assistants : Aditi Borra, Noel Thomas
- 2025 **Undergraduate Research Fellows in Linguistics and Language Studies, UCSC**
Research Assistants : Ulysses Noë, Matthew Vasser
- 2024 **Undergraduate Research Fellows in Linguistics and Language Studies, UCSC**
Research Assistants : Lisa Pham, Alison Sun, Matthew Vasser
- 2023 **Undergraduate Research Fellowship, UCSC Linguistics Dept.**
Research Assistant : Alison Sun

Honors, Awards, & Fellowships

- 2025 - 2026 **THI Oaxacan Languages Public Fellowship**
2025 **TLC Resource Development Fellowship**
2024 **THI Graduate Summer Public Fellowship**
2024 **TLC Graduate Pedagogy Fellows Fellowship**
2023 **Humanities Division Summer Fellowship**
2021 - 2022 **THI Undergraduate Research Fellowship**
2020 - 2021 **Aerojet Rocketdyne Student Scholarship**
2019 - 2020 **UCSC College Scholar's Program**
2018 - 2021 **Dean's Honors List (9 Quarters)**

Languages & Skills

English	<i>native</i>
Russian	<i>fluent</i>
R	<i>advanced</i>
HTML/CSS	<i>proficient</i>
L <small>A</small> T <small>E</small> X	<i>proficient</i>
JavaScript	<i>familiar</i>
Python	<i>familiar</i>