

Madeline K Snigaroff

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Citizenship: United States

Research interests

Broadly: Syntax, semantics, fieldwork, language revitalization, Arctic languages
Narrowly: Syntax-semantics interface, clausal syntax, finiteness, TAM, the left periphery
Languages I've worked with: Western Aleut, Western Samoan, English, Toba Batak

Education

2020 – present **The University of Chicago** – *Chicago, IL*
Ph.D. in Linguistics

- Dissertation Proposal: “Aleut insubordination as a window into the finiteness contrast”
Committee: Chris Kennedy (Chair), Lenore Grenoble, Thomas Grano
- Second Qualifying Paper: “An alternative semantics of the Samoan article system”
Readers: Karlos Arregi, Chris Kennedy
- First Qualifying Paper: “Head movement from adjunct positions: Evidence from Aleut”
Readers: Jason Merchant, Erik Zyman

2016 – 2020 **Stanford University** – *Stanford, CA*
BA with Honors in Linguistics, Minor in Slavic Languages and Literatures
Honors Thesis: *Constructing Language Revitalization Resources: The Aleut Picture Dictionary*
Advisor: Paul Kiparsky

Positions

2024 – present **Adjunct**, Alaska Native Studies Program
University of Alaska, Anchorage – *Anchorage, AK*

Publications

Journal articles Snigaroff, M. K. (2024). **Head movement from non-complements: Evidence from Aleut.** *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory* 42: 1727–1766.

Edited volumes

Serova, Kutay & M. K. Snigaroff. (2024). *Proceedings of the Fifty-ninth Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society*. Chicago, IL: Chicago Linguistic Society.

Talks

- Invited talks Snigaroff, M. K. (2024, April). **Where Are Your Keys (WAYK): A framework for endangered language learning**. Presented at the Language Revitalization Working Group, University of California, Berkeley.
- Snigaroff, M. K. (2023, May). **Revitalization and fieldwork that complements communities: A case study with Aleut**. Presented at the Linguistic Fieldwork Working Group, University of California, San Diego.
- Snigaroff, M. K. (2019, February). **Language revitalization in Alaska**. Guest lecture at LINGUIST 47N: Languages, Dialects, Speakers, Stanford University.
- Conference talks Snigaroff, M. K. (2024, May). **Language-learning tailored to endangered language communities**. Presented at Language Ideologies and Inequality with a Perspective on the Arctic, Ilisimatusarfik Grønlands Universitet.
- Internal talks Snigaroff, M. K. (2024, February). **Merge and c-command**. Guest lecture at LING 20201: Introduction to Syntax, The University of Chicago.
- Snigaroff, M. K. (2022, April). **Head movement from adjunct positions: The case of Aleut suffixal adjectives**. Presented at the Morphology & Syntax Workshop, The University of Chicago.
- Snigaroff, M. K. (2021, May). **Aleut language revitalization**. Presented at The Workshop on Language Variation & Change, The University of Chicago.
- Snigaroff, M. K. (2017, October). **The Presidents Project: Evaluating Metrical Tree**. Presented at VPUE Research Initiative Presentations, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University.

Honors and scholarships

- 2025 – 2027 National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant. Project title: “An investigation of clause type and insubordination as a window into ‘finiteness’” Co-PIs: Chris Kennedy and Madeline K. Snigaroff. Amount: \$14,873
- 2020 – present Humanities Fellowship (The University of Chicago)
- 2020 – 2024 Graduate Scholarship (The Aleut Foundation)
- Oct. 2022 Sapir Scholars Program (The University of Chicago)
- Sep. 2022 Graduate Research Aid Initiative in Linguistics (The University of Chicago)
- June 2022 Graduate Research Aid Initiative in Linguistics (The University of Chicago)
- 2020 Chancellor’s Fellowship for Graduate Study (University of California, Berkeley; declined)
- 2020 Cota-Robles Fellowship (University of California, Los Angeles; declined)

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| 2016 – 2020 | Educational Scholarship with Honors (The Aleut Foundation) |
| 2020 | Robert M. Golden Medal for Excellence in the Humanities and Creative Arts (Stanford University) |
| 2019 | Dobro Slovo (National Slavic Honor Society) |
| 2019 | Phi Beta Kappa (Stanford University) |
| 2017 | Vice Provost of Undergraduate Education (VPUE) Research Initiative (Stanford University) |

Language Revitalization

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| Sep. 2022 – present | Cultural Heritage Center Independent Contractor Aleut elicitation, curriculum-building, teaching, organization of revitalization activities, transcription of lessons, language proficiency testing, among other duties Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association <i>Remote work</i> |
| May – June 2023 | Summer Language Intensive Intern Aleut elicitation, curriculum-building, and teaching Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association <i>Anchorage, AK</i> |
| July – August 2022 | Summer Language Intensive Intern Aleut elicitation, curriculum-building, and teaching Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association <i>Anchorage, AK</i> |
| June – August 2019 | Summer Language Intensive Intern Aleut elicitation, curriculum-building, and teaching Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association <i>Anchorage, AK</i> |
| June 2019 | Culture Camp Language Teacher The Aleut Foundation <i>Atka, AK</i> |
| May 2018 | Culture Camp Language Teacher The Aleut Foundation, Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association <i>Anchorage, AK</i> |
| March – August 2018 | Summer Language Intensive Intern Aleut elicitation, curriculum-building, and teaching Where Are Your Keys, Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association <i>Atka and Anchorage, AK</i> |

Classroom teaching experience

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| Spring 2024 | Instructor, AKNS A102I: Elementary Unangam Tunuu II <i>University of Alaska, Anchorage</i> |
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- Fall 2024 **Instructor, AKNS A101I: Elementary Unangam Tunuu I**
University of Alaska, Anchorage
 Designed and taught introductory Aleut language (*Unangam Tunuu*) course
 Average rating: 4.9/5
- Spring 2024 **Teaching assistant, LING 20301: Introduction to Semantics and Pragmatics**
Prof. Anastasia Giannakidou, The University of Chicago
 Led weekly discussion sessions, attended all lectures, graded assignments, designed answer keys, held office hours
- Winter 2024 **Teaching assistant, LING 20201: Introduction to Syntax**
Prof. Amy Dahlstrom, The University of Chicago
 Gave a guest lecture, led weekly discussion sessions, attended all lectures, graded assignments, and held office hours
- Fall 2022 **Teaching assistant, LING 20001: Introduction to Linguistics**
Prof. Erik Zyman, The University of Chicago
 Led weekly discussion sessions, attended all lectures, graded assignments, and held office hours

Mentorship

- Winter 2023 **Gabriel Correa Ramos Alves (RA)**
Lars Nordquist (RA)
The University of Chicago
 Mentored two undergraduate research assistants in a project gathering, organizing, and annotating Aleut recordings
- Fall 2022 **Sarah Kim (RA)**
Reagan Sparks (RA)
The University of Chicago
 Mentored two undergraduate research assistants in a project gathering, organizing, and annotating Aleut recordings

Leadership and service

- February 2025 **Abstract Reviewer**
 61st Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS)
- February 2024 **Panelist**
 Panel on Careers in Linguistics
Stanford University
- February 2024 **Abstract Reviewer**
 60th Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS)
- 2022 – 2023 **Central Committee Member**
 59th Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS)

- 2022 – 2023 **Student Coordinator**
Language Variation and Change Workshop
The University of Chicago
- 2022 – 2023 **Student Coordinator**
Fieldworkers' Lab
The University of Chicago
- January 2023 **Abstract Reviewer**
59th Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS)
- February 2022 **Abstract Reviewer**
58th Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS)

Industry experience

- 2022 **Worldshifter Games (Independent contractor)**
Remote
Gave linguistic, worldbuilding, and story feedback for desktop videogame; constructed dialogue and other elements of the storyline

Technical skills

Programming languages

R, Python

Software

ΛT_EX, ELAN, SayMore, Pratt

Languages

English (L1), Spanish (fluent), Western Aleut (intermediate), Russian (intermediate)

Other interests

Conlanging, worldbuilding