**Nazila Gundogdu (Shafiei), Ph.D.**

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(631) 652-5142

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/nazila>

**EDUCATION**

2022 **Ph.D.**, **Linguistics**, Stony Brook University, NY, USA

Thesis: [*Computational Locality and Domain of Syntactic Long-distance Dependencies*](https://search.proquest.com/openview/44c9b03bc4be9a2f7007a6b43af1de6f/1?pq-origsite=gscholar&cbl=18750&diss=y) (Advisor: Dr. Thomas Graf)

2016 **M.A., Linguistics**, University of Calgary, AB, Canada

Thesis:[*Persian Complex Predicates: Evidence for Verb Movement from Ellipsis and Negation*](http://theses.ucalgary.ca/jspui/bitstream/11023/2952/1/ucalgary_2016_shafieiilkhechy_nazila.pdf)(Advisor: Dr. Dennis Ryan Storoshenko).

2014 **B.A., English Language Teaching**, Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey

2006 **B.S.C.E.**, Baha’i Institute for Higher Education, Tehran, Iran

**ACADEMIC AFFILIATION**

2019- 2022 **Affiliate Student**, Institute for Advanced Computational Science (IACS), Stony Brook University, NY, USA

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

*General:* Theoretical and Computational Syntax, Syntax of Persian, Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing

*Specific:* Syntactic Dependencies, Islands (computational complexity), Ellipsis, Quantifier Scope, Relative Clauses, Syntax of Questions

**PUBLICATIONS**

2023 Shafiei, Nazila. Persian quantifiers and their scope. *Advances in Iranian Linguistics II*, vol. *361, pp. 44-80.* Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing Company [[paper](https://nazilashafiei.github.io/publications/Shafiei-%20Persian%20Quantifiers.pdf)]

2020 Shafiei, Nazila and Thomas Graf. The Subregular complexity of syntactic islands. In *Proceedings of the Society for Computation in Linguistics, vol. 3, article 27.* [[paper](https://scholarworks.umass.edu/scil/vol3/iss1/27/)]

2019 Vu, Mai Ha, Nazila Shafiei and Thomas Graf. Case assignment in TSL syntax: A case study. In *Proceedings of the Society for Computation in Linguistics, vol. 2, pp. 267-276.* [[paper](https://scholarworks.umass.edu/scil/vol2/iss1/28/)]

2019 Graf, Thomas and Nazila Shafiei. [C-command dependencies as TSL string constraints](https://scholarworks.umass.edu/scil/vol2/iss1/22/). In *Proceedings of the Society for Computation in Linguistics, vol. 2, pp. 205-215.* [[paper](https://scholarworks.umass.edu/scil/vol2/iss1/22/)]

2017 Shafiei, Nazila and Dennis Ryan Storoshenko. Scope as a diagnostic for the Position of negation in Persian. *University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics*, *23*(1). [[paper](http://repository.upenn.edu/pwpl/vol23/iss1/27/)]

2015 Shafiei, Nazila. Ellipsis in Persian Complex Predicates: VVPE or Something Else?. In *Proceedings of the 2015 Canadian Linguistic Association.* [[paper](http://cla-acl.ca/wp-content/uploads/Shafiei-2015.pdf)]

**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

2020 Shafiei, Nazila and Thomas Graf. The Subregular Complexity of Syntactic Islands. The 3rd annual meeting of Society for Computation in Linguistics, January 2nd- 5th , New Orleans, USA [poster]

2019 Shafiei, Nazila. *An OT-based Analysis of Quantifier Scope in Persian*. The 2nd North American Conference in Iranian Linguistics. April 19th-21st, Tuscon, AZ, USA [talk]

2019 De Santo, Aniello, and Nazila Shafiei. *On the Structure of Relative Clauses in Persian: Evidence from Computational Modeling and Processing Effects*. The 2nd North American Conference in Iranian Linguistics. April 19th-21st, Tuscon, AZ, USA [talk]

# 2019 Shafiei, Nazila, and Aniello De Santo. *What processing and computational modeling can tell us about syntax: the case of Persian relative clauses*. [32nd Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing](https://www.colorado.edu/event/cuny2019/), March 29th- 31st, Boulder, CO, USA [poster]

2019 Vu, Mai Ha, Nazila Shafiei and Thomas Graf. *Case assignment in TSL syntax: A case study*. The 2nd annual meeting of Society for Computation in Linguistics, January 3rd- 6th , New York City, USA [poster]

2019 Graf, Thomas and Nazila Shafiei. *C-command dependencies as TSL string constraints*. The 2nd annual meeting of Society for Computation in Linguistics, January 3rd- 6th , New York City, USA [poster]

2018 Rasekhi, Vahideh and Nazila Shafiei. *Object ellipsis in Persian.* The 92nd annual meeting of Linguistic Society of America, January 4th-7th, Salt Lake City, USA [poster]

2017 Rasekhi, Vahideh and Nazila Shafiei. *Ellipsis in Persian: verb phrase ellipsis or argument ellipsis?.* The 1st North American Conference in Iranian Linguistics, April 28th-30th, Stony Brook University, USA [talk]

2016 Shafiei, Nazila and Dennis Ryan Storoshenko. *Scope as a Diagnostic for the Position of Negation in Persian.* The 40th Annual Penn Linguistic Conference, March 18th- 20th, University of Pennsylvania, USA [poster]

2015 Shafiei, Nazila. *Ellipsis in Persian Complex Predicates: VVPE or Something Else?* The Annual Meeting of the Canadian Linguistic Association, May 30th- June 1st, 2015 [talk]

2015 Shafiei, Nazila. *Ellipsis in Persian: VVPE or Something Else?,* The 31th North West Linguistic Conference, April 25th- 26th, University of Victoria, Canada [talk]

2013 Shafiei, Nazila. *A Comparative Retrospective Miscue Analysis (RMA) between Turkish and Persian Advanced learners of English*, The Second International Symposium on Language and Communication: Exploring Novelties, June 17th-19th, Izmir University, Turkey [talk]

2013 Shafiei, Nazila, Hilal Yildirim and Dursun Altinok. *Icelandic floating quantifiers: A deeper look at the different approaches to them and their case assignment*, The Third International Student Conference, ISC, 2013, May 14th, Baskent University, Ankara, Turkey [talk]

**GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS**

2019 University of Arizona Conference Travel Grant ($600)

2019 Stony Brook University Graduate Student Organization Travel Grant ($500)

2019 Stony Brook University Department of Linguistics Travel Award ($300)

2018 Stony Brook University Graduate Student Organization Travel Grant ($440)

2018 Stony Brook University Department of Linguistics Travel Award ($365)

2016 University of Calgary Graduate Research Scholarship ($4492)

2015 University of Calgary URGC Graduate Conference Travel Grant ($750)

2015 University of Calgary Graduate Student Association’s Personal Development Grant ($500)

2015 University of Calgary Graduate Research Scholarship ($4487)

2014 University of Calgary Graduate Research Scholarship ($3995)

20131/4 Success Scholarship, Turkish Government ($1,750)

2013/14 Tuition fee exemption for two academic years because of good academic standing, Middle East Technical University ($1600)

**AWARDS**

2014 *Top Ranking Student Award,* Department of Foreign Language Education*,* Middle East Technical University, Turkey

2010-14 *High Honor Student Award,* Middle East Technical University, Turkey

**TEACHING POSITIONS**

***Instructor of Record***

Winter 2020 The Anatomy of English Words (LIN 110), Stony Brook University (online)

Winter 2019 The Anatomy of English Words (LIN 110), Stony Brook University (online)

Fall 2018 The Anatomy of English Words (LIN 110), Stony Brook University (online)

Summer 2018 Second Language Acquisition (LIN 426/532), Stony Brook University

Spring 2018 Curriculum Design and Development (LIN 571/578), Stony Brook University

Fall 2016 High Intermediate Writing Academic English (WAE 192), Stony Brook University

***Teaching* *Assistant***

Spring 2020 Language and Technology (LIN 220), Stony Brook University

Summer 2019 IACS Computes! High School Summer Camp, Stony Brook University

Spring 2019 Curriculum Design and Development (LIN 571/578), Stony Brook University

Fall 2017 Syntax (LIN 311), Stony Brook University

Spring 2017 Literacy Development (LIN 344), Stony Brook University

Winter 2016 Language and Advertising (LING 223), University of Calgary

Syntactic Analysis (LING 401), University of Calgary

Fall 2015 Introduction to Linguistics (LING 201), University of Calgary

Winter 2015 Syntactic Analysis (LING 401), University of Calgary

Introduction to Linguistics (LING 201), University of Calgary

Fall 2014 Introduction to Linguistics (LING 201), University of Calgary

**STUDENT POSITIONS**

***Research Assistant***

Summer 2019 *Research on computational complexity (subregularity) of syntax* (for Dr. Thomas Graf, Stony Brook University, USA)

2018/19 *The Impact on Speech Production after Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation (tDCS) examined with fMRI in Individuals Diagnosed with Parkinson’s Disease* (for Dr. Renee Fabus and Dr. Hoi-Chung Leung, Stony Brook University, USA)

Summer 2015 *Scope and the Position of Negation in Persian* (for Dr. Dennis Ryan Storoshenko, University of Calgary, Canada)

***Graduate Assistant***

Spring 2019 Middle Eastern Languages Summer Institute (MELSI) (for Dr. Lori Repetti, Stony Brook University, USA)

***Language Consultant***

Spring 2017 Structure of an Uncommonly Taught Language (Azeri) (LIN 431), Stony Brook University

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

11/2022-now Language Engineering Manager, Amazon Alexa, Santa Clara, CA, USA

10/2021-11/2022 Language Engineer II, Amazon Alexa, Santa Clara, CA, USA

05/2020-10/2021 Language Engineer, Amazon Alexa, Santa Clara, CA, USA

Summer 2017 Administrative Assistant, Applied Biomathematics, Stony Brook, NY, USA

2016-17 Proctor for Computer-based Foreign Language Placement Exams, Language Learning and Research Center, Stony Brook University

2013-14 Interpreter and Translator, United Nations High Commissioners for Refugees; Ankara, Turkey

2013-14 Freelance Interpreter, German Embassy and Australian Embassy; Ankara, Turkey

2012-13 English as a Foreign Language Instructor, ACTIVE English; Ankara, Turkey

2009-10 English as a Foreign Language Instructor, Chitsazan Language Institute; Tabriz, Iran x

**SERVICE**

***Workshops***

North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad (NACLO) 2019 Practice Session Instructor

North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad (NACLO) 2018 Practice Session Instructor

***Student Volunteer (Room Monitor)***

The 92nd annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America held in Salt Lake City, 2018

***Conference Organizer***

SYNC (**S**tony Brook University, **Y**ale, **N**YU, **C**UNY) 2018, Stony Brook University

1st North American Conference in Iranian Linguistics, Stony Brook University

***Conference Reviewer***

SYNC (**S**tony Brook University, **Y**ale, **N**YU, **C**UNY) 2017, Yale

SYNC (**S**tony Brook University, **Yxxxx**ale, **N**YU, **C**UNY) 2016, CUNY

***Student Responsibilities***

2017/18 Co-founder/ Organizer of Neurolinguistics Reading Group, Stony Brook University, USA

2017/18 Graduate Student Representative, Department of Linguistics, Stony Brook University, USA

2014/16 VP Social and Event Coordinator, Department of Linguistics, University of Calgary, Canada

***Community***

2016 Calgary Drop-in & Rehab Center- The DI, Calgary, Canada

2015 Info Table, Graduate Orientation, University of Calgary, Canada

2015 Coordinating Assistant, Heritage Day Festival, Calgary, Canada

2013/14 Study Assistance, Middle East Technical University; Ankara, Turkey

**ASSOCIATIONS**

Linguistic Society of America (LSA)

Canadian Linguistic Association (CLA)

**LANGUAGES**

Native: Persian, Azeri

Fluent: English, Turkish

Basic: German

**COMPUTER SKILLS**

OS: Macintosh, Windows, Linux

Programming: Python

Editing: LaTeX, Markdown, Microsoft Office

**PROJECTS**

Spring 2020 **A c-command Decoder** (term project): Creating a parser that encodes c-command relation directly from strings using nltk tools on Penn Treebank parsed trees, and training the model using Gated Recurrent Units [[link](https://github.com/nazilashafiei/NLP-Project)].

Spring 2019 **Sentiment Analysis** (term project): Using Python scikit-learn machine learning package, we did a sentiment analysis of Amazon reviews on Kindle e-books [[link](https://github.com/nazilashafiei/Sentiment-Analysis)].

**REFERENCES**

**Thomas Graf**, Associate Professor (PhD thesis advisor)

Dept. of Linguistics Stony Brook University

Email: [mail@thomasgraf.net](mailto:mail@thomasgraf.net)

**John F. Bailyn**, Professor (PhD thesis committee member)

Dept. of Linguistics Stony Brook University

Email: [john.bailyn@stonybrook.edu](mailto:john.bailyn%40stonybrook.edu)

**Jeffrey Heinz**, Professor (PhD thesis committee member)

Dept. of Linguistics Stony Brook University

Email: [jeffrey.heinz@stonybrook.edu](mailto:jeffrey.heinz%40stonybrook.edu)

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