

Personal information

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Positions

Since 2016 **Instructor**
Spanish and Portuguese Studies, Umass Amherst
2014 – 2016 **Postdoctoral Researcher**
Graduate Program in Social Anthropology (PPGAS)
Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)
Supervisor: Bruna Franchetto

Education

2008 – 2013 **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (USA)**
PhD in linguistics with specialization in syntax
Committee: Norvin Richards (head), Sabine Iatridou,
David Pesetsky, Andrés Salanova
2006 – 2007 **Universidade Estadual de Campinas (Brazil)**
Master's degree in linguistics
Committee: Filomena Sandalo (head),
Sônia Cyrino, Luciana Storto
2003 – 2005 **Universidade Estadual de Campinas (Brazil)**
Bachelor's degree in linguistics

Relevant work

Language Projects

Since 2015 **Endangered indigenous languages:
research and linguistic theories for revitalization**
CNPq (Nacional Research Council, Brazil), PI: Bruna Franchetto (UFRJ)
» This project focus on the revitalization of two languages, with different strategies. I am
working on Yawanawa (Jêan, only spoken by the adults), alongside another linguist and
the Yawanawa school teachers, to develop a pedagogical grammar.

Since 2008 **A descriptive study of Kĩsêdjê targeted at building corpora**
Prodclín/Museu do Índio (Brazil), MISTI-Brazil (USA),
Ken Hale Foundation (USA), Endangered Language Fund (USA),
Foundation for Endangered Languages (UK)
» Elicitation sessions: 207 (4596 sentences elicited). 674 recordings (47h).
Transcribed texts: 60 (15h). Translated texts: 27 (6:40h) .

Language Projects (continuation)

- 2014 **Cooperation between Australia and Brazil for the documentation and revitalization of Indigenous languages**
FUNAI (Brazil) and AIATIS (Australia)
» Focus on language documentation and revitalization. Three months in Australia visiting Indigenous language centers and giving presentations about the situation of Brazilian languages. URL: <http://aiatsis.gov.au/sites/default/files/products/corporate/ar201314-04-performance-goal2-collaboration.pdf> (p. 57)
- 2005 – 2008 **A descriptive study of the Bororo language**
Foundation for Endangered Languages (UK), Unicamp (Brazil)
» Elicitation sessions: 40 (1571 sentences elicited). Recordings: 7 (71 mins).
Texts transcribed and translated: 4 (29 mins)

PhD thesis

- 2014 “Clause chaining, switch reference and coordination”. PhD Thesis. MIT.
URL: <http://rafaeln.github.io/papers/thesis.pdf>

Master’s thesis

- 2007 “Ainore Boe Egore: A descriptive study of the Bororo language and consequences for the theory of case and agreement” (Ainore Boe egore: Um estudo descritivo da língua bororo e conseqüências para a teoria de caso e concordância). MA Thesis. in Portuguese. Unicamp, Brazil. URL: <http://ling.auf.net/lingbuzz/001909>
» I describe the Bororo language (Macro-Jê, Brazil) and propose a modified AGREE operation (Chomsky, 2000, 2001) that accounts for the unusual relation between verbal movement and agreement in the language.

Refereed publications

- in press “Khátpy re wapãmjê thõ thurun tho thêm nda. ‘The one (story) in which the Khátpy monster loads a forefather of ours onto his back and carries him away’”. In: *On this and other worlds: voices from Amazonia*. Ed. by Bruna Franchetto and Kris Stenzel. Language Science Press
- in press “Switch-reference is licensed by both kinds of coordination: novel Kĩsêdjê data”. In: *Recursion across domains*. Ed. by Marcus Maia, Andrew Nevins, and Tom Roeper. Cambridge University Press. URL: <http://rafaeln.github.io/papers/recursionpaper.pdf>
- 2015 “Review of ‘Why the Suyá sing’ by Anthony Seeger”. In: *Revista Mana* 21.3. URL: <http://www.scielo.br/pdf/mana/v21n3/0104-9313-mana-21-03-00675.pdf>
- 2014 “Where are the possessors?” In: *Revista Linguística* 10.1. URL: <http://ling.auf.net/lingbuzz/002248>
- 2007 “Verbal movement, case and agreement.” In: *Revista da ABRALIN* 6.1, pp. 61–95. URL: <http://ling.auf.net/lingbuzz/001910>
- 2007 “Uma comparação gramatical, fonológica e lexical entre as famílias Guaikurú, Mataco e Bororo: um caso de difusão areal?” In: *Boletim do Museu Paraense Emílio Goeldi. Série Ciências da Terra* 2, pp. 91–107. (With Filomena Sandalo)

Conference proceedings

- 2016 “Where does possession take place?” In: *Proceedings of the Workshop on Structure and Constituency in the Languages of the Americas 20*. Ed. by Emily Sadler-Brown, Erin Guntly, and Natalie Weber. University of British Columbia Working Papers in Linguistics 43, pp. 71–87
- 2014 “Language revitalization across the South Pacific”. In: *Proceedings of the 18th FEL conference*. Ed. by Patrick Heinrich and Nicholas Ostler. with Bruna Franchetto and Livia Souza
- 2013 “Clause-chaining is coordination”. In: *Proceedings of the Forty-Second Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society*. Ed. by Stefan Keine and Shayne Sloggett. Vol. 2, pp. 67–80
- 2008 “Fonética e Fonologia da Palavra em Bororo”. In: *Topicalizando Macro-Jê*. Ed. by Stella Telles. Proceedings of the IV Macro-Jê, 2005, Recife. Recife: Néctar. URL: <http://rafaeln.github.io/papers/fonbororo.pdf>

Books

- 2015 *Metujarēn ndo huĩsôšôkô: livro de histórias Kĩsêdjê*. Rio de Janeiro: Museu do Índio, FUNAI (with Kĩsêdjê Teachers)
» A selection of Kĩsêdjê narratives

Editorial Duties

- Since 2016 Reviewer for Revista Brasileira de Línguas Indígenas (UNIFAP – Brazil)
- Since 2014 Occasional Reviewer for Revista Linguística (UFRJ – Brazil)
- Since 2014 Occasional Reviewer for Relin (UFMG – Brazil)

Talks, conference presentations and posters

- 2016 “One negation in Kĩsêdjê”. Presentation given at Amazonicas VI. Letícia, Colombia & Tabatinga, Brazil. URL: <http://rafaeln.github.io/talks/2016-amazonicas-negation.pdf>
- 2016 “Noruega, Ndo ro hwêkê, Peido na cara”. Invited talk. Graduate Program in Social Anthropology, UFRJ, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. URL: <http://rafaeln.github.io/talks/2016-ppgas-ndo-ro-hweke.pdf>
- 2016 “Linear phenomena in switch-reference marking”. Presentation given at a Rutgers Syntax Lab meeting. URL: <http://rafaeln.github.io/talks/2016-rutgers-linear-switchreference.pdf>
- 2015 “Concordância, switch-reference e caso tripartido em línguas Pano”. Invited talk. Universidade de Brasília, Brazil (with Livia Souza)
- 2015 “Projeção argumental em kĩsêdjê”. Presentation given at ABRALIN 2015. UFBA, Belém, Brazil.
- 2015 “The structure of nominal possession”. Presentation given at the WSCLA 20. University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.
- 2014 “Foco em Língua: Kĩsêdjê” (Focus in language: Kĩsêdjê). Invited Class. Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- 2014 “Language revitalization across the South Pacific”. (with Bruna Franchetto and Livia Souza). Presentation given at FEL XVIII Uchinaa. Okinawa International University, Okinawa, Japan.

Talks, conference presentations and posters (continuation)

- 2014 “Erasing languages and saving peoples or saving peoples and erasing languages?”. (with Bruna Franchetto and Livia Souza). Invited Talk. Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- 2014 “Indigenous Film-makers in Upper Xingu, Brazil”. (with Bruna Franchetto and Livia Souza). Presentation given at *Getting in Touch Workshop*. Desert Knowledge Precinct, Alice Springs, Australia.
- 2014 “Indigenous Languages: Collaborative Documentation Projects”. (with Bruna Franchetto and Livia Souza). Seminar presented at the *Mirima Language and Culture Centre*, Kununurra, Australia.
- 2014 “The protagonism of indigenous researchers in language documentation in Brazil” (with Livia Souza). Talk given at the *2014 AIATSIS National Indigenous Studies Conference*. URL: http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/_files/conferences/national_indigenous_studies_conference/presentations_aiatsis_national_indigenous_studies_conference.pdf
- 2014 “A cross-linguistic study of case and switch-reference in unrelated languages” (with Livia Souza). Seminar. Australian National University, Canberra, Australia. URL: <http://ips.cap.anu.edu.au/cap-events/2014-03-21/cross-linguistic-study-case-and-switch-reference-unrelated-languages>
- 2014 “Language, Territory and Bilingual Education in Brazil”. (with Bruna Franchetto and Livia Souza). Seminar presented at the *Barnjala Language Reclamation Workshop*, Whayalla, Australia.
- 2014 “Brazilian Indigenous Languages”. (with Bruna Franchetto and Livia Souza). Seminar presented at *Linguistics Research Seminar*. University of Adelaide, Adelaide, Austrália. URL: http://www.hss.adelaide.edu.au/linguistics/seminars/LING_SEM_S1_2014.pdf
- 2014 “Agreement and the structure of coordination”. (with Livia Souza). Talk given at *Agreement 2014*. UFRPE, Brazil. URL: <http://www.agreement2014.com/p/program.html>
- 2013 “The structure of coordination”. Talk given at *Recursion in Brazilian languages and beyond*. UFRJ, Brazil. URL: <http://www.letras.ufrj.br/poslinguistica/recursion/info/19-the-structure-of-asymmetric.pdf>
- 2012 “Morphological OCP”. Talk given at *XI Workshop on Formal Linguistics*. UFRJ, Brazil. URL: <https://sites.google.com/site/workshopformallinguistics/nonato.pdf>
- 2012 “Clitics competing for a host”. Poster presented at *Workshop on the representation and selection of exponents*. Castl, Norway. URL: <https://castl.uit.no/index.php/conferences/76-other-castl-events/conferencesaworkshops/255-worse-program>
- 2011 “The Kĩsêdjê Main-Embedded Case Split”. Talk given at *V Conference on Indigenous Languages of Latin America*. University of Texas at Austin, USA. URL: http://www.ailla.utexas.org/site/cilla5_call.html
- 2009 “The computational system of human language”. Invited talk. Department of Computer Science, Universo, Brazil.
- 2005 “Comparação das línguas umutina e bororo”. Talk given at *Workshop sobre lingüística histórica e línguas em contato*. UnB, Brazil.

Teaching experience

University courses

- 2016 **Elementary Portuguese I**
Umass Amherst
- 2015-2016 **Línguas ameríndias: conhecer, documentar, descrever**
(Amerindian languages: knowing, documenting and describing them)
» Graduate-level introduction to linguistics centered on Amerindian languages.
Graduate Program in Social Anthropology – UFRJ (with Bruna Franchetto)
URL (2015): <https://amerindias.github.io/curso2015/index.html>
URL (2016): <https://amerindias.github.io/>

Short courses

- 2012 **Fieldwork Methods** - 12 hours (1:30 hours for 8 days)
» Elicitation techniques with Kĩsêdjê speaker Jamthô Suyá. Areas investigated: tense and modality, argument structure, case split, clausal embedding, tag questions.
Intro to Generative Syntax - 6 hours (1:30 hours for 4 days)
» Topics covered: constituency tests, rules and hierarchy, adjuncts and complements, unaccusative, unergative and transitive verbs and A-movement.
Summer School of Formal Linguistics - Campinas, Brazil
URL: <http://evelin2012.wordpress.com/>
- 2010 **Transcribing Tradicional Narratives with *Transcriber***
With Kawiri Suyá and Jamthô Suyá
» Topics covered: basic computer skills and transcription of narratives with program *Transcriber*. Audience: 10 advanced high school students of the Kĩsêdjê Indigenous School.
- 2008 **Sociolinguistics for Indigenous Teachers** - 36 hours (6 hours for 6 days)
With Mara Santos and Suzi Lima (organized by Instituto Socioambiental)
» Topic: fundamentals of sociolinguistics. Audience: indigenous teachers from 7 ethnic groups from Xingu Indigenous Reserve. Follow-up: after workshop, teachers returned to their villages accompanied by linguists to apply a sociolinguistics surveys.

Teaching assistantships

- Spring 2011 **Intro to Linguistics**
Instructors: Norvin Richards and Adam Albright
» The students attending the course were split in smaller sections. I taught a weekly 1:30h long session to 14 students where I reviewed and extended what had been taught in the main class, handed graded homeworks and answered questions individually.
- Fall 2010 **Intro to Linguistics**
Instructor: David Pesetsky
» The students attending the course were split in smaller sections. I taught a weekly 1:30h long session to 14 students where I reviewed and extended what had been taught in the main class, handed graded homeworks and answered questions individually.
- 2001 **High school sciences**
Various main instructors
» I taught weekly maths reinforcement session to students from the 9th, 10th and 11th grades, and substituted for maths and physics teachers in the same grades.

Field experience: 407 days

- Jul–Ago 2016 Yawanawa villages (Rio Gregório Indigenous Reserve)
» Workshop for writing Yawanawa pedagogical grammar (with Livia Souza and Yawanawa teachers). Duration: 23 days
- Oct–Nov 2015 Ngôjhwêrê village (Wawi Indigenous Reserve)
» Elicitation sessions: 30 (335 sentences collected). Duration: 30 days
- Jul 2015 Yawanawa villages (Rio Gregório Indigenous Reserve)
» Initial talks of language revitalization project (with Livia Souza). Duration: 27 days
- May 2015 Ngôjhwêrê village (Wawi Indigenous Reserve)
» Visit during a very festive time. Witnessed and took part in 3 different and simultaneous ceremonies. Duration: 10 days
- Oct–Nov 2014 Ngôjhwêrê village (Wawi Indigenous Reserve)
» Elicitation sessions: 34 (310 sentences collected). Discussion with men’s council about funding for documentation and devising of trilingual support letter. Training of two new indigenous researchers in transcription techniques. Duration: 31 days
- Jan–Feb 2013 Ngôjhwêrê village (Wawi Indigenous Reserve)
» Elicitation sessions: 20 (329 sentences collected). Workshop: final revision (content- and orthography-wise) of a compilation of traditional narratives that is indented for use at the Kîsêdjê schools (with Livia Souza). Documentation: new recordings, and transcription and translation of previous recordings. Duration: 34 days
- Jul–Aug 2012 Ngôjhwêrê village (Wawi Indigenous Reserve)
» Elicitation sessions: 19 (394 sentences collected). Workshop: revision (content- and orthography-wise) of a compilation of traditional narratives that is indented for use at the Kîsêdjê schools. Documentation: new recordings and transcription and translation of previous recordings. Duration: 47 days
- May–Jul 2011 Ngôjhwêrê village (Wawi Indigenous Reserve)
» Elicitation sessions: 32 (682 sentences collected). Workshop 1: Assessment of the documentation project and future directions, discussion and revision of orthographic rules. Workshop 2: Initial revision (orthographically and content-wise) of a compilation of traditional narratives that is indented for use at the Kîsêdjê schools. Documentation: new recordings and transcription and translation of previous recordings. Duration: 32 days.
- Jan 2011 Ngôjhwêrê village (Wawi Indigenous Reserve)
» Elicitation sessions: 2 (32 sentences collected). Workshop: discussion and revision of the orthographic rules. Duration: 7 days
- Jul–Ago 2010 Ngôjhwêrê village (Wawi Indigenous Reserve)
» Elicitation sessions: 15 (382 sentences collected). Workshop 1: discussion and revision of orthographic rules. Workshop 2: How to transcribe narratives with *Transcriber*. Documentation: new recordings and transcription and translation of previous recordings. Duration: 31 days
- Nov–Dec 2009 Ngôjhwêrê village (Wawi Indigenous Reserve)
» Elicitation sessions: 30 (1191 sentences collected). Documentation: new recordings and transcription and translation of previous recordings. Duration: 45 days
- May 2008 Korogedu Paru village (Teresa Cristina Indigenous Land)
» Elicitation sessions: 6 (135 sentences collected). Documentation: recordings of words in isolation. Duration: 7 days
- Mar–Abr 2008 Ngôjhwêrê village (Wawi Indigenous Reserve)
» Elicitation sessions: 28 (800 sentences collected). Documentation: new recordings and transcription and translation of previous recordings. Duration: 41 days

Field experience (continuation)

- Dec 2007 Korogedu Paru village (Teresa Cristina Indigenous Land)
» Elicitation sessions: 4 (87 sentences collected). Duration: 7 days
- Out 2005 Barra do Bugres
» Elicitation sessions: 1 (35 sentences collected). Interlinear analysis and translation of the story of the sun and the moon (with Dario Brame). Duration: 5 days
- Ago 2005 Korogedu Paru village (Teresa Cristina Indigenous Land)
» Elicitation sessions: 14 (748 sentences collected). Documentation: recording of procedural narrative and of words in isolation. Duration: 11 days
- Dez 2004 Korogedu Paru village (Teresa Cristina Indigenous Land)
» Elicitation sessions: 8 (279 sentences collected). Documentation: recording of a procedural and a mythical narrative. Duration: 10 days
- Set 2004 Korogedu Paru village (Teresa Cristina Indigenous Land)
» Elicitation sessions: 7 (287 sentences collected). Documentation: recording of isolated words. Duration: 9 days

Software

- 2013 **Nonobox**. This program performs queries in interlinearized sentence databases built with SIL Toolbox (queries that Toolbox itself can't perform). It can also convert the matched sentences into code for pasting into L^AT_EX documents. *in Python*. URL: <https://github.com/rafaelnonato/nonobox/archive/master.zip>

Languages

Portuguese	native
English	fluent
French	fluent
Spanish	fluent
Italian	good
German	reading
Kĩsêdjê	fieldwork
Bororo	fieldwork

Programming languages

Python	good
Perl	good
Awk	good
Sed	good
Bash	good
C	rusty