

Sébastien Vandenitte

<https://sebastienvandenitte.github.io>

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EMPLOYMENT

October 2025 – September 2028: F.R.S. – FNRS Postdoctoral researcher (University of Namur)

October 2024 – August 2025: Postdoctoral researcher (University of Jyväskylä)

October 2023 – October 2024: Project researcher (University of Jyväskylä)

- Spring 2025: Co-teaching of *Research on Phonetics of Sign Languages* (SVKS1013) with Dr. A. Puupponen
- 24-28 March 2025: Erasmus+ teaching and staff training mobility at UCLouvain Saint-Louis Brussels
- 2024-2025: Co-organiser of LINNORD, *Nordic Innovations in Linguistics* at the University of Jyväskylä (20-21 March 2025)
- 2023-2025: Responsible for the motion capture work package in the *ShowTell* project (<https://www.jyu.fi/en/projects/showtell-showing-and-telling-in-finnish-sign-language>) on constructed action in Finnish Sign Language
- 2023-2025: Collaboration with several colleagues on the interpretation and dissemination of results related to other *ShowTell* work packages

October 2019- September 2023: PhD Research Fellow funded by F.R.S.-FNRS (*University of Namur*)

- 2022-2023: Member of the scientific board of the Namur Institute of Language, Text and Transmediality (*University of Namur*)
- 2022- 2023: Member of the Board of the Faculty of Arts (*University of Namur*)
- Jan-July 2022: Research visit at the Sign Language Center of the University of Jyväskylä
- 2020-2021: Teaching of exercise sessions on multimodal viewpoint expression in LANGB301 - English Language and Linguistics: Advanced Studies (*University of Namur*)
- 2021: Co-editor of the *Papers of the Linguistic Society of Belgium* (Vol. 15)
- 2020: Co-organisation of the Linguistic Society of Belgium's Linguists' Day

November 2018 – September 2019: Literacy teacher at Alpha-Signes NGO

- Providing support in LSFB to deaf adults training their French reading and writing skills
- Designing teaching materials

EDUCATION

October 2019- October 2024: PhD in Languages, Literature and Translation Studies
(University of Namur) – Supervisors: Laurence Meurant (University of Namur) and Philippe De Brabanter (Université Libre de Bruxelles)

- September – December 2021: Techniques of International Sign (Université Catholique de Louvain-la-Neuve - UCLouvain)
- July 2021: Corpus Linguistics Summer School 2021 (University of Birmingham)
- February – June 2021: Introduction to International Sign (Université Catholique de Louvain-la-Neuve - UCLouvain)
- January – March 2021: ‘Vulgare’ coaching in public presentation and pitch writing (UNamur)
- January 2021: VU Graduate Winter School: ‘Gestures: How to Analyze Forms, Meaning and Functions’ (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)
- 2019 – 2020: LSFB course: B2.2 (IHECS Academy)

2016 – 2018: Master’s Degree in Linguistics (Université Libre de Bruxelles) – Summa cum laude

- 2016 – 2018: LSFB courses: up to B2.1 (Haute École Léonard de Vinci Bruxelles)
- May 2017: Sign-Hub LABEX Summer School in Sign Language Linguistics (Università degli Studi di Milano)

2013 - 2016: Bachelor’s Degree in Modern Languages and Literatures, English and Spanish (Université Libre de Bruxelles) – Magna cum laude

- 2015-2016: Minor in Political Sciences (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)
- September - December 2015: Erasmus exchange (University of Edinburgh)

2007 – 2013: Secondary education (Collège Saint-Pierre d’Uccle)

- Modern languages: English, Dutch, Spanish
- Dutch immersion programme

PUBLICATIONS – In preparation / Upcoming

Vandenitte, S., Puupponen, A., Hernández, D., Anible, B. & Jantunen, T. (submitted). The Kinematics of Composite Stories: A motion-capture study of manual telling sequences with varying degrees of constructed action in Finnish Sign Language narratives.

Vandenitte, S. (submitted). Turning depiction up and down: A corpus-based comparison of degrees of constructed action in LSFB and Belgian French conversations and narratives.

PUBLICATIONS – Articles in peer-reviewed journals

Hernández, D., Puupponen, A., Keränen, J., Vandenitte, S., Anible, B., Ortega, G. & Jantunen, T. (2025). Neuroelectrical and behavioral correlates of constructed action recognition in Finnish Sign Language. *Neuroscience*, 575, 140–149. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neuroscience.2025.03.046>

Lepeut, A., Lombart, C., Vandenitte, S., & Meurant, L. (2024). Spoken and signed languages hand in hand: parallel and directly comparable corpora of French Belgian Sign Language (LSFB) and French. *Corpora*, 19(2), 241-253. <https://doi.org/10.3366/cor.2024.0309>

Vandenitte, S. (2022). Making referents seen and heard across signed and spoken languages: Documenting and interpreting cross-modal differences in the use of enactment. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 13, 784339. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2022.784339>

Vandenitte, S. (2022). Showing where you stand: The depictive potential of the lexical sign LS in LSFB conversations about language attitudes. *Belgian Journal of Linguistics*, 36(1), 46-72. <https://doi.org/10.1075/bjl.00071.van>

PUBLICATIONS – Book chapters

Lepeut, A., Lombart, C., Vandenitte, S. & Meurant, L. (2025). Make it a Double: The Building and Use of the LSFB and FRAPé Corpora to Study and Compare French Belgian Sign Language and Belgian French. In T. Leuschner, A., Vajnovszki, G. Delaby & J. Barðdal (Eds.), *How to Do Things with Corpora: Methodological Issues and Case Studies on Grammar* (pp. 31-64). J.B. Metzler, Berlin, Heidelberg. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-662-69690-3_3

Vandenitte, S. (2023). When referents are seen and heard: A comparative study of constructed action in the discourse of LSFB (French Belgian Sign Language) signers and Belgian French speakers. In L. Gardelle, L. Vincent-Durroux, & H. Vinckel-Roisin (Eds.), *Studies in Language Companion Series: From conventions to pragmatics* (pp. 127 - 149). (Studies in Language Companion Series; Vol. 228). <https://doi.org/10.1075/slcs.228.07van>

PUBLICATIONS – Conference proceedings

Sargano, A. B., Vandenitte, S., Jantunen, T. and Kimmelman, V., "Evaluation of Head Pose Estimation Algorithms for Sign Language Analysis", *2024 International Conference on IT and Industrial Technologies (ICIT)*, Chiniot, Pakistan, 2024, pp. 1-6, doi: <https://doi.org/10.1109/ICIT63607.2024.10859486>.

Vandenitte, S. (2021). Construire l'action pour rendre les référents visibles en LSFB: Une étude pilote des mouvements corporels décriptifs. In S. Vandenitte, A. Lepeut, & L. Meurant (Eds.), *Travaux du Cercle belge de linguistique* (Vol. 15). <https://sites.uclouvain.be/bkl-cbl/fr/publications/travaux-du-cbl/volume-15-2021/>

Vandenitte, S. (2019). Une approche pragmatique du transfert personnel en langues des signes: La construction du discours et de l'action à visée illustrative. In C. Béchet, L. Brems, & M. Steffens (Eds.), *Travaux du Cercle Belge de Linguistique* (Vol. 13). <https://sites.uclouvain.be/bkl-cbl/en/journals/papers-of-the-lsb/volume-13-2019/>

PRIZES AND FELLOWSHIPS

- September 2021: Best presentation by a PhD student (3rd prize) granted by the Societas Linguistica Europaea.
- March 2021: Audience award at the UNamur edition of MT180 competition (*Ma thèse en 180 secondes* – My thesis in 3 minutes)
- 2021: Laureate of the SofinaBoël Fund for Education and Talent
- 2019-2023: F.R.S.-FNRS Research Fellowship

SKILLS

- Corpus collection and analysis
- Kinematic analysis of video data
- R
- ELAN multimodal annotation software

LANGUAGES

- French (native proficiency)
- English (full professional proficiency)
- LSFB (full professional proficiency)
- Dutch (professional working proficiency)
- Italian (professional working proficiency)
- Spanish (professional working proficiency)
- International Sign (limited working proficiency)
- FinSL (limited working proficiency)