

# Steven R. Foley

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*Independent linguist specializing in theoretical morphosyntax, comparative psycholinguistics, and experimental field methods.*

*Specialties include case and agreement; relative clauses; incremental sentence processing; field-psycholinguistics; Georgian and languages of the Caucasus.*

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EMPLOYMENT	2020–2022	<b>Princeton University</b> , Princeton, NJ Postdoctoral Research Associate and Lecturer in the Council of the Humanities
EDUCATION	2014–2020	<b>University of California Santa Cruz</b> , Santa Cruz, CA Ph.D. in Linguistics Advisors: Matt Wagers and Maziar Toosarvandani
	2010–2013	<b>New York University</b> , New York City, NY B.A. in Linguistics, <i>summa cum laude</i> Advisor: Stephanie Harves

## OUTPUT

### JOURNAL ARTICLES

Foley, Steven and Maziar Toosarvandani. 2022. Extending the Person–Case Constraint to gender: Agreement, locality, and the syntax of pronouns. *Linguistic Inquiry*. 53(1): 1–40.

### THESES

Foley, Steven. 2020. Case, agreement, and sentence processing in Georgian. Ph.D. dissertation, University of California Santa Cruz.

Foley, Steven. 2013. The syntax of Georgian relative clauses. Senior honors thesis, New York University.

### INVITED CONTRIBUTIONS

Foley, Steven. 2020. Agreement in the languages of the Caucasus. In *The Oxford Handbook of Languages of the Caucasus*, ed. Maria Polinsky. Oxford University Press. 845–872.

Adler, Jeff, Steven Foley, Jed Pizarro-Guevara, Kelsey Sasaki, and Maziar Toosarvandani. 2018. The derivation of verb initiality in Santiago Laxopa Zapotec. In *A reasonable way to proceed: Essays in honor of Jim McCloskey*, eds. Jason Merchant, Line Mikkelsen, Deniz Rudin, and Kelsey Sasaki. 31–49.

Foley, Steven. 2012. The Northwest Caucasian verb. In *Advanced Language Construction*, ed. Mark Rosenfelder. 184–203.

### CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Foley, Steven, Nick Kalivoda, and Maziar Toosarvandani. To appear. Gender–Case constraints in Zapotec. In *Proceedings of the 22nd Workshop on Structure and Constituency in Languages of the Americas (WSCLA 22)*, ed. Anne Bertrand.

- Foley, Steven, and Maziar Toosarvandani. 2019. Pronoun cliticization, *wh*-movement, and the Principle of Minimal Compliance. In *Proceedings of the 49th North East Linguistics Society (NELS 49)*, eds. Maggie Baird & Jonathan Pesetsky. 251–264.
- Foley, Steven, Nick Kalivoda, and Maziar Toosarvandani. 2019. Forbidden clitic clusters in Zapotec. In *Proceedings of the 53rd Chicago Linguistics Society (CLS 53)*, eds. Daniel Edmiston, Marina Ermolaeva, Emre Hakgüder, Jackie Lai, Kathryn Montemurro, Brandon Rhodes, Amara Sankhagowit, and Michael Tabatowski. 87–102.
- Foley, Steven. 2017. Morphological conspiracies in Georgian and Optimal Vocabulary Insertion. In *Proceedings of the 52nd Chicago Linguistics Society (CLS 52)*, eds. Jessica Kantarovitch, Tran Truong, and Orest Xherija. 217–232.

#### REFEREED CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

- Ahn, Byron, Kirby Conrod, Ameena Faruki, Steven Foley, Xander Guidry, and Ruth Schultz. 2022. Acceptability, production, and comprehension of definite singular *they*. Paper to be presented at *New Ways of Analyzing Variation (NWAV 50)*. Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA. October 13–15.
- Foley, Steven. 2022. Quantifying performance constraints on case-alignment typology with information theory. Poster presented at the *35th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP 2022)*. University of California Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA. March 24–26.
- Foley, Steven and Matt Wagers. 2021. Predicting syntactic role in a split-ergative language: Reading-time and corpus evidence from Georgian. Paper presented at *Crosslinguistic Perspectives on Processing and Learning (X-PPL)*. University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland. September 16–17.
- Foley, Steven and Matt Wagers. 2020. Prominence scales guide incremental sentence comprehension in Georgian. Poster presented at the *33rd Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing (CUNY 33)*. University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA. March 19–21.
- Foley, Steven. 2019. The Principle Minimal Compliance and derivational competition in South Caucasian agreement. Poster presented at the *50th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistics Society (NELS 50)*. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA. October 25–27.
- Foley, Steven. 2019. Object agreement in South Caucasian via the Principle of Minimal Compliance. Paper presented at *Object Agreement Across Barriers*. University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia. September 16–17.
- Foley, Steven and Matt Wagers. 2019. Computing object agreement is easier than computing subject agreement in Georgian. Poster presented at the *32nd Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing (CUNY 32)*. University of Colorado, Boulder, CO. March 29–31.
- Foley, Steven, Jed Pizarro-Guevarra, Kelsey Sasaki, Maziar Toosarvandani, and Matt Wagers. 2019. Pronouns over gaps in parsing? The Subject Relative Clause Advantage in Santiago Laxopa Zapotec. Paper presented at the *93rd Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 93)*, New York City, NY. January 3–6.
- Foley, Steven and Matt Wagers. 2018. Detecting agreement errors in Georgian: Implications for predictive parsing. Paper presented at the *2nd Annual California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP 2)*. University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA. December 1–2.
- Foley, Steven and Maziar Toosarvandani. 2018. Pronominal cliticization, multiple *wh*-movement, and Probe Generosity. Paper presented at the *49th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistics Society (NELS 49)*. Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. October 5–7.
- Foley, Steven and Matt Wagers. 2017. The Subject Gap Preference in a split-ergative language: Reading time evidence from Georgian. Paper presented at the *48th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistics Society (NELS 48)*. University of Iceland, Reykjavik, Iceland. October 27–29.

- Foley, Steven, Nick Kalivoda, and Maziar Toosarvandani. 2017. Forbidden clitic clusters in Zapotec. Paper presented at the *53rd Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistics Society (CLS 53)*. University of Chicago, Chicago, IL. May 25–27.
- Foley, Steven, Nick Kalivoda, and Maziar Toosarvandani. 2017. Forbidden clitic clusters in Zapotec. Paper presented at the *22rd Workshop on Structure and Constituency in Languages of the Americas (WSCLA 22)*. University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. May 25–27.
- Foley, Steven and Matt Wagers. 2017. Subject gaps are still easiest: Relative clause processing and Georgian split ergativity. Poster presented at the *30th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing (CUNY 30)*. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA. March 30 – April 1.
- Adler, Jeff, Steven Foley, Jed Pizarro-Guevara, Kelsey Sasaki, and Maziar Toosarvandani. 2017. The derivation of verb-initiality of Santiago Laxopa Zapotec. Paper presented at *Society for the Study of Indigenous Languages of the Americas Annual Meeting (SSILA)*. University of Texas, Austin, TX. January 5–8.
- Foley, Steven. 2016. Case–agreement mismatches in Georgian. Poster presented at *South Caucasian Chalk Circle (SCCC)*, Paris, France. September 22–24.
- Foley, Steven. 2016. Morphological conspiracies and the nature of Vocabulary Insertion. Paper presented at the *52nd Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistics Society (CLS 52)*. University of Chicago, Chicago, IL. April 21–23.
- Foley, Steven. 2015. Is the Subset Principle Violable? The view from Georgian agreement. Paper presented at the *nth International Tbilisi Symposium on Language, Logic, and Cognition (TbiLLC XI)*. Tbilisi State University, Tbilisi, Georgia. September 21–26.
- Foley, Steven. 2013. Songhay relative clauses. Paper presented at *SUNY–Yale–NYU–CUNY Linguistics Graduate Conference (SYNC 15)*. Yale University, New Haven, CT. December 7.
- Foley, Steven. 2013. A unified derivation of relative clauses in Georgian. Paper presented at the *Cornell Undergraduate Linguistics Colloquium (CULC 7)*. Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. April 20–21.

#### INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- Foley, Steven. 2021. Quantifying the production and comprehension burdens of case alignment systems in Georgian and a simulated typology. Syntax Workshop, University of Massachusetts Amherst. October 15.
- Foley, Steven. 2021. Case, animacy, and sentence processing in Georgian and beyond. LingLunch, Queen Mary University of London. May 26.
- Foley, Steven. 2019. Why are ergatives hard to process? Reading-time evidence from Georgian. Linguistics department colloquium, University of Massachusetts Amherst. Amherst, MA. March 1.
- Foley, Steven. 2019. Economy, Minimal Compliance, and cross-derivational competition in South Caucasian agreement. Presented at Stanford's Syntax–Morphology Circle (SMircle). Stanford, CA. January 18.
- Foley, Steven and Maziar Toosarvandani. 2018. Variation and uniformity in constraints on clitic combinations. Presented at UC Berkeley's Syntax–Semantics Circle (SSCircle). Berkeley, CA. February 23.
- Foley, Steven and Maziar Toosarvandani. 2018. Variation and uniformity in constraints on clitic combinations. Presented at Stanford's Syntax–Morphology Circle (SMircle). Stanford, CA. February 23.
- Foley, Steven. 2016. Morphological conspiracies in Georgian agreement. Presented at UC Berkeley's Syntax–Semantics Circle (SSCircle). Berkeley, CA. March 11.
- Foley, Steven. 2016. Optimizing Vocabulary Insertion: A Georgian case study. Presented at Stanford's Syntax–Morphology Circle (SMircle). Stanford, CA. January 22.

Foley, Steven. 2013. Relative clauses in Georgian. Presented at UMass's Syntax Workshop. Amherst, MA. November 15.

Foley, Steven. 2013. Relative clauses in Georgian. Presented at NYU's Syntax Brown Bag. New York, NY. May 3.

## EXPERIENCE

### TEACHING (AS PRIMARY INSTRUCTOR)

Spring 2021      *Constructed Languages: From Elvish to Esperanto*

Fall 2020      *Mythbusting Language*

Fall 2019      *Poetry & Language*

Spring 2019      *Native Languages of North America*

### ADVISING (AS PRIMARY ADVISOR)

Yeung, Michael. 2021. Iconicity in Language Comprehension: A Plausibility Study on Sound Symbolism from Cantonese Ideophones. Senior Thesis, Princeton University.

### ADVISING (AS SECONDARY ADVISOR)

Faruki, Ameena. 2022. The *y* and the *y*-siffed: Online-exclusive expressions of the diminutive in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian. Senior Thesis, Princeton University.

Schultz, Ruth. 2022. Describing womanhood: Tracking relationships between words and social categories in queer communities, 1950s–present. Senior Thesis, Princeton University.

Harris, Alexis. 2021. Unspoken intonation: The prosody of pro-speech gesture. Senior Thesis, Princeton University.

### TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

Spring 2020      *Introduction to Linguistics*

Winter 2020      *Typology*

Winter 2019      *Semantics I*

Fall 2018      *Introduction to Linguistics*

Summer 2018      *Invented Languages*

Spring 2017      *Pragmatics*

Winter 2017      *Syntax I*

Fall 2016      *Psycholinguistics & Linguistic Theory*

Spring 2016      *Poetry & Language*

Winter 2016      *Phonology I*

Fall 2015      *Phonology II*

### RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

Spring 2015      *Processing Opinion Sharing Dialogue in Social Media [NSF 1302668]*  
Supervisor: Pranav Anand (UCSC)

Winter 2014	<i>Locality, markedness, and phonetic factors in speaker knowledge of non-local ejective phonotactics in South Bolivian Quechua</i> [NSF 1222700] Supervisor: Gillian Gallagher (NYU)
Fall 2012– Spring 2013	<i>A Bayesian model of phonetic and phonotactic effects in cross-language speech production</i> [NSF 1052855] Supervisor: Lisa Davidson (NYU)

#### OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Summer 2016	Eastern Generative grammar (EGG) – Lagodekhi, Georgia
Summer 2013	New York / St. Petersburg Institute of Linguistics, Cognition & Culture (NYI) – St. Petersburg, Russia
Summer 2011	Middlebury School of Russian, Middlebury VT

#### FIELDWORK

Georgian (South Caucasian)	Summer 2022: Philadelphia, PA [remote] Spring 2021 & Fall 2022: Philadelphia, PA [remote] Summers 2015, 2016, 2017, 2019: Tbilisi, Georgia Fall 2012: New York City, NY
Santiago Laxopa Zapotec (Oto-Manguean)	Summers 2018, 2019: Santiago Laxopa, Oaxaca, Mexico Fall 2017–Spring 2018: Santa Cruz, CA Spring 2016: UCSC Field Methods course

GRANTS & AWARDS	2019	Mary Turner Gilliland and Clinton Gilliland Award, Phi Beta Kappa Northern California Association (\$7,500)
	2014	Recommended candidate, Fulbright Research Grant to Georgia
	2013	Alumni Association Award, NYU
	2013	Elected to Phi Beta Kappa
	2013	Robert A. Fowkes Award, NYU Department of Linguistics

#### SERVICE

ORGANIZATION	<i>S'-Circle</i> : UCSC's syntax reading group, Spring 2016 – Spring 2017
	<i>S-Circle</i> : UCSC's syntax–semantics speaker series, Fall 2015 – Spring 2017

PEER REVIEWING	Glossa (articles)
	Journal of Memory and Language (articles)
	Journal of Psycholinguistic Research (articles)
	Language (articles)
	Linguistic Typology (articles)
	Natural Language and Linguistic Theory (articles)
	Poznan Studies in Contemporary Linguistics (articles)
	Society for Human Sentence Processing (conference abstracts)
	West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (conference abstracts)

## MEMBERSHIPS

Linguistic Society of America

Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas

*Last updated: September 2022*