

William Johnston

CURRICULUM VITAE

Department of Linguistics
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EDUCATION

- Ph.D, 2024
(expected) Linguistics, McGill University
Dissertation: *Event structure and serial verb constructions in White Hmong*.
Committee: Jessica Coon and Luis Alonso-Ovalle (co-supervisors), Junko Shimoyama, and Lisa Travis.
- B.A., 2013 Linguistics, Carleton College (Northfield, MN)
Magna cum laude, Distinction
Thesis: *Focus, too, and conjunction, too: The syntax and semantics of Japanese co-ordination*. Advisor: Cherlon Ussery.

PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Johnston, William. (2023). "Pair-list answers to questions with plural definites." *Semantics and Pragmatics* 16(2). <https://doi.org/10.3765/sp.16.2>

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Johnston, William. (Forthcoming). "Culmination entailments in V and P: Evidence from White Hmong." In: *Proceedings of the 41st West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*. Ed. by Yağmur Kiper, Larry Lyu, Richard Wang, and Niko Webster. Somerville, MA: Cascadia Press.

Johnston, William. (2022). "Nonspecific promises: The Intensional Restitution Effect." In: *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 26*. Ed. by Daniel Gutzmann and Sophie Repp. pp. 483–502. University of Cologne.

Johnston, William. (2019). "Pair-list questions from dependent plurals." In: *Proceedings of the 22nd Amsterdam Colloquium*. Ed. by Julian J. Schlöder, Dean McHugh, and Floris Roelofsen. pp. 201–210. Amsterdam: ILLC.

MANUSCRIPTS

Johnston, William. (In revision). “Causation and serialization in White Hmong.” [[lingbuzz](#)]

Johnston, William. (In revision). “Nonspecific promises: The Intensional Restitution Effect.”

INVITED TALKS

“The verb phrase in Hmong: Serialization and event structure.” *University of Minnesota Linguistics Colloquium Series*. November 11, 2022.

REFEREED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Talks Given:

“Directed motion in White Hmong: Serial verb constructions as complex PPs.” *Montreal-Ottawa-Toronto-Hamilton Syntax Workshop (MOTH)*, Université du Québec à Montréal. April 23, 2022.

“Verb serialization as event-building: Evidence from Hmong.” *96th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA)*, Washington, DC. January 9, 2022.

“Nonspecific promises: The Intensional Restitution Effect.” *Sinn und Bedeutung* 26, University of Cologne. September 10, 2021.

“Nonspecific promises: The Intensional Restitution Effect.” *Toronto-Ottawa-Montreal Semantics Workshop (TOM) 13*, University of Toronto. May 21, 2021.

“Verb serialization as event-building: Evidence from Hmong.” *Montreal-Ottawa-Toronto-Hamilton Syntax Workshop (MOTH) 2021*, McMaster University. April 19, 2021.

“Pair-list questions from dependent plurals.” *22nd Amsterdam Colloquium*, University of Amsterdam. December 19, 2019.

Posters Presented:

“Culmination entailments in V and P: Evidence from White Hmong.” *41st West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL)*, University of California Santa Cruz. May 6, 2023

“Focus, too, and conjunction, too: The syntax and semantics of Japanese *mo*-coordination.” *Minnesota Undergraduate Linguistics Symposium*, St. Olaf College. April 13, 2013.

TEACHING**COURSES TAUGHT**

Winter 2023	Languages of the World (LING 315) Department of Linguistics, McGill University
Winter 2021	Meaning in Language (LING 260) Department of Linguistics, McGill University

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

Fall 2021	Phonetics (LING 330), Instructor: Connie Ting Department of Linguistics, McGill University
Fall 2020	Meaning in Language (LING 260), Instructor: Bernhard Schwarz Department of Linguistics, McGill University
Winter 2020	Phonetics (LING 330), Instructor: Francisco Torreira Department of Linguistics, McGill University
Fall 2019	Phonetics (LING 330), Instructor: Meghan Clayards Department of Linguistics, McGill University
Fall 2012	Linguistics Department, Carleton College Introduction to Linguistics (LING 110), Instructor: Cherlon Ussery

GRADING

Fall 2020	Structure of a Specific Language: German (LING 410), Instructor: Bernhard Schwarz Department of Linguistics, McGill University
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AWARDS, GRANTS, & FELLOWSHIPS

2022–2023	Graduate Excellence Fellowship, McGill University, \$20,000. McGill Linguistics Department Travel Fund, \$1,000.
2021–2022	Graduate Excellence Award, McGill University, \$15,000. Graduate Research Enhancement and Travel Award, McGill University Faculty of Arts, \$141
2020–2021	Cremona Memorial Fellowship, McGill University, \$10,000. Linguistics Department Nominee, Arts Graduate Student Teaching Award, McGill University.

2019–2020	Graduate Excellence Award, McGill University, \$1,000.
2018–2019	Graduate Excellence Award, McGill University, \$15,000.

SERVICE & COMMUNITY

DEPARTMENT ORGANIZING

Sep. 2019–Aug. 2021	Editor, <i>McLing</i> Newsletter McGill University Linguistics Department
Summer 2021	Organizer, Event Structure Reading Group McGill University Linguistics Department
Spring 2021	Co-organizer, Accepted Students Open House McGill University Linguistics Department
Spring 2020	Co-organizer, Accepted Students Open House McGill University Linguistics Department

CONFERENCE ORGANIZING

Spring 2023	Workshop on Structure and Constituency in Languages of the Americas (WSCLA) 2023
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READING AND RESEARCH GROUPS

Mar. 2022–Present	University of Minnesota Community-Engaged Hmong Linguistics Research and Reading Group
Sep. 2020–Present	Montreal Underdocumented Languages Linguistics Lab (MULL-Lab)
Sep. 2018–Present	McGill Syntax/Semantics Reading Group
Summer 2021	McGill Event Structure Reading Group

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Jun. 2023–Present	Hmong Studies Consortium
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OUTREACH

Spring 2023	Panel discussion: “Ask a Grad Student” Society of Linguistics Undergrads at McGill
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- Spring 2022 Panel discussion: “Ask a Grad Student”
Society of Linguistics Undergrads at McGill
- Winter 2015 Panel discussion: “What paths will a linguistics major take you on?”
Carleton College Linguistics Department

REVIEWING

CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS: Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL)
CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS: Toronto–Montreal Bantu Colloquium (Ba-TOM)

NON-DEGREE COURSEWORK

- Sep.–Nov. 2020 Hmong Language Workshop
Southeast Asian Diaspora Project, Minneapolis MN
- Summer 2013 Denver Publishing Institute, University of Denver

PREVIOUS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Jan. 2014–Jul. 2018 Financial Advisor
Morgan Stanley Wealth Management, Minneapolis MN