

# William Johnston

## CURRICULUM VITAE

Department of Linguistics  
McGill University  
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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.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Winter 2023      Lecturer  
Department of Linguistics, McGill University  
Languages of the World (LING 315)
- Winter 2021      Lecturer  
Department of Linguistics, McGill University  
Meaning in Language (LING 260)
- Fall 2019–Fall 2021      Teaching Assistant  
Department of Linguistics, McGill University  
Phonetics (LING 330), Instructor: Meghan Clayards  
Phonetics (LING 330), Instructor: Francisco Torreira  
Meaning in Language (LING 260), Instructor: Bernhard Schwarz  
Phonetics (LING 330), Instructor: Connie Ting
- Fall 2020      Grader  
Department of Linguistics, McGill University  
Structure of a Specific Language (LING 410), Instr.: Bernhard Schwarz

Fall 2012                      Teaching Assistant  
Linguistics Department, Carleton College  
Introduction to Linguistics (LING 110), Instructor: Cherlon Ussery

## RESEARCH

### 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 41<sup>st</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> Amsterdam Colloquium*. Ed. by Julian J. Schlöder, Dean McHugh, and Floris Roelofsen. pp. 201–210. Amsterdam: ILLC.

### MANUSCRIPTS

**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.

### 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.” *96<sup>th</sup> 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.” *22<sup>nd</sup> Amsterdam Colloquium*, University of Amsterdam. December 19, 2019.

#### *Posters Presented:*

“Culmination entailments in V and P: Evidence from White Hmong.” *41<sup>st</sup> 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.

## AWARDS, GRANTS, & FELLOWSHIPS

2022–2023	Graduate Excellence Fellowship, McGill University, \$20,000. Linguistics Department Travel Fund, \$1,000.
2021–2022	Graduate Excellence Award, McGill University, \$15,000. Graduate Research Enhancement and Travel Award, \$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, *McLing* Newsletter  
McGill University Linguistics Department

Jun.–Aug. 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
Jun–Aug. 2021	McGill Event Structure Reading Group

#### OUTREACH

Spring 2023	Panel discussion: “Ask a Grad Student” Society of Linguistics Undergrads at McGill
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 PROCEEDINGS: Toronto–Montreal Bantu Colloquium (Ba-TOM).

#### NON-DEGREE COURSEWORK:

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

## **PREVIOUS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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