William Johnston

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Linguistics
McGill University
1085 Ave Dr-Penfield, #020
Montréal, QC H3A 1A7, Canada

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EDUCATION

Ph.D, 2024 *(expected)*	Linguistics, McGill University
	Dissertation: *Event structure and serial verbs in 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 mo-coordination.* Advisor: Cherlon Ussery.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Sep. 2024–present	Postdoctoral fellow
	Department of Linguistics
	Université du Québec à Montréal
	Supervisor: Richard Compton
Winter 2023	Instructor
	Department of Linguistics
	McGill University
Winter 2021	Instructor
	Department of Linguistics
	McGill University

Research

Grants & Fellowships

Fonds de recherche du Québec – Société et culture (FRQSC), Bourse postdoctorale, *Les catégories syntaxiques en hmong blanc: implications pour la théorie linguistique et l'enseignement des langues*, (2024–2026), $90,000

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). "Two diagnostics for preposition-hood: Decomposing Path in White Hmong." In: *Proceedings of GLOW in Asia XIV*.

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: Cascadilla 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). "Paths across worlds: the presupposition of back in intensional contexts."

Johnston, William. (Revised and resubmitted). "Causation and serialization in White Hmong."

Invited Talks

"Path in Hmong: The structure of directional PPs." *Annual Conference of the Canadian Linguistic Association.* Carleton University, Ottawa. June 19, 2024.

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

Refereed Conference Presentations

Talks Delivered:

"Clausal Complementation, Finiteness and Object Control in Hmong" (with Hooi Ling Soh). *33rd Annual Meeting of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society (SEALS 33)*, National Tsing Hua University, Hsinchu, Taiwan. June 15, 2024. Presented by co-author.

"Directed motion in White Hmong: Serial verb constructions as complex PPs." *Montreal-Ottawa-Toronto-Hamilton Syntax Workshop (MOTH 2022)*, 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.

Poster Presentations:

"Diagnosing Prepositions: Decomposing Path in White Hmong." *42nd West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL 42).* April 13, 2024.

"Diagnosing Prepositions: Decomposing Path in White Hmong." *Generative Linguistics in the Old World (GLOW) in Asia*, Chinese University of Hong Kong. March 6, 2024.

"Culmination entailments in V and P: Evidence from White Hmong." *41st West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL 41)*, 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	Introduction to Linguistics (LING 110) Instructor: Cherlon Ussery Linguistics Department, Carleton College

GRADING

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

Awards

2023–2024   Graduate Research Enhancement and Travel Award, McGill
             University Faculty of Arts, $640
             Graduate Student Travel Award, Centre for Research on Brain,
             Language and Music, $700

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, *McLing* 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

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

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 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