

# William Johnston

## CURRICULUM VITAE

Département de linguistique  
Université du Québec à Montréal  
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## EDUCATION

Ph.D, 2024      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)

## EMPLOYMENT

2024–present      Postdoctoral researcher  
Département de linguistique, Université du Québec à Montréal  
Fonds de recherche du Québec - Société et culture (FRQSC) Postdoctoral Fellowship, supervised by Richard Compton.

Fall 2024      Course Lecturer  
Département de linguistique, Université du Québec à Montréal

Winter 2023      Course Lecturer  
Department of Linguistics, McGill University

Winter 2021      Course Lecturer  
Department of Linguistics, McGill University

## RESEARCH

### GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

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

## 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). "Decomposing Path: Deprepositional verbs in White Hmong" In: *Proceedings of the 42<sup>nd</sup> West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*.

**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.** (2024). "Two diagnostics for preposition-hood: Decomposing Path in White Hmong." In: *Proceedings of the 14th Generative Linguistics in the Old World in Asia (GLOW in Asia XIV) 2024*. Ed. by Xiangyu Li, Zetao Xu, Yuqiao Du, Zhuo Chen, Chenghao Hu, Zhongyang Yu, and Victor Junnan Pan.

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

**Johnston, William.** (In revision). "Causation and serialization in White Hmong."

## INVITED TALKS

"Causation and serialization in Hmong." *Converging on Causal Ontology Analyses*. Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS), Paris. October 11, 2024.

"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). *33<sup>rd</sup> 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.” *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.

##### *Poster Presentations:*

“Diagnosing Prepositions: Decomposing Path in White Hmong.” *42<sup>nd</sup> West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL 42)*. April 13, 2024.

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

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

Fall 2024	Language Awareness for ESL Teachers (LIN1130) Département de linguistique, Université du Québec à Montréal
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
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**AWARDS**

2023–2024	Graduate Research Enhancement and Travel Award, McGill University Faculty of Arts, \$640 CAD Graduate Student Travel Award, Centre for Research on Brain, Language and Music, \$700 CAD
2022–2023	Graduate Excellence Fellowship, McGill University, \$20,000. McGill Linguistics Department Travel Fund, \$1,000 CAD
2021–2022	Graduate Excellence Award, McGill University, \$15,000 CAD. Graduate Research Enhancement and Travel Award, McGill University Faculty of Arts, \$141 CAD
2020–2021	Cremona Memorial Fellowship, McGill University, \$10,000 CAD Linguistics Department Nominee, Arts Graduate Student Teaching Award, McGill University.
2019–2020	Graduate Excellence Award, McGill University, \$1,000 CAD
2018–2019	Graduate Excellence Award, McGill University, \$15,000 CAD

**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
- Sep. 2018–Present    McGill Syntax/Semantics Reading Group
- Summer 2021         McGill Event Structure Reading Group

**PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

- Sep. 2024–Present    Generative Linguistics in the Old World
- 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