L. Michael Lefkowitz

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CAMPUS ADDRESS:
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EDUCATION:

PhD Candidate in Linguistics (in progress)
MA in Linguistic
University of California, Los Angeles

Cum Laude B.A. in Linguistics
Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire
Japanese minor; study abroad at Kanda University, Japan (Summer '07)

NASSLLI, Summer 2012
North American Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information
University of Texas at Austin
- Graduate-level courses in statistical machine translation, machine learning, sentiment analysis, categorial grammars, and formal pragmatics

EMPLOYMENT:

Google, 2013
Speech Data Project Manager
Venice Beach, CA
- Management of a team of linguists annotating language data for speech recognition, text-to-speech, semantic analysis
- Project and documentation design, training employees for new projects
- Research on issues specific to US English speech data

TEACHING

Lecturer
UCLA
Ling 103: Phonetics	(Summer '15, Spring '16, Summer '16)
Ling 185a: Computational Linguistics	(Fall '16)
Ling 495: Coll. Teaching of Linguistics	(Spring '15)

Dartmouth College
Ling 50.01: Computational Linguistics	(Winter '16)

Teaching Assistant
UCLA
Ling 1: Intro. to Study of Language	(Spring '12, Summer '12, Fall '16, Winter '17)
Ling 20: Intro. to Linguistics	Fall '11, Spring '17)
Ling 103: General Phonetics	(Winter '12, Winter '13, Fall '13)
Ling 104: Experimental Phonetics	(Fall '14)
Ling 120A: Phonology I	(Fall '12, Spring '14)
Ling 132: Language Processing	(Winter '14)

Dartmouth College
Ling 1: Intro. to Linguistics	(Fall '08, Fall '09)

Academic Tutor
UCLA
Ling 120A: Phonology I	(Spring '11, Spring '16)

TALKS: **"Automatic Speech Recognition (ASR) in Sociophonetics: Introducing DARLA"**
NWAV (New Ways of Analyzing Variation), Toronto, 2015

"**Learning Maxent Grammars for Duration**"
Colloquium, UCLA, Spring 2015

RESEARCH: **Research Assistantships**
Professor Donka Minkova (UCLA), 2016 - present
  • Statistical and theoretical work on Middle English phonology / morphology
Professor Yael Sharvit (UCLA), 2013
  • Experimental work on the intonation / semantics interface
Professor Bruce Hayes (UCLA), 2012
  • Typology of opacity in the phonologies of the world's languages
Professor David Peterson (Dartmouth), 2009-2010
  • Language documentation, Mru and Khumi languages

PhD Dissertation
Working Title: "Maxent Harmonic Grammars for Phonetic Duration"
• Proposal for a unified grammatical framework for phonetic planning, capable of modeling variation
• Experimental work on the phonetics of segment duration—in particular how factors that influence duration interact, and theoretical consequences of these interactions

Master's Thesis
Title: "The Nature of Phonetic Disassociation from Lexical Neighbors"
• Experimental work on how the phonetic details of speakers' articulation of words is influenced by knowledge of similar-sounding words

Linguistic Fieldwork
• Field Methods classes in Mru, siSwati, Māori, and Navajo languages, 2008-12
• Māori research conducted while visiting University of Auckland, Winter 2009

AWARDS: **Distinguished Graduate Student Teaching Award, 2014, 2017**
UCLA Linguistics Dept.

Graduate Summer Research Mentorship, 2011
With Prof. Bruce Hayes (UCLA)

Academic Excellence Award in Linguistics, 2010
Dartmouth College Linguistics Dept.

MISC: **Co-Founder, President, 2011–present**
The UCLA Juggling Club