

Travis Major

Contact University of California – Los Angeles (785)218-8183
Department of Linguistics tjmajor@ucla.edu
3125 Campbell Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1543

Education

- In Progress** Ph.D. in Linguistics (advanced to candidacy: 2/22/2019)
University of California Los Angeles
Thesis title: “*Say*”, “*Say-complementation*”, and *Perspectives in Uyghur*
Thesis Committee: Dominique Sportiche, Harold Torrence, Hilda
Koopman, and Satoshi Tomioka.
- 2014** Master of Arts in Linguistics
University of Kansas
Thesis title: *Syntactic Islands in Uyghur*
Thesis committee: Harold Torrence, Jason Kandybowicz, Arienne Dwyer
- 2011** B.A. Linguistics, English
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
- 2011** Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages Certificate
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Adult/University Level TESOL Undergraduate Certificate Program

Interests

Syntax, semantics, prosody, Turkic Languages, Niger-Congo languages, field linguistics, comparative syntax

Papers

Major, T., & Mayer, C. (To Appear). What indexical shift sounds like: Uyghur intonation and interpreting speech reports (with Connor Mayer). *Proceedings of NELS 49*. Cornell University, New York.

Özyildiz, D., Major, T., & Maier, E. (To Appear). Communicative Reception Reports as Hear-say: Evidence from Indexical Shift in Turkish. *Proceedings of West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics 36*. UCLA, California.

Papers (continued)

Major, T., & Mayer, C. (2018). Towards a Phonological Model of Uyghur Intonation. In K. Klessa, J. Bachan, A. Wagner, M. Karpinski, and D. Sledzingski (Eds). *Proceedings of the 9th Speech Prosody International Conference*. doi: 10.21437/SpeechProsody.2018

McKenzie, A., Eziz, G., & Major, T. (2018). Latent homomorphism and content satisfaction: The double life of Turkic auxiliary *-(‘I)p bol-*. *Glossa: a journal of general linguistics* 3 (1), 47.

Duncan, P. T., Major, T., & Udoinyang M. (2018). Verb and Predicate Coordination in Ibibio. In E. Clem, P. Jenks, & H. Sande (Eds). *Theory and Description in African Linguistics: Selected Papers from the 47th Annual Conference on African Linguistics*.

*Major, T., & *Özkan, S. (2018) Anaphora in two Turkic languages: Condition A is not enough. In Y. Köylü and J. Kornfilt (Eds). *Proceedings of Turkish, Turkic, and Languages of Turkey 2. IULC Working Papers 18* (2).

Major, T. (2017). Uyghur Contrastive Polarity Questions: A case of verb-stranding “TP-ellipsis”. In L. Zidani-Eroglu, M. Ciscel, and E. Koulidobrova. *Proceedings of the 12th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics*.

Mckenzie, A., Eziz, G., & Major, T. (2015). Reference to content situations in Uyghur auxiliary *bolmaq*. In A. Jurgensen (Ed). *Proceedings of the 41st Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society*.

Conference Presentations

Major, T., & Mayer, C. A Phonological Model of Uyghur Intonation. ICPHS Satellite Meeting on the Intonational Phonology of Typologically Rare or Understudied Languages. Melbourne, Australia. August 4th, 2019.

*Lehman, B., & *Major, T. Wh-interrogatives in Avatime. The 50th Annual Conference of African Linguistics. Vancouver, BC, Canada. May 24th, 2019. [Paper]

*Torrence, H., *Devlin, K., *Lehman, B., & *Major, T. Revisiting Hiatus Resolution in Avatime. The 50th Annual Conference of African Linguistics. Vancouver, BC, Canada. May 25th, 2019. [Paper]

*Major, T., & Mayer, C. What indexical shift sounds like: Uyghur intonation and interpreting speech reports. North East Linguistics Society. Ithaca, NY. October, 5th, 2018. [Poster]

*Mayer, C., & Major, T. A challenge for tier-based strict locality from Uyghur backness harmony. Formal Grammar 2018. Sofia, Bulgaria. August 11th, 2018. [Paper]

*Major, T., & Mayer, C. Towards a Phonological Model of Uyghur Intonation. 9th International Conference on Speech Prosody. Poznan, Poland. June, 2018. [Poster]

Conference Presentations

*Özyildiz, D., *Major, T., & Maier, E. Communicative Reception Reports as Hear-say: Evidence from Indexical Shift in Turkish. The 36th Annual West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics. Los Angeles, California. April, 2018. [Paper]

*Major, T., & *Torrence, H. Wh Interrogatives in Ibibio: Movement, Agreement, and Complementizers. The 48th Annual Conference of African Linguistics. Bloomington, Indiana. April, 2017. [Paper]

*Major, T., & *Özkan, S. The role of logophoricity in Turkic Anaphora. The 91st Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America. Austin, TX. January, 2017. [Poster]

*Major, T., & *Özkan, S. Anaphora in two Turkic languages: Condition A is not enough. Turkish, Turkic, and Languages of Turkey 2. Bloomington, Indiana. November, 2016. [Paper]

*Major, T. Serial Verb Constructions in Ibibio. The 47th Annual Conference of African Linguistics. Berkeley, CA. March, 2016. [Paper]

Duncan, P., *Major, T., & Udoinyang, M. Verb and Predicate Coordination in Ibibio. The 47th Annual Conference of African Linguistics. Berkeley, CA. March, 2016. [Paper]

*Major, T. Uyghur Contrastive Polarity Questions: A case of verb-stranding “TP-ellipsis”. Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics 12. New Britain, CT. May, 2016. [Paper]

*Covey, L., Coughlin, C., Johnson, A., Yang, X., Siew, C., Fiorentino, R., & Major, T. (2015). An ERP investigation of the role of prediction and individual differences in semantic priming. The 7th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Neurobiology of Language. Chicago, IL. October, 2015.

*McKenzie, A., *Major, T., & Eziz, G. Reference to situation content in Uyghur auxiliary *bolmak*. The 41st Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society. Berkeley, CA. February, 2015.

*Major, T., & *Eziz, G. The effects of prosody on conjunct agreement in Uyghur. The 89th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America. Portland, OR. January, 2015.

Invited Talks

Major, T., & Mayer, C. A preliminary model of Uyghur intonation. Phonetics Circle. University of California, Santa Barbara

Major, T. Say complementizers in Uyghur. Syntax+. University of Southern California. Winter 2019.

Awards

2019-2020 (\$20,000)	UCLA Dissertation Year Fellowship
2019 (~\$10,000)	Charles E. & Sue K. Young Graduate Research Fellowship
2018-19 (~\$20,000)	NSF funded Graduate Research Assistantship (PI's Harold Torrence and Jason Kandybowicz.
2017-18 (\$8200)	Harry and Yvonne Lenart Travel Fellowship, UCLA.
2017 (\$6000)	Graduate Summer Research Mentorship, UCLA.
2016-2017 (\$20,000)	Graduate Research Mentorship, UCLA.
2016 (\$6000)	Graduate Summer Research Mentorship, UCLA.
2011 (\$2500 stipend)	Foreign Language Areas Study Grant for the Central Eurasian Summer Studies Institute at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Academic Employment

Summer 2019	Undergraduate Morphology (UCLA: Ling 105). Co-instructor with Brice Roberts.
Summer 2018- Summer 2019	Graduate Research Assistant (NSF: EAGER: Training and Text Collection as a Vehicle for Recruiting and Retaining Endangered Language Fieldworkers). With Harold Torrence and Jason Kandybowicz.
Spring 2019	Graduate Teaching Assistant (UCLA: Ling 130 – Acquisition). With Nina Hyams.
Winter 2019	Graduate Teaching Assistant (UCLA: Ling 105 – Morphology). With Ethan Poole.
Spring 2018- Spring 2019	Graduate Research Assistant (Developing a new online Introductory Linguistics). With Harold Torrence.
Winter 2018	Graduate Teaching Assistant (UCLA: Ling 210 – Introductory Linguistics). With Bruce Hayes.
Fall 2017	Graduate Teaching Assistant (UCLA: Ling 127 – Syntactic Typology). With Timothy Stowell.
Fall 2017	Graduate Research Assistant (Developing online Ling 1). With Harold Torrence.
Summer 2017	Undergraduate Field Methods (UCLA: Ling 160). Co-instructor with Margit Bowler.

Summer 2016	Undergraduate Field Methods (UCLA: Ling 160). Co-instructor with Margit Bowler.
Spring 2016	Graduate Teaching Assistant (UCLA: Ling 1).
2015	Graduate Research Assistant (PI Harold Torrence).
Summer 2015	Introductory Linguistics (UCLA: Ling 20). Instructor.
2014-2015	Introductory Linguistics (University of Kansas: Ling 106). Graduate Teaching Assistant.
2011-2014	Graduate Research Assistant (PI Arienne Dwyer), National Science Foundation Grant: <i>Uyghur Light Verbs</i> ; University of Kansas.
2010	Assistant Teacher at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Intensive English Program.
2010	Teacher at the Milwaukee Council for the Spanish Speaking.
2009	Tutor at Literacy Services of Wisconsin.

Service

2019	Syntax Search Committee: Student Representative Coeditor of Festschrift for Russ Schuh
2018	Organizer of West Coast Conference of Formal Linguistics 36 at UCLA.
2016	Graduate Linguistics Circle, Vice President. UCLA.
2015	Co-editor for <i>Proceedings of the 45th Annual Conference of African Linguistics</i> .
2013-14	Annual Conference of African Linguistics organizer.
2012-2013	Generative Approaches to the Language Acquisition North America organizer.
2012-2013	Graduate Student Representative to the Faculty. University of Kansas, Department of Linguistics.

Additional Academic Experience

- 2018** Fieldwork in Volta Region, Ghana.
-Providing fieldwork training for graduate and undergraduate students.
- Fieldwork in Tatarstan, Russia.
- Fieldwork in Kazakhstan.
- 2016** Field work in Uyo, Nigeria.
- 2012** Collaborative Language Research Summer Institute: Lawrence, Kansas
- 2011** Central Eurasian Studies Summer Institute: Uyghur Language Program:
University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- 2010** Syntax Fest: Indiana University

Spoken Languages

English (native)
Spanish - Intermediate
Uyghur - Intermediate
Russian - Intermediate

Research Languages

Uyghur
Kazan Tatar
Turkish
Kazakh
Ibibio (and related languages)
Avatime