

Aron David Finholt

Curriculum Vitæ

University of Potsdam
Department of Linguistics
Haus 14, Karl-Liebknecht-Straße 24-25
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Germany

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Research Specialization

SYNTAX · MORPHOLOGY · SEMANTICS · FIELD RESEARCH · BANTU LANGUAGES

EMPLOYMENT

2024-

Postdoctoral Researcher

Syntax, Morphology, and Variability Research Group; PI: Doreen Georgi
Department of Linguistics, University of Potsdam, Germany

2021, 2023

Graduate Research Assistant

Department of Linguistics, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS

A linguistic microvariation approach to complementizers and complementation
National Science Foundation Grant #2140837; PI: John Gluckman

Survey and Documentation of African Languages in Kansas
New Faculty Research Grant, University of Kansas; PI: John Gluckman

2019-2023

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Department of Linguistics, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS

EDUCATION

2024

Ph.D., Linguistics

University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS

Dissertation: *Non-verbal predication and copular variation in Eastern Bantu*

Committee: John Gluckman (chair), Claire Halpert, Andrew McKenzie,
Peter Ojiambo, Jie Zhang

2021

M.A., Linguistics

University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS

Thesis: *Attitude Reports and Relative Belief: A New Perspective on the Swahili
Dual-Complementizer System*

Committee: John Gluckman (chair), Alison Gabriele, Andrew McKenzie

2019 **B.A. magna cum laude, French and Linguistics**

Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA

PAPERS

- In prep Interpretive effects of the copula *-ri* in Kinyarwanda and Kinyamulenge. *Proceedings of ACAL 55*
- In revision (with John Gluckman) A preliminary typology of causal clauses in Bantu languages.
- To appear Interpretive contrasts in the Kifuliiru copular system. *Proceedings of WCCFL 41*
- To appear (with John Gluckman) A New Perspective on Swahili's Dual-Complementizer System. *Proceedings of ACAL 51/52*
- 2024 Copulas, Possession, and the Temporary-Permanent Distinction in Mashi: Evidence for decompositional HAVE. *Glossa: a journal of general linguistics*, DOI: 10.16995/glossa.9977
- 2023 (with John Gluckman) A Corpus Study of Swahili's Dual Complementizers. *Journal of African Languages and Linguistics*
- 2022 Decomposing HAVE: Evidence from Possessive Predication in Mashi. *NELS 52: Proceedings of the fifty-second meeting of the North East Linguistic Society, Volume One*
- 2022 (with John Gluckman) Reason and result in Kinyamulenge. *Proceedings of TripleA 8*

PRESENTATIONS & POSTERS

- 2024 Interpretive effects of the copula *-ri* in Kinyarwanda and Kinyamulenge, *Annual Conference on African Linguistics 55*, McGill University
- 2023 Locatives in Mashi, *Annual Conference on African Linguistics 54*, University of Connecticut
- 2023 Interpretive contrasts in the Kifuliiru copular system, *41st West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*, University of California Santa Cruz
- 2023 Three-way Copular Contrast in Kifuliiru, *97th Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Society of America*, Denver, CO
- 2022 (alternate; with John Gluckman) Evidentiality and Modality in the Mashi complementizer system, *TripleAFLA 2022, University of Manchester*
- 2022 On the Semantic Contribution of Complementizers: Data from Mashi, *Annual Conference on African Linguistics 53*, University of California San Diego

- 2022 (with John Gluckman, Stephanie Born, Jack Foster and Lucy Whittington) Non-verbal Predication in Kihavu, *Annual Conference on African Linguistics 53*, University of California San Diego
- 2022 On Complementizer Choice in Swahili, *44th Annual Conference of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Sprachwissenschaft (DGfS)*, University of Tübingen
- 2022 States and Possession in Mashi: Novel Evidence for Decomposing HAVE, *96th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America*, Washington D.C.
- 2022 (with John Gluckman) Complementizer Choice and Relative Belief: On Swahili Complementizer Variation, *96th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America*, Washington D.C.
- 2021 Decomposing HAVE: Evidence from Possessive Predication in Mashi, *52nd meeting of the North East Linguistic Society*, Rutgers University
- 2021 Evidence and Relative Belief: Swahili Complementizer Variation, *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 49*, University of Texas
- 2021 (with John Gluckman) Reason and Result in Kinyamulenge, *TripleA 8*, National University of Singapore
- 2021 A New Perspective on Swahili's Dual-Complementizer System, *37th Annual Northwest Linguistics Conference*, University of British Columbia
- 2021 A Corpus Study of Swahili's Dual-Complementizer System, *Annual Conference on African Linguistics 51/52*, University of Florida
- 2019 The Scope of Negation In Romance, *Scholars Week*, Western Washington University
- 2019 (with Grace deMeurisse) Western Talks, *Scholars Week*, Western Washington University

INVITED TALKS

- 2022 To (use) *be* or not to (use) *be*: Non-verbal Predication Strategies in Eastern Bantu, *Linguistics Talk Series*, Western Washington University
- 2022 Observations on *be* and *have* in Mashi, *Syntax-Semantics Lab Talk Series*, University of Manchester
- 2021 A Parallelism between *be* and *have*: Evidence from Mashi for the decomposition of *have*, *Monday Linguistics Colloquia Series*, University of Florida

TEACHING

- 2024- **University of Potsdam**
- Instructor*, Department of Linguistics
- Field Research.** Graduate course in linguistic field research methodology. Taught in Winter 2024, Summer 2024.
- Non-verbal predication: Typological survey and theoretical issues.** Graduate syntax/morphology seminar on non-verbal predication. Taught in Summer 2024.
- 2019-2023 **University of Kansas**
- Graduate Instructor*, Department of Linguistics
- Intro to Linguistics (LING 106).** Undergraduate introductory course in linguistics. Taught in Winter 2022, Winter 2023.
- Language in Culture and Society (LING 320).** Undergraduate introductory course in linguistic anthropology. Taught in Summer 2022.
- Graduate Teaching Assistant*, Department of Linguistics
- Language in Culture and Society (LING 320).** Undergraduate introductory course in linguistic anthropology. Taught in Spring 2023.
- Syntax I (LING 325).** Undergraduate introductory course in syntax. Taught in Fall 2021, Fall 2022.
- Phonology I (LING 312).** Undergraduate introductory course in phonology. Taught in Spring 2022.
- Intro to Linguistics (LING 106).** Undergraduate introductory course in linguistics. Taught in Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2024- **Postdoctoral Researcher**
- Syntax, Morphology, and Variability Research Group*; PI: Doreen Georgi
Department of Linguistics, University of Potsdam
- 2021, 2023 **Graduate Research Assistant**
- A linguistic microvariation approach to complementizers and complementation*
National Science Foundation Grant #2140837; PI: John Gluckman
Department of Linguistics, University of Kansas
- Survey and Documentation of African Languages in Kansas*; PI: John Gluckman
Department of Linguistics, University of Kansas

2019 **Undergraduate Research Assistant**

Border Minorities of la Francophonie des Amériques; PI: Christina Keppie
Department of Modern and Classical Languages, Western Washington University,

2019 **Intern for Assistance**

Western Talks, funded by WWU Thaddeus Spratlen and Lois Price-Spratlen
Inclusion and Diversity Grant; PI: Kristin Denham, Anne Lobeck
Department of Linguistics, Western Washington University

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2023-2024 **University Graduate Fellowship, Dissertation-Year Fellow**

Awarded by: Department of Linguistics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences,
University of Kansas

2022 **Best Student Abstract - LSA Annual Meeting, First Prize**

Abstract Title: *States and Possession in Mashi: A Novel Argument for Decomposing HAVE*
Awarded by: Awards Committee, 96th Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America

2021-2022 **Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, KiSwahili Language Fellow - Academic Year**

Awarded by: Kansas African Studies Center, University of Kansas

2021 **Outstanding Master's Thesis Project, Winner**

Thesis Title: *A New Perspective on the Swahili Dual-Complementizer System*
Awarded by: Office of Graduate Affairs, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences,
University of Kansas

2020 **Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, KiSwahili Language Fellow - Summer**

Awarded by: Kansas African Studies Center, University of Kansas

2020 **Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant, Winner**

Awarded by: Department of Linguistics, University of Kansas

2019 **Outstanding Linguistics Graduate, Finalist**

Awarded by: Linguistics Department, Western Washington University

PROFESSIONAL AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

2024-present **Ad hoc reviewer, Working Papers in the Language Sciences at the University of Rochester**

2021-present **Ad hoc reviewer, Kansas Working Papers in Linguistics, University of Kansas**

- 2021-2024 **Member**, *KUBantu - Bantu Research and Reading Group*, University of Kansas
- 2021-2023 **Member**, *Linguistics Social Media Committee*, University of Kansas
- 2019-2024 **Member**, *Research in Field and Formal Linguistics Seminar*, University of Kansas
- 2020-2021 **Editor**, *Kansas Working Papers in Linguistics*, University of Kansas
- 2020-2021 **Secretary**, *Linguistics Graduate Student Association*, University of Kansas
- 2019-2020 **Member**, *Linguistics Colloquy Committee*, University of Kansas
- 2018-2019 **Officer**, *Linguistics Club*, Western Washington University

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- 2021-present **Association of Contemporary African Linguistics**
- 2019-present **Linguistic Society of America**

FIELDWORK

- 2024 **Kannada**
Fieldwork in Potsdam, Germany
- 2023-present **Luganda**
Fieldwork in Lawrence, KS
- 2022-present **Kifuliiru**
Fieldwork in Lawrence, KS and Kansas City, MO
- 2021-present **Kihavu**
Fieldwork in Lawrence, KS and Kansas City, MO
- 2021-present **Kinyarwanda**
Fieldwork in Lawrence, KS, Kansas City, MO, and Kigali, Rwanda
- 2021-present **Kinyabwisha**
Fieldwork in Lawrence, KS and Kansas City, MO

- 2021-present **Mashi**
Fieldwork in Lawrence, KS and Kansas City, MO
- 2020-present **Kinyamulenge**
Fieldwork in Lawrence, KS, Kansas City, MO, and Kigali, Rwanda
- 2020 **Turkmen**
Fieldwork in Lawrence, KS

LANGUAGES

- English**, native speaker
- French**, advanced
- Kiswahili**, intermediate
- German**, novice
- Kannada**, research proficient
- Kihavu**, research proficient
- Kifuliiru**, research proficient
- Kinyamulenge**, research proficient
- Kinyarwanda**, research proficient
- Mashi**, research proficient
- Turkmen**, research proficient

SKILLS

LaTeX, PRAAT, R Studio, Microsoft Office, Linguistic Corpora