

Amelia A. Becker

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Email: aabecker@bu.edu

Website: AmeliaABecker.com

Education

Georgetown University

Washington, DC

Ph.D. in Linguistics

May 2023

The effect of iconicity on phonetic and phonological processes in American Sign Language

Elizabeth Zsiga (chair), Julie Hochgesang, Jennifer Nycz, Naomi Caselli

Gallaudet University

Washington, DC

M.A. in Linguistics

May 2015

College of William and Mary

Williamsburg, VA

B.A. in Linguistics and English Literature

May 2010

Professional

Postdoctoral Researcher

LEX Lab, Boston University

Appointments

Project: Investigating American Sign Language lexical acquisition by deaf children of hearing caregivers

Supervisor: Dr. Naomi Caselli

October 2022 - present

Research Grants

Linguistics Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Award,
National Science Foundation (Award 1941813)

March 2020 - June 2023

GradGov Research Project Award, Georgetown University

Spring 2019

Publications

The effect of iconicity on weak hand drop in American Sign Language

Becker, A.

in Peter Jurgec, Liisa Duncan, Emily Elfner, Yoonjung Kang, Alexei Kochetov, Brittney K. O'Neill, Avery Ozburn, Keren Rice, Nathan Sanders, Jessamyn Schertz, Nate Shaftoe, and Lisa Sullivan (eds.), *Proceedings of the 2021 Annual Meeting on Phonology*, forthcoming.

Sociophonetics and the visuo-manual modality

Becker, A.; Hochgesang, J.A.; Tamminga, M.; Fisher, J.N.

in Strelluf, C. (ed.) *The Routledge Handbook of Sociophonetics*, forthcoming

Review of the book *Sign Language Phonology* by D. Brentari

Becker, A.

Sign Language Studies, Vol. 21(2), Winter 2021

Shared phonological coding between ASL Signbank and ASL-LEX

Hochgesang, J.A.; Becker, A.; & Catt, D.

Proceedings of the 9th Workshop on the Representation and Processing of Sign Languages, LREC 2020

Grammatical sketch of Haitian Sign Language (LSH)

Hochgesang, J.A.; McAuliff, K.; Becker, A.; Cadet, J.; Destine, M.; Exilant, E., et al.
Figshare, Online Resource, 2015
<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.13724614.v2>

Phonetic annotation of signed languages as a tool in cognitive linguistics

Becker, A.
Proceedings of the High Desert Linguistics Society Conference, Vol. 11, 2014

Conference presentations

The effect of iconicity on weak hand drop in American Sign Language

Annual Meeting on Phonology 2021
Toronto, Canada September 2021

Phonological thumb configuration and iconicity in American Sign Language

Iconicity in Language, Workshop at the 41st meeting of the German Linguistic Society
University of Bremen, Bremen, Germany March 2019

The phonological status of [mid-spread] and [aligned-thumb-configuration] in American Sign Language

26th Manchester Phonology Meeting
University of Manchester, Manchester, UK May 2018

Handshape variation across linguistic and discourse contexts in American Sign Language

Georgetown University Round Table on Languages and Linguistics: Approaches to Discourse
Georgetown University, Washington, DC March 2018

Poster presentations

Absence of reduplication in American Sign Language nominal plural morphology

with Dr. Julie A. Hochgesang
Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research 13
University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany September 2019

Phonological thumb configuration and iconicity in American Sign Language

High Desert Linguistic Society Conference 13
University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM November 2018

Corpus investigation of a selected finger markedness hierarchy in American Sign Language

American Association for Corpus Linguistics Conference 14
Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA September 2018

Corpus-based approaches to sign language linguistics: Into the second decade

Workshop at the 9th International Corpus Linguistics Conference
University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK July 2017

Research
assistantships

ASL Signbank

Mentor: Dr. Julie A. Hochgesang (Gallaudet University)

2016 – 2020

Second Dialect Acquisition

Mentor: Dr. Jennifer Nycz (Georgetown University)

Fall 2018, Summer 2020

Haitian Sign Language Documentation Project

Mentor: Dr. Julie A. Hochgesang (Gallaudet University)

Summer 2014

Teaching

Introduction to Language and Linguistics (Princeton University)

Lecturer

Fall 2021, Spring 2022

Sounds of Language (Georgetown University)

Instructor

Spring 2019

Sign Language and Sign Systems (Gallaudet University)

Adjunct Instructor

Fall 2017, Spring 2018

English reading, writing, and grammar

(English Language Institute, Gallaudet University)

Instructor

Fall 2013, Spring 2014

English as a Second Language

(Parkway Adult Education ESL, St. Louis, MO)

Instructor

2011 – 2013

Research-based Undergraduate Linguistics Experience

(Georgetown University)

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2019, Spring 2020

Assessing a Deaf Child's ASL Workshop (Gallaudet University)

Teaching Assistant

June 2019

Phonology I (Georgetown University)

Teaching Assistant

Spring 2016, Spring 2018

Phonology II (Georgetown University)

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2017

Sounds of Language (Georgetown University)

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2016

Linguistics, MA in Sign Language Education

(Gallaudet University)

Teaching Assistant

Summer 2015, Summer 2016

Mentorship	Dissertation project Mentor to M.A. student research assistants	Fall 2021, Spring 2022
Professional memberships	Sign Language Linguistics Society Linguistic Society of America PhonLab working group, Georgetown University	Fall 2018 – Present Fall 2016 – Present Fall 2015 – Present
Service activities	Georgetown University Roundtable Linguistics Conference, organizing committee Deaf-Hearing Professional Interactions and Partnerships Workshop, organizer Masters in Language and Communication Program, Georgetown University	Spring 2017 Spring 2016
	Behavior Research Methods journal, Ad Hoc Reviewer	Spring 2021, Fall 2021
Industry experience	OmniBridge by Intel Linguist intern	Fall 2020 – Summer 2021
Languages	English (native) American Sign Language (fluent)	
Tools	ELAN Praat <i>R</i> Psychopy/Pavlovia.org L ^A T _E X iMovie Canvas Gradescope Blackboard	