

RESEARCH

Theoretical Syntax, Morphology

grammatical gender, nominal features, agreement, Distributed Morphology, locality, nominal domain, coordination, modularity, morphosemantics, allomorphy, defectivity

EDUCATION

2014 – 2019	Ph.D. in Linguistics	UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
	Dissertation: “Derivational Trapping and the Morphosyntax of Inflectionlessness”	
	Committee: Rolf Noyer (chair), David Embick, Ruth Kramer	

2010 – 2014	Bachelor of Arts in Psychology	OBERLIN COLLEGE
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2010 – 2014	Bachelor of Music in Cello Performance	OBERLIN CONSERVATORY
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NON-DEGREE CONFERRING

2017	Crete Summer School of Linguistics (CreteLing)
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2013	Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute (Ann Arbor)
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2023 –	Researcher (tenure-track)	LEIBNIZ-ZENTRUM ALLGEMEINE SPRACHWISSENSCHAFT
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2022 – 2023	Lecturer	RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
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2020 – 2022	Postdoctoral Fellow	HARVARD UNIVERSITY
	Funding: National Science Foundation SPRF Grant	

Fall 2021	Lecturer	HARVARD UNIVERSITY
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PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Adamson, Luke James and Stanislaw Zompì. Polite pronouns and the PCC. Accepted (pending minor revisions) to *Linguistic Inquiry*. [Link](#)

Adamson, Luke James. Gender allophony in Greek. To appear in *Glossa: a journal of general linguistics*. [Link](#)

Adamson, Luke James and Elena Anagnostopoulou. 2025. Gender features and coordination resolution in Greek and other three-gendered languages. *Linguistic Inquiry*.
https://doi.org/10.1162/ling_a_00543

Adamson, Luke James. 2024. Split coordination with adjectives in Italian: An approach with multidominance and semantic agreement. *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory*.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11049-024-09617-5>

Adamson, Luke James. 2024. Gender assignment is local: On the relation between grammatical gender and inalienable possession. *Language* 100(2): 218–264.
<https://doi.org/10.1353/lan.2024.a929736>

Adamson, Luke James. 2024. Root suppletion in Swedish as contextual allomorphy. *Journal of Comparative Germanic Linguistics* 27(4):1–42. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10828-023-09148-0>

Adamson, Luke James. 2022. Transparency of inflectionless modifiers for Bulgarian definite marker placement. *Journal of Slavic Linguistics*, vol. 30, *FASL 29 special issue*, pp. 1–13. (peer-reviewed) [Link](#)

Adamson, Luke and Milena Šereikaitė. 2019. Representing gender and defaults: Evidence from Lithuanian. *Glossa: a journal of general linguistics* 1–44. <https://doi.org/10.5334/gjgl.860>

REFEREED BOOK CHAPTERS

Adamson, Luke James and Ruth Kramer. 2025. On O-Constructions in Jarawara. In *Syntax in uncharted territories: Essays in honor of Maria Polinsky*, eds. Lauren Clemens, Vera Griбанова, and Gregory Scontras. [Link](#)

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW/UNDER REVISION/IN PREPARATION

Adamson, Luke James. 2021. The locus of gender interpretation: A reply to Yatsushiro and Sauerland (2006). Under revision for resubmission to *Linguistic Inquiry*. [Link](#)

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Adamson, Luke James. 2024. Gender assignment is local: On assignment and inalienable possessors. In *Proceedings of the 39th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*, eds. Robert Autry, Gabriela de la Cruz, Luis A. Irizarry Figueroa, Kristina Mihajlovic, Tianyi Ni, Ryan Smith, and Heidi Harley. 1–10. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Proceedings Project. [Link](#)

Adamson, Luke James and Elena Anagnostopoulou. 2024. Interpretability and Gender Features in Coordination: Evidence from Greek. In *Proceedings of the 39th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*, eds. Robert Autry, Gabriela de la Cruz, Luis A. Irizarry Figueroa, Kristina Mihajlovic, Tianyi Ni, Ryan Smith, and Heidi Harley. 11–20. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Proceedings Project. [Link](#)

Adamson, Luke James. 2019. On containment and syncretism: English preterites and participles. *Proceedings of the Linguistic Society of America* 1–15. [Link](#)

Adamson, Luke. 2018. Denominal verbs: Past tense allomorphy, event frames, and zero-categorizers. *University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics (PWPL)*, *Proceedings of PLC41* 1–10. [Link](#)

OTHER MANUSCRIPTS

Adamson, Luke James. 2016. Towards a theory of grammatically-mediated root polysemy. Qualifying Paper, University of Pennsylvania.

Adamson, Luke James. 2017. *un-* answered questions: *un-*prefixation and stative passives. Qualifying Paper, University of Pennsylvania.

PRESENTATIONS

INVITED TALKS

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| 2025 | Colloquium talk: Person hierarchy effects and polite pronouns (joint work with Stanislao Zompì) | RESEARCH UNIT 'CYCLIC OPTIMIZATION', UNIVERSITÄT LEIPZIG |
| 2025 | Invited speaker talk: Polite pronouns and person hierarchy effects (joint work with Stanislao Zompì) | WORKSHOP ON INDEXICAL BINDING, UNIVERSITÉ DE GENÈVE |
| 2024 | Invited speaker talk: Gender, nominalizing heads, and locality | BRUSSELS CONFERENCE ON GENERATIVE LINGUISTICS 17 |
| 2024 | Allosemy and the Interpretation of Neuter Gender in Greek. Colloquium presentation | HEINRICH HEINE UNIVERSITÄT DÜSSELDORF |
| 2024 | Split coordination with adjectives in Italian. Guest Lecture for Seminar in Topics on Syntax (Instructors: Faruk Akkuş and Rajesh Bhatt) | UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS, AMHERST |

Gender markedness and coordination resolution: Feature representation in Greek and other three-gendered languages (joint work with Elena Anagnostopoulou). Colloquium presentation

2023 UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

Gender markedness and coordination resolution: On feature representation and 'defaults' (joint work with Elena Anagnostopoulou). Colloquium presentation

2023 UNIVERSITÄT POTSDAM

Plenary Talk: Valuing gender on a noun is local: Evidence from possession and number.

2023 WCCFL 41, UC SANTA CRUZ

Roundtable Discussion with Maziar Toosarvandani and Ivy Sichel

2023 UC SANTA CRUZ

Valuing gender on a noun is local: Evidence from possession (LingLunch).

2023 NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

Root suppletion as contextual allomorphy in Swedish (LingLunch).

2022 PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

A noun's gender is locally determined: Evidence from gender and possession (Colloquium).

2022 RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

Markedness and Interpretability of Grammatical Gender Features: Evidence from Greek.

(Colloquium) Presented with Elena Anagnostopoulou.

2022 ZAS

Representing animacy and markedness in grammatical gender representation: On coordination resolution and feature interpretability in Greek. Presented with Elena Anagnostopoulou (virtual). (Colloquium)

2022 BEN GURION UNIVERSITY OF THE NEGEV

Interpretability, Gender, and Agreement in Coordination: Evidence from Greek. Presented with Elena Anagnostopoulou (virtual). (Colloquium)

2021 UNIVERSITÄT LEIPZIG

The neuter 'gender' in Lithuanian, and the Neuter Case Agreement Constraint. Presented with Milena Šereikaitė at 'LingLunch'.

2017 UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Deriving Morphological Gaps: The Neuter Puzzle in Lithuanian. (*with Milena Šereikaitė*) Paper presented at the DM meets Nano workshop, Vienna.

2025

Combinatorial restrictions on emotive nominals: CP and DP-complements. (*with Kajsa Djärv*) Paper presented at SALT 35, Cambridge, MA.

2025

Passivization, speech act participants, and third-person probes in Jarawara. (*with Ruth Kramer*) Paper presented at WCCFL 43, Seattle.

2025

Neuter kinship and ellipsis in Greek: on gender, number, and ellipsis licensing. (*with Artemis Alexiadou and Elena Anagnostopoulou*) Poster presented at GLOW 47, Frankfurt.

2025

The PCC and polite pronouns. (*with Stanislaw Zompi*) Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Philadelphia.

2025

PCC effects with polite pronouns. (*with Stanislaw Zompi*) Paper presented at Going Romance 2024, Braga, Portugal.

2024

Polite pronouns and the PCC. (*with Stanislaw Zompi*) Paper presented at NELS 55, Yale University.

2024

Selectional restrictions of clause-taking emotive predicates across lexical categories. (*with Kajsa Djärv*) Poster presented at Sinn und Bedeutung 2024, Noto.

2024

Gender allosemy and neuter interpretation in Greek. Paper presented at LAGB 2024, Newcastle.

2024

The Neuter Kinship Puzzle in Greek: On Gender, Number, and Ellipsis. *with Artemis Alexiadou and Elena Anagnostopoulou* Paper presented at LAGB 2024, Newcastle.

2024

Deriving morphological gaps: The neuter puzzle in Lithuanian. (*with Milena Šereikaitė*) Cancelled presentation at CLS 60, Chicago.

2024

Gender interpretation and allosemy in Greek. Paper presented at the LSA annual meeting, New York.

2024

My left and right hands: Split coordination and multidominant structure in Italian. Cancelled paper presentation at the 'How Many Mothers?' workshop on multidominance, UMass Amherst (LSA Institute).

2023

The Role of Animacy in Gender Resolution for Three-Gendered Languages: A Feature-Geometric Approach. (*with Elena Anagnostopoulou*) Paper presented at WCCFL 40, Stanford (virtual).

2022

Coordination Resolution in Three-Gendered Languages. (*with Elena Anagnostopoulou*) Paper presented at GLOW 45, London.

2022

- 2022 Gender on a noun cannot be licensed through agreement: On gender and scope in German. Paper presented at the Linguistic Society of America annual meeting, Washington D.C. (virtual).
- 2021 Coordinating adjectives in Italian: A multidominant, summative agreement approach. Paper presented at the Agreement in Multivaluation Constructions workshop, Frankfurt (virtual).
- 2021 Interpretability, gender, and agreement in coordination: Evidence from Greek. (*with Elena Anagnostopoulou*) Paper presented at the Agreement in Multivaluation Constructions workshop, Frankfurt (virtual).
- 2021 Interpretability and gender features in coordination: Evidence from Greek. (*with Elena Anagnostopoulou*) Paper presented at WCCFL 39, University of Arizona (virtual).
- 2021 Gender assignment is local: On assignment by inalienable possessors. Paper presented at WCCFL 39, University of Arizona (virtual).
- 2020 On the transparency of inflectionless adjectives for definiteness marker placement in Bulgarian. Paper presented at FASL 29, University of Washington (virtual).
- 2019 Containment and syncretism in English preterites and participles. Paper presented at the LSA annual meeting, New York.
- 2018 Default gender and non-agreement in Lithuanian. (*with Milena Šereikaitė*) Poster presented at NELS 49, Cornell University.
- 2018 Italian switch nouns and adjectives with split interpretations. Paper presented at the Theoretical and Experimental Approaches to Gender Workshop, Zentrum Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft.
- 2018 On default gender and non-agreement in Lithuanian. (*with Milena Šereikaitė*) Poster presented at the Theoretical and Experimental Approaches to Gender Workshop, Zentrum Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaften.
- 2018 The Neuter Agreement Constraint in Lithuanian. (with Milena Šereikaitė) Paper presented at CLS 54, University of Chicago. [Link](#)
- 2018 On agreement and coordination in summatives: Lessons from gender switch. Poster presented at the Georgetown Workshop on Morphosyntax, Georgetown University.
- 2018 The Neuter Agreement Constraint in Lithuanian. (with Milena Šereikaitė) Paper presented at PLC 42, University of Pennsylvania.
- 2017 Non-categorical conditioning of past tense allomorphy. Paper presented at FWAV4, University of York.
- 2017 Denominal verbs and root polysemy. Paper presented at PLC 41, University of Pennsylvania.
- 2017 Past tense doublets: How grammatical architecture constrains variation. Paper presented at GURT, Georgetown University.
- 2017 On locality conditions for contextual root allosemy: Gender and number. Poster presented at the LSA annual meeting, Austin.
- 2016 Towards a formal theory of text-setting in art song. Paper presented by invited speaker Rolf Noyer at the University of Connecticut.
- 2016 Noun phrase ellipsis, root identity, and egg nouns in Italian. Paper presented at AnaMorphoSys, University of Lyon.
- 2016 On the (in)extractability of nominal PP adjuncts. (*with Ava Irani*) Paper presented at GLAC 22, University of Iceland.
- 2016 The verbal prefix *out-*, and its place in argument and event structure. Poster presented at MACSIM V, University of Delaware.

COLLABORATORS' INVITED TALKS

- 2025 Passivization, speech act participants, and third-person probes in Jarawara. Joint work presented by invited speaker Ruth Kramer MORPHOLOGIE À MONTRÉAL (MORPHOMO)

2024	Selectional restrictions of clause-taking emotive predicates across lexical categories. Joint work presented by invited speaker Kajsa Djärv	MECORE CLOSING WORKSHOP
2024	The Interaction of Topic, Voice, Case, and Agreement: On O-Constructions in Jarawara. Joint work presented by invited speaker Ruth Kramer	UNIVERSITÉ CITÉ PARIS, CNRS LLF
2024	The Interaction of Topic, Voice, Case, and Agreement: On O-Constructions in Jarawara. Joint work presented by invited speaker Ruth Kramer	LEIPZIG UNIVERSITÄT
2024	Selectional restrictions of clause-taking emotive predicates across lexical categories. Joint work with invited speaker Kajsa Djärv	MEANING @ EDINBURGH WORKSHOP
2023	Gender markedness and coordination resolution: Capturing variation across three-gendered languages. Joint work presented by invited speaker Elena Anagnostopoulou.	LAGB
2023	Coordination resolution and markedness in three-gendered languages. Joint work presented by invited speaker Elena Anagnostopoulou.	GENDER MARKEDNESS AND DEFAULTS WORKSHOP, CRETELING SUMMER SCHOOL

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

FELLOWSHIPS

Jan. 2020–September 2022	National Science Foundation: Social Behavioral and Economic Sciences Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Project Title: Grammatical Gender Representation in Natural Language Sponsor: Jonathan Bobaljik. Institution: Harvard University Collaborator: Elena Anagnostopoulou	
2014–2019	Benjamin Franklin Fellowship (Full PhD funding)	UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
2015–2016	Geo L. Harrison Fellowship (PhD funding)	UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

OTHER GRANTS

2025	Van Riemsdijk Foundation: Workshop Grant For a ZAS Workshop on <i>Clausal Complementation Across Categories</i> Main applicant; organizing committee includes Artemis Alexiadou and André Meinunger	
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TEACHING

Spring 2023	Seminar in Syntax Instructor, graduate-level seminar, topics related to agreement with coordinate structures	RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
Spring 2023	Syntax Instructor, one undergraduate course section (approximately 30 students)	RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
Fall 2022	Syntax Instructor, two undergraduate course sections (approximately 25 students each)	RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
Fall 2021	Morphosemantics Instructor, mixed undergraduate/graduate ‘topics’-style seminar on nominal features, emphasis on grammatical gender	HARVARD UNIVERSITY
Spring 2016; Fall 2019	Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Linguistics Instructor: Gareth Roberts (2016), Mark Liberman (2019) Taught weekly recitation sections, held office hours	UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
Fall 2016	Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Language and Verbal Art Instructor: Donald Ringe held office hours	UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Fall 2015 Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Formal Linguistics UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
 Instructor: Anthony Kroch
 Taught weekly recitation sections, held office hours

2022–2023 Qualifying Paper Committee Member RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
 Ying Zhang: Long-distance dependency of reflexives in Mandarin fragment answers

SERVICE TO THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY ---

EDITING

2024– Co-Editor for *Linguistic Inquiry* Squibs & Discussion

REVIEWING

Journals: Linguistic Inquiry, Natural Language & Linguistic Theory, Journal of Linguistics, Glossa: A Journal of General Linguistics, Morphology, Open Slavic Linguistics, Studies in Polish Linguistics

Edited Volumes: The Cambridge Handbook of Distributed Morphology, International Committee on Latin Linguistics Proceedings, Festschrift in Honor of Maria Polinsky, Possession and the Part-Whole Relationship in Language

Conference Abstracts: NELS, WCCFL, LAGB, Sinn und Bedeutung, Going Romance, BCGL, Linguistic Society of America annual meeting, Penn Linguistics Conference, CogSci

Grants: National Science Foundation

ORGANIZATION

2025–2026 Organizing committee for the workshop *Tracing Mismatches: Deviations from One-to-one Patterns* at DGfS 48 (Trier)

2025 Organizing committee for the workshop *Clausal Complementation Across Categories* at ZAS Berlin

2024– Talk Series Co-Coordinator for the Brown Bag Lunch at ZAS Berlin

2024– Co-Coordinator for the Themed Research Group ‘Mismatches and Disambiguation’ at ZAS Berlin

2023 Organizer of the CreteLing Workshop on Gender Markedness and Defaults ([Link](#))

2017–2018 Co-President of the Graduate Linguistic Society (GradLingS), University of Pennsylvania

2016–2017 Organizer for the morphology reading group FMART, University of Pennsylvania

2014–2016 Co-Chair of the Finance Committee, Penn Linguistics Conference 39 & 40

2014–2015 Linguistics Speaker Series Assistant Coordinator/Full Coordinator, University of Pennsylvania

2014–2019 Editorial member for Penn Working Papers in Linguistics

MISCELLANEOUS

2024 Mentor in the ZAS Mentorship Program

2024 Voice recording for the Tutorial of the ZAS Database of Clause-Embedding Predicates [Link](#)