Curriculum Vitae **Douglas C. Merchant**

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October 2018

Department of Linguistics 142 Gilbert Hall

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EDUCATION

| 2019 | Ph.D. in Linguistics, | University of Ge | eorgia | Athens, GA |
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(expected) Specializations: Psycholinguistics, Syntax, Semantics

Committee: Timothy Gupton, Paula Schwanenflugel, Vera Lee-Schoenfeld

2013 B.A. in Linguistics w/ Honors, University of Arizona Tucson, AZ

Minors: Arabic, English Literature

Advisors: Tom Bever (formal), Massimo Piatelli-Palmarini (informally)

Honors thesis: *Effects of familial handedness on language processing*

TEACHING

| LING 2100H | Study of Language-HONORS | Instructor of record | (2018 to '19; 4 sections) |
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| LING 2100 | Study of Language | Instructor of record | (2015 to '18; 9 sections) |
| LING 3150 | Generative Syntax | Instructor of record | (Summer 2016, '17, '18) |
| LING 4130 | Psychology of Language | Instructor of record | (Summer 2015) |

FELLOWSHIPS/ASSISTANTSHIPS

| 2018-19 | Linguistics Teaching Assistantship |
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| | (\$14,400 / yr. + tuition waiver) |
| 2013-18 | Presidential Graduate Fellowship |
| | (\$27,000 / yr. + tuition waiver; awarded to 12 new UGA students annually) |

RESEARCH

Publications

'What's in the bucket? Aspectual (non)compositionality in phrasal idioms: An argument for late insertion'. (Submitted to *Linguistic Inquiry*, June 2018)

2018 'Syntax from the roots: Towards a top-down, phase-theoretic model of sentence generation'. (Submitted to *UGA Working Papers in Linguistics*, May 2018)

Ongoing projects

- 2017-19 *Untitled dissertation*. A psycholinguistically plausible phase-theoretic model of sentence generation with a focus on phrasal idioms, arguing for post-syntactic lexical insertion and top-down structure building. (To defend in spring 2019)
- 2015-18 'Processing and Control in Brazilian Portuguese'. A cross-modal repetition-priming study of empty categories, i.e., traces and null pronouns. Experimental/theoretical collaboration with Tim Gupton, Rachel Olsen (UGA), and Marcello Modesto (Universidade de São Paulo).
- 2014-17 "Talk to the hand!': Group differences in semantic activation during idiom processing'. An experimental study investigating the impact of sex and familial handedness on figurative language processing. (Publication in preparation)

CONFERENCE TALKS AND SERVICE

- 2019 'Castles made of sand: The semantic inertness of idiom components in sentence generation'. *Southeastern Conference on Linguistics*. Boca Raton, FL, May 30 June 2.
- 2018 'Later, alligator! The postsyntactic insertion of idioms (and everything else)'. Fifth Annual Linguistics Conference at the University of Georgia. Athens, GA. October 12-13.
- 2017 "Herding cats': A late insertion account of the syntactic mobility of phrasal idioms'. *Arizona Linguistics Circle 11*. Tucson, AZ. October 20-22.
- 2016 Co-Chair, *Third Linguistics Conference at the University of Georgia*. Athens, GA. October 7-9.
- 'Functional dissociations between production and comprehension: The case of Distributed Morphology'. Second Annual Linguistics Conference at the University of Georgia. Athens, GA. October 9-11.
- 2014 'Differences in semantic processing as a function of sex and familial handedness'. *First Annual Linguistics Conference at the University of Georgia*. Athens, GA. October 24-26.

2014-18 Conference committee, abstract reviewer. *Linguistics Conference at the University of Georgia*. Athens, GA.

DEPARTMENTAL AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2018 "You can't get blood from a stone: The semantic inertness of phrasal idioms in sentence generation". Invited talk (via Skype), *Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra Research Week.* Santiago de los Caballeros, Dominican Republic. Nov. 8, 2018.
- 'What goes up doesn't actually go up: Towards a psycholinguistically plausible model of sentence generation'. *University of Georgia Spring Linguistics Colloquium*. Athens, GA. February 2.
- 2016 "Herding cats': A late insertion account of the syntactic behavior of phrasal idioms'. *University of Georgia Spring Linguistics Colloquium*. Athens, GA. April 8.
- 2015 "To each his own': Idiolectal variation in the syntacto-semantic representations of phrasal idioms'. *University of Georgia Spring Linguistics Colloquium*. Athens, GA. April 24.
- 2014 "An introduction to psycholinguistics and eyetracking as a research paradigm." Invited guest lecture, *Seminar in Linguistic Theory: Language Acquisition and Universal Grammar* (LING 8080). Athens, GA. March 31.

AWARDS

| 2017 | UGA Linguistics Department Travel Funding (\$150) |
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| 2017 | UGA Graduate School Travel Funding (\$350) |
| 2012-13 | UA Laura and Arch Brown Honors Scholarship (\$1000) |

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP ACTIVITIES

| 2014-15 | Transcribed morphophonological data in Chaga (a Bantu language) |
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| 2013-15 | Proofread a book on Serbo-Croatian lexical and phonological variation; annotated |
| | related sound files in Praat |
| 2013-14 | Conducted literature reviews on eyetracking technology and methodology |
| 2013-14 | Transcribed intonation patterns from audio/video for systemic functional |
| | linguistics project |

OTHER SERVICE

2014-2017 Linguistics Society at the University of Georgia

Vice-President

2015-2018 Syntax Reading Group

Co-organizer

2014-2016 Psycholinguistics Reading Group

Organizer, founder

2014 Eyetracking Reading Group

Co-organizer, co-founder

2014 Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities

Best Paper reviewer

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Intermediate (reading) Modern Standard Arabic, Spanish

Basic (reading)Latin, Portuguese, GermanOther exposureFrench, Chaga, Serbo-Croatian

SOFTWARE SKILLS

Intermediate/Advanced E-Prime, SPSS, Minitab, MS Word

Proficient DMDX, Praat, MS Excel, Photoshop/GIMP

CERTIFICATIONS

Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI):

Social and Behavioral Research Social and Behavioral Responsible Conduct of Research

REFERENCES

Timothy M. Gupton (Associate Professor) gupton1@uga.edu

Department of Romance Languages University of Georgia 210 Herty Drive Athens, GA 30601 (706) 542-4730 Thomas G. Bever (Regents' Professor) tgb@email.arizona.edu

Department of Linguistics University of Arizona P.O. Box 210025 Tucson, AZ 85721 (520) 621-6897

Massimo Piatelli-Palmarini (Professor) massimo@email.arizona.edu

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