



African Linguistics School 2024



Veneeta Dayal is Dorothy R. Diebold Professor of Linguistics at Yale University. Her areas of expertise include Semantic Theory, the Syntax-Semantics Interface, Cross-linguistic Variation, and South Asian Languages. She has published widely on the topics of Questions, Bare Nominals and Genericity, Relative Clauses, and Free Choice Items.



Johannes Mursell is a post-doc at Goethe-University in Frankfurt where he investigates the impact of information structure on the syntax of various languages.



Lotfi Sayahi is a Professor of Linguistics in the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures at the University at Albany, State University of New York. His research focuses on bilingualism and language contact, especially in North Africa.



Sharon Rose is a Professor of Linguistics at the University of California San Diego. Her expertise is in phonology, especially tone and vowel harmony; she primarily researches the languages of Sudan.



Vicki Carstens is Professor of Linguistics at the University of Connecticut, Storrs. She works in minimalist syntactic theory on phenomena in African languages, especially agreement, nominal syntax, and nominal distribution.



Augustina Owusu is a Visiting Assistant Professor at Boston College. Her area of research is semantics, and she has worked on topics such as definiteness, modality, and serial verb constructions.



Nancy C. Kula is Professor of African Linguistics at the Leiden University Centre for Linguistics (LUCL) in The Netherlands. She works on Bantu languages focusing on phonological theory and prosodic structure, and the interfaces of phonology with morphology and morphosyntax. She also works on Language Policy and multilingual pedagogies.



Michael Obiri-Yeboah is an Assistant Teaching Professor of Linguistics at Georgetown University. Michael's primary interest is phonology and its interfaces with phonetics, morphology, and morphosyntax. He conducts research primarily on vowel harmony, nasality, tone, hiatus resolution, and Kwa languages. He also has extensive experience in fieldwork and language documentation.



Malte Zimmermann is Professor of Theory of Grammar and Semantics at the Linguistic Department of Universität Potsdam in Germany. He works on all areas of semantics and the semantics-pragmatics interface, including experimental and fieldwork methods. In recent years, he has built up a strong research focus on the formal semantic analysis of African languages, such as Hausa, Igbo, Akan, and other Ghana languages.



Abigail Anne Bimpeh is a post-doc at the Leibniz Zentrum Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft (ZAS) in Berlin. She works on the semantics of African languages with a focus on experimental and field methods in the Leibniz Dream project.



Katharina Hartmann is a Professor of Syntax at Goethe University Frankfurt in Germany. Her research mainly focuses on the syntactic analysis of Germanic and African languages, especially on aspects of information structure, the structure of coordination and ellipsis, and recently also negation.



Emeka Felix Onwuegbuzia is a researcher at the Institute of French Research in Africa, IAS, University of Ibadan. He is an associate editor of the just-released Naija Dictionary. He works on Naija lexicography and morphology. He also has significant experience in developing linguistic resources for low-resource languages, including Igbo, Yoruba, and Naija.



Enoch O. Aboh is a professor of linguistics at the University of Amsterdam, where he investigates the learnability of human language with a special focus on comparative syntax, language creation, and language change. His main publications include *The Emergence of Hybrid Grammars*, CUP 2015 and *The Morphosyntax of Head-Complement Sequences*, OUP 2004. His empirical focus lies on Kwa (Niger-Congo), Romance, Germanic, Atlantic Creoles, and sign languages. He taught at MIT (Spring 2008), and Yale (Spring 2019) as visiting professor. He also taught several summer schools, including LSA 2005 MIT/Harvard, LSA 2015 University of Chicago, LSA 2023 UMass, and, since 2009, the African Linguistics School (ALS) of which I'm a founding member and a co-organizer.



Dr. Eyasu Hailu Tamene, a linguist specializing in sign language, has been working with Deaf communities, primarily in Ethiopia and South Sudan, since 2005. He co-founded Ethiopia's first BA program in Ethiopian Sign Language and Deaf Culture at Addis Ababa University in 2008, enabling Deaf students to enroll. As an instructor, advisor, and program coordinator, he has advanced both regular and non-regular sign language programs. Dr. Tamene, also an accomplished sign language interpreter, completed his PhD in 2015, focusing on the sociolinguistics of Ethiopian Sign Language, published by Gallaudet University Press. In 2021, he received a Fulbright Research African Scholarship to develop the African Sign Languages Resource Center (ASLRC). Currently an Assistant Professor at Addis Ababa University, he chairs the Organizing Committee for the 15th Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research (TISLR 15), scheduled for 2025 in Addis Ababa. Additionally, he is a member of the African Languages Week Coordination Committee and a founding board member of the US-Exchange Alumni Organization.



Sampson Korsah is a Lecturer of linguistics at the Department of Ghanaian Languages and Linguistics, University of Cape Coast. He is interested in theoretically inspired empirical phenomena in the syntax (and morphology) of Kwa languages, especially, Gɔ and Akan. He has worked on a range of topics like pronouns, clausal determiners, marking definiteness, and negative polarity, among others.