

# Lauren Eby Clemens

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Program in Linguistics and Cognitive Science  
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## Current position

*Assistant Professor*, University at Albany, State University of New York

## Areas of specialization

Syntax • Syntax-prosody interface • Experimental syntax • Mayan and Austronesian languages

## Appointments held

2014-2015 Post-doctoral Research Fellow, Department of Linguistics, McGill University

## Education

2009-2014 PhD in Linguistics, Harvard University  
DISSERTATION: *Prosodic noun incorporation and verb-initial syntax*  
COMMITTEE: Maria Polinsky (Chair), Kevin Ryan, Ryan Bennett (Yale), Norvin Richards (MIT)

2007-2009 MA in Linguistics, University of Iowa

2000-2004 BA in English Literature and French, Franklin and Marshall College

### OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

2003 Certificat Pratique de Langue Française, Université Marc Bloch, Strasbourg, France

2003 Zentrale Oberstufenprüfung, Goethe Institut, Schwäbisch Hall, Germany

## Grants, honors, & awards

### EXTERNAL GRANTS

2016 Submitted: PI, NSF Documenting Endangered Languages *Collaborative research: Documentation of linguistic change in Young People's Copala Triqui (TRC, Otomanguean)* Collaborating PI: George Aaron Broadwell

2015 Collaborator, SSHRC Insight Grant: *Heavy predicates and split arguments in Niuean* PI: Diane Massam

2015 Recommended: SSHRC Insight Development Grant: *The syntax-prosody interface of Polynesian*

#### INTERNAL GRANTS

- 2016 Tenure Trek, Institute for Teaching and Learning, University at Albany  
2016 Individual Development Awards Program Grant, United University Professions,  
University at Albany  
2013 Mind, Brain, Behavior Graduate Student Award, Harvard University  
2013 Graduate Student Council Summer Research Award, Harvard University

#### FELLOWSHIPS

- 2015-2017 Declined: Mellon Fellowship of Scholars in the Humanities, Stanford University  
2013-2014 Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Harvard University  
2013-2014 Harvard Graduate Fellowship, Harvard University  
2000-2004 Presidential Scholarship, Franklin and Marshall College

#### AWARDS

- 2013 Bok Center Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University  
2012 Bok Center Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University  
2003 Peter and Irene Seadle Award, Franklin and Marshall College

## Publications

#### JOURNAL ARTICLES

- TO APPEAR Becker, Michael, Lauren Clemens, & Andrew Nevins, A richer model is not always more accurate:  
The case of French and Portuguese Plurals, *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory*  
2015 Clemens, Lauren, Jessica Coon, Pedro Mateo Pedro, Adam Morgan, Maria Polinsky, Gabrielle  
Tandet, & Matt Wagers, Ergativity and the complexity of extraction: A view from Mayan, *Nat-  
ural Language and Linguistic Theory* 33: 417-467

#### PEER-REVIEWED EDITED VOLUMES

- TO APPEAR Clemens, Lauren & Maria Polinsky, VSO and VOS Word Order, Primarily in Austronesian and  
Mayan Languages, In Martin Everaert and Henk van Riemsdijk (eds.) *The Companion to Syntax,  
2nd edition*, Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell  
2013 Polinsky, Maria, Lauren Clemens, Adam Morgan, Ming Xiang & Dustin Heestand, Resumption  
in English, In Jon Sprouse and Norbert Hornstein (eds.) *Experimental Syntax and Island Effects*,  
Cambridge: Cambridge University Press  
2013 Clemens, Lauren, V<sub>2</sub> in a V<sub>1</sub> language: Kaqchikel SVO, In Michael Kenstowicz (ed.) *MIT Working  
Papers in Linguistics Volume on Kaqchikel*, Cambridge, MA: MIT Press

#### PROCEEDINGS

- TO APPEAR Clemens, Lauren & Jessica Coon, Prosodic constituency of verb-initial clauses in Ch'ol, In Megan  
Keough (eds) *Proceedings of the The 21st Workshop on Structure and Constituency in Languages of  
the Americas (WSCLA 21)*  
TO APPEAR Lesure, Cora & Lauren Clemens, Prosodic Boundary marking in Ch'ol, *Proceedings of the Confer-  
ence on Indigenous Languages of Latin America VII (CILLA VII)*  
TO APPEAR Clemens, Lauren, Sundanese number agreement, *Proceedings of AFLA 17*, AFLA Proceedings Project,  
University of Western Ontario

2016 Clemens, Lauren, ARGUMENT- $\varphi$ : A Prosodic Account of Pseudo Noun Incorporation. In Brandon Prickett & Christopher Hammerly (eds.) *Proceedings of the 46th Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society*: 217-226

2014 Clemens, Lauren. The prosody of Niuean pseudo noun incorporation: A recursion-based analysis. In Jyoti Iyer & Leland Kusmer (eds.) *Proceedings of the 44th Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society*: 69-82

#### EDITED VOLUMES

IN PREP Clemens, Lauren & Emily Elfnér (eds.) *Prosody and Constituent Structure* (Special Issue of *Glossa*)  
2012 Henderson, Robert, Pedro Mateo Pedro, & Lauren Clemens (eds.) *Proceedings of the 2nd Meeting of Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics (FAMLi II)*, MIT Working Papers in Linguistics, Cambridge, MA: MIT Press

2011 Clemens, Lauren, Gregory Scontras, & Maria Polinsky (eds.) *Proceedings of the 18th Annual Meeting of the Austronesian Formal Linguistics Society (AFLA 18)*, AFLA Proceedings Project, University of Western Ontario

2010 Clemens, Lauren & C.M. Louis Liu (eds.) *Proceedings of the 22nd North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics and the 18th Annual Meeting of the International Association of Chinese Linguistics*, <https://naccl.osu.edu/>

## Presentations

#### INVITED PRESENTATIONS

2016 Clemens, Lauren, On the prosodic diagnostics of head movement, Head Movement Workshop, Stanford University (9/17)

2016 Clemens, Lauren, Prosodic parallelism in the nominal and clausal domains: evidence from Rutooro (with Lee Bickmore), University of Toronto Syntax Project (6/23)

2015 Clemens, Lauren, The possibilities and limitations of using prosodic phrasing as a diagnostic for syntactic structure: A look at Niuean and Ch'ol, University of Toronto (4/10)

2015 Clemens, Lauren, The possibilities and limitations of using prosodic phrasing as a diagnostic for syntactic structure: A look at Niuean and Ch'ol. Queens College, City University of New York (3/19)

2015 Clemens, Lauren, The possibilities and limitations of using prosodic phrasing as a diagnostic for syntactic structure, Stony Brook University (2/20)

2014 Clemens, Lauren, Têtes et compléments à l'interface prosodie/syntaxe, Université du Québec à Montréal (10/15)

2014 Clemens, Lauren, The prosody of VSO/VOS alternations in Niuean. Exploring the interfaces workshop: Prosodic evidence for the structure and constituency of verb-initial languages, McGill University (5/8)

2012 Clemens, Lauren, Maria Polinsky & Gregory Scontras, English does not have resumptive pronouns: A cross-sentential account of resumption in English, Indiana University (11/28)

2012 Clemens, Lauren, Adam Morgan, Sam Pokross & Maria Polinsky, Listening to resumption in English, Celebrating 30 years to 'On the Syntax and Semantics of Resumptive Pronouns' by Edit Doron, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel (7/3)

#### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

[2017] Broadwell, George Aaron & Lauren Clemens, Inflectional change in Copala Triqui, Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas (SSILA), Austin, Texas (1/5)

- [2017] Clemens, Lauren, Jessica Coon, Carole-Rose Little, & Morelia Vázquez Martínez, Encoding focus in Ch'ol semi-spontaneous speech, Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas (SSILA), Austin, Texas (1/7)
- [2017] Clemens, Lauren, Prosody, pseudo noun incorporation, and V1 syntax: VP-fronting or V<sup>0</sup>-raising? 91st meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA), Austin, Texas (1/7)
- [2016] Little, Carole-Rose, Morelia Vázquez Martínez, Lauren Clemens & Jessica Coon, Codificación del enfoque en el habla semi-naturel en ch'ol, 4th Meeting of Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics (FAMLi 4), Universidad de Oriente, Saki' (Valladolid) Yucatán, México (11/18)
- 2016 Clemens, Lauren and Jessica Coon, VOS two ways: A unified account of V1 order in Mayan, The 47th Annual Meeting of North East Linguistic Society (NELS 47), University of Massachusetts, Amherst (10/15)
- 2016 Tollan, Rebecca & Lauren Clemens, Syntactic ergativity and word order in Polynesian, 2016 Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Association of Great Britain, University of York (9/7)
- 2016 Bickmore, Lee & Lauren Clemens, The Prosody of Rutooro Adnominals (poster). Workshop on the Effects of Constituency on Sentence Phonology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst (7/30)
- 2016 Clemens, Lauren & Jessica Coon, Deriving Mayan V1: A Fresh Look at Ch'ol, 21st Workshop on Structure and Constituency in Languages of the Americas (WSCLA), Université du Québec à Montréal (4/3)
- 2016 Bickmore, Lee & Lauren Clemens, Phonological phrasing in Rutooro. 47th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL), University of California, Berkeley (3/24)
- 2016 Lesure, Cora & Lauren Clemens, Prosodic Boundary marking in Ch'ol: acoustic indicators and their applications, Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas (SSILA), Washington D.C. (1/8)
- 2015 Lesure, Cora & Lauren Clemens, Una investigación de los correlatos acústicos de la estructura prosódica del ch'ol, Conference on Indigenous Languages of Latin America VII (CILLA), University of Texas at Austin (10/29)
- 2015 Clemens, Lauren, A Prosodic Account of Pseudo Noun Incorporation (poster), The 46th Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS), Concordia University, Montreal (10/17)
- 2015 Clemens, Lauren & Jessica Coon, Deriving Mayan V1: A Fresh Look at Ch'ol, Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas (SSILA), Portland, Oregon (1/10)
- 2014 Clemens, Lauren & Jessica Coon, Un primer acercamiento a la relación entre sintaxis y prosodia en ch'ol, 3rd Meeting of Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics (FAMLi), El Colegio de México, Mexico City, Mexico (12/4)
- 2013 Clemens, Lauren *Presented in absentia by Sam Alxatib*, Evidence for prosodic recursion from Niuéan pseudo noun incorporation, The 44th Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS), The University of Connecticut, (10/20)
- 2013 Clemens, Lauren, Jessica Coon, Pedro Mateo Pedro, Adam Morgan, Maria Polinsky, Gabrielle Tandet, & Matt Wagers, Ergativity and the complexity of extraction: A view from Mayan, 31st Annual West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL), Arizona State University (2/8)
- 2013 Radkevich, Nina & Lauren Clemens, Person hierarchy and structure dependence in Lak agreement, 31st Annual West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL), Arizona State University (2/8)
- 2013 Clemens, Lauren, Maria Polinsky & Gregory Scontras, Resumptive pronouns in English: Speaker oriented coreference tracking, 86th meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA), Boston, MA (1/3)
- 2012 Clemens, Lauren, Asimetrías Prosódicas en Sujetos Kaqchikeles. 2nd Meeting of Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics (FAMLi), Patzún, Guatemala (8/3)
- 2012 Clemens, Lauren, Adam Morgan, Maria Polinsky, & Ming Xiang, Listening to resumptives: An auditory experiment (poster), 25th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing (CUNY), City University of New York (3/15)

- 2012 Nicoás Arcos López, Lauren Clemens, Jessica Coon, Peter Graff, Pedro Mateo Pedro, Adam Morgan, & Maria Polinsky, Processing ergative languages: Methodology and preliminary results, 86th Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA), Portland, OR (1/7)
- 2012 Clemens, Lauren, V<sub>2</sub> in a V<sub>1</sub> language. 86th Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA), Portland, OR (1/7)
- 2012 Becker, Michael, Lauren Clemens, & Andrew Nevins, Discrete grammar beats phonetics and usage-based predictors in alternations, 86th Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA), Portland, OR (1/6)
- 2011 Becker, Michael, Lauren Clemens, & Andrew Nevins, A richer model is not always more accurate: The case of French and Portuguese plurals, 42nd Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS), University of Toronto (11/11)
- 2011 Clemens, Lauren & Eri Kurniawan, Sundanese active voice: Transitivity and agentivity, 18th Annual Meeting of the Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association (AFLA), Harvard University (3/4)
- 2010 Clemens, Lauren, Sundanese number agreement, 17th Annual Meeting of the Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association (AFLA), Stony Brook University (5/7)
- 2010 Clemens, Lauren, Initial syllable faithfulness in the realization of Norwegian tone (poster), 16th Annual Mid-Continental Workshop on Phonology (McWOP), Northwestern University (10/30)

#### WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

- 2013 Clemens, Lauren, The role of prosody in deciphering verb-initial word orders: A look at Māori, Ling Lunch, McGill University (4/17)
- 2013 Clemens, Lauren, Jessica Coon, Pedro Mateo Pedro, Adam Morgan, Maria Polinsky, Gabrielle Tandet, & Matt Wagers, Ergativity and the complexity of extraction: A view from Mayan, Ergativity Lab, McGill University (4/16)
- 2013 Clemens, Lauren, What can prosody tell us about the derivation of verb-initial word order? A look at Māori, Information Structure and Word order: Focusing on Asian Languages, Harvard-Yenching Institute, Harvard University (4/7)
- 2012 Clemens, Lauren, Kqchikel V<sub>2</sub> and the typology of CP, East Coast 5 Syntax Workshop (ECO5), University of Massachusetts, Amherst (4/6)
- 2012 Clemens, Lauren, Sam Pokross, & Maria Polinsky, The role of resumptive pronouns in English, Language and Cognition Workshop, Harvard University (4/3)
- 2012 Becker, Michael, Lauren Clemens & Andrew Nevins, The protection of initial syllables in novel words, Language and Cognition Workshop, Harvard University (2/7)

#### GUEST LECTURES

- 2016 Clemens, Lauren & Laura Grestenberger, Alumni Perspectives, Guest Lecture at Harvard University, Practicum in Linguistics (Ling 241r), Instructor: Jay Jasanoff (4/1)
- 2015 Clemens, Lauren, Using prosodic phrasing as a diagnostic for syntactic structure in Ch'ol, Guest Lecture at McGill University, Introduction to Linguistics (Ling 201), Instructor: Jessica Coon (3/10)
- 2014 Clemens, Lauren, Sociolinguistics with a focus on the structural properties of African American English and Québécois French, Guest Lecture at Concordia University Montreal, Introduction to Linguistics (Ling 200), Instructor: Laura Grestenberger (11/12)
- 2012 Clemens, Lauren, Language variation and social prestige: The case of African American English. Guest Lecture at MIT, Introduction to Linguistics (24.900), Instructor: Omer Preminger (5/9)

#### OTHER ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

- 2016 Clemens, Lauren, Mónica DeJesús Ramírez, Zena Zimmerglass, Bernardo Ramírez Ríos, & Walter E. Little, Transnational Oaxaca Collaborations: Language, Culture and Community, Northeast Anthropological Association 2016, Skidmore College (4/23)

- 2016 Clemens, Lauren, Prosody and constituent structure in Ch'ol, The Department of Anthropology and New York State Museum Open House, The Anthropology Graduate Student Organization, University at Albany, State University of New York (1/22)
- 2011 Clemens, Lauren, Pedro Mateo Pedro, Adam Morgan, Maria Polinsky, & Gabrielle Tandet, New approaches to linguistic work in Mesoamerican communities, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies: Mexico and Central America Program Speaker Series, Harvard University (11/9)

#### COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS

- 2016 Clemens, Lauren, Triqui Language Resources. Day of Triqui Culture in the Capital District (4/10)
- 2012 Clemens, Lauren, A perspective on the interaction between 'natural' and grammatical gender from linguistics, Gendered Language: An International Women's Rights Collective Discussion Event, Harvard University (4/13)

## Research experience

#### FIELD WORK

- Summer 2015 Ch'ol, Chiapas, Mexico
- Summer 2013 Tahitian, Mo'orea, French Polynesia
- Summer 2012 Kaqchikel, Chimaltenango, Guatemala
- Summer 2011 Q'anjob'al & Kaqchikel, Huehuetenango & Chimaltenango, Guatemala

#### CONSULTANT WORK

- 2016-present Rutooro, Albany, New York
- 2015-present Triqui, Albany, New York
- 2014-2015 Chuj, Montreal, Quebec
- 2014-2015 Indonesian, Montreal, Quebec
- 2010-2012 Kaqchikel, Cambridge, Massachusetts

#### ACOUSTIC ANALYSIS

- 2011-2012 Nez Perce intonation, Research Assistant to Amy Rose Deal
- 2008-2009 Russian VOT, Research Assistant to Catherine Ringen

## Teaching & advising

#### UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY, STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

- [Spring 2017] Linguistic Structures (ALIN 423)  
Introduction to Syntax (ALIN 421)
- Fall 2016 Field Methods (ALIN 429)  
Introduction to Syntax (ALIN 321)
- Spring 2016 Advanced Syntax (ALIN 421)
- Fall 2015 Introduction to Syntax (ALIN 321)

#### MCGILL UNIVERSITY

- Fall 2014 Introduction to the Study of Language (Ling 200)

## HARVARD UNIVERSITY

- Spring 2013 Teaching Fellow for Practicum in Linguistics (Ling 241r), Instructor: Kevin Ryan  
Fall 2012 Teaching Fellow for Senior Thesis Writing Tutorial (Ling 99a), Instructor: Maria Polinsky  
Teaching Fellow for Languages of the Caucasus (Harvard Ling 117r, UMass 795a), Instructors:  
Maria Polinsky (Harvard) and Alice Harris (UMass)  
Spring 2012 Teaching Fellow for Sentence Structure (Ling 102), Instructor: Nina Radkevich  
Instructor for Acoustic Analysis, Sophomore Tutorial (Ling 97r)  
Fall 2011 Teaching Fellow for Sounds of Language (Ling 105), Instructor: Kevin Ryan  
Instructor for Language Rights, Junior Tutorial (Ling 98a)

## UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

- Spring 2009 Teaching Assistant for Articulatory and Acoustic Phonetics (103:110), Instructor: Jill Beckman  
Fall 2008 Teaching Assistant for Language and Society (103:011), Instructor: Jurek Rubach  
Teaching Assistant for Language and Gender (103:150), Instructor: Elena Gavrusева  
Spring 2007 Teaching Assistant for Language and Society (103:011), Instructor: Elena Gavrusева

## Advising

### GRADUATE STUDENTS

- Ongoing Rebecca Tollan, *The processing of wh questions in Polynesian as a window to ergativity, transitivity, and subjecthood*, Doctoral Thesis, University of Toronto, Committee member  
Ongoing Jelena Borise, Doctoral Thesis, Harvard University, Committee member

### UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

- Ongoing Zena Zimmerman, Undergraduate Honors Thesis, University at Albany, State University of New York, Supervisor  
2015 Cora Lesure, *Prosodic Boundary Marking in Ch'ol: Acoustic Indicators and Their Applications* Undergraduate Honors Thesis, McGill University, Co-supervised with Jessica Coon  
2014 Victoria Rahardjo & Cora Lesure, McGill Student Research Assistants for SSHRC Grant *The mental representation of language variation: macro- and micro-parameters*, Co-supervised with Lisa Travis and Jessica Coon  
2013 Sam Pokross, *Testing the theory of comprehension and coreference: An auditory study of English resumption*, AB honors thesis, Harvard University, Co-supervised with Maria Polinsky

## Service

### SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

- 2012-2014 Committee Member, Committee on Ethnic Diversity in Linguistics (CEDL), Linguistic Society of America (LSA) Standing Committee

### CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP ORGANIZATION

- 2014 Co-organizer, 22th Annual Meeting of the Austronesian Formal Linguistics Society (AFLA 22) with Mitcho Erleweine, Henrison Hsieh, Jiajia Su, & Lisa Travis  
2011 Co-organizer, 18th Annual Meeting of the Austronesian Formal Linguistics Society (AFLA 18) with Gregory Scontras & Maria Polinsky

2011 Co-organizer, East Coast Graduate Student Workshop in Syntax (ECO5) with Peter Jenks & Patrick Rich

#### REVIEWING

#### JOURNALS AND VOLUMES

*Frontiers in Psychology, Language Sciences* (4)

*Glossa* (3)

*Journal of Linguistics* (1)

*Lingua* (before 1/1/16) (3)

*Linguistic Inquiry* (1)

*MIT Working Papers in Linguistics* (2)

*Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* (4)

#### CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP REVIEWING

2016 4th Meeting of Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics (FAMLi 4), Universidad de Oriente, Valladolid, Mexico

2016 North East Linguistics Society (NELS) 47, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

2015 Speech Prosody 2016, Boston University

2015 North East Linguistics Society (NELS) 46, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada

2015 Experimental and Theoretical Advances in Prosody (ETAP 3): Prosody and Variability, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

2014 23rd Meeting of the Student Organisation of Linguistics in Europe (ConSOLE), Université Paris Diderot-Paris 7, Paris, France

2014 3rd Meeting of Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics (FAMLi 3), El Colegio de México, Mexico City, Mexico

2013 Exploring the interfaces workshop: Prosodic evidence for the structure and constituency of verb-initial languages (ETI 3), McGill University

2013 Workshop on the Sound Systems of Mexico and Central America (SSMCA), Yale University

2012 2nd Meeting of Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics (FAMLi 2), Patzún, Guatemala

#### UNIVERSITY SERVICE

#### HARVARD UNIVERSITY

2011 Selection Committee Member, Harvard Graduate Student Council Everett Mendelsohn Excellence in Mentoring

2010-2011 Grant Committee Member, Harvard Graduate Student Council Conference Grants and Summer Research Awards with Dean Allan Brandt, Dean McCavana, Jim Hogle and Cherie Ramirez

2009-2011 Secretary, Harvard Graduate Student Council

#### DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

#### UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY, STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

2016-present Faculty Advisor, Triquis Sin Fronteras-UA, University at Albany Student Organization

2015-present Co-organizer with Walter E. Little, Triqui Language Working Group

2015-present Board Member, Institute for Mesoamerican Studies

2016-2017 Awards Committee, Department of Anthropology



#### HARVARD UNIVERSITY

2012-2013 Assistant Head Tutor, Harvard Department of Linguistics (undergraduate advising)  
2011-2012 Student Representative to the faculty  
2010-2012 Student Organizer, GSAS Workshop Language Universals and Linguistic Fieldwork  
Spring 2011 Student Representative, Phonology Search Committee  
2009 Departmental Representative, Harvard Graduate Student Council

#### UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

2008-2009 Student Representative to the faculty

#### COMMUNITY SERVICE

2016-present Board of Directors, Triquis Sin Fronteras

### Spoken languages

Native English  
Fluent Dutch, French, German  
Conversational Spanish, Serbo-Croatian