

RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC INTERESTS

- Computational and Applied Linguistics
 - The Intersection of SLA Theory and Psycholinguistics in Language Pedagogy
 - Structural and Morphological Studies in Polish Language
 - Enhancing Language Learning through Language Technologies
 - Bridging Academic Research with Real-World Language Education through Collaborative Projects and Community Engagement
-

EDUCATION

M.A. Computational Linguistics CUNY Graduate Center (Anticipated in 2024)

Supplemental Coursework in Computer Science. Columbia University School of Professional Studies

M.A. Linguistics University of Illinois at Chicago (2016)

LSA Linguistic Summer Institute. The University of Chicago (2015)

M.A. Germanic Languages and Literature University of Illinois at Chicago (2015)

B.A. Germanic Languages and Literature University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2009)

B.A. Political Science University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2009)

Vienna Diplomatic Program. University of Vienna, Austria (2008)

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Senior Educational Technologist

Language Resource Center at Columbia University, New York, NY

(March 2017 - Present)

- Provides leadership in integrating digital and computational methods in language education, emphasizing the applications of natural language processing (NLP) in language learning.
- Collaborates closely with faculty to design and implement innovative, computational-based educational tools, enhancing language learning experiences.
- Employs machine learning (ML) to develop bespoke solutions for foreign language teaching, focusing on adaptive learning technologies.
- Applies natural language processing technologies to create tools that aid in language acquisition and proficiency.
- Leads seminars focusing on recent trends and scholarship in language pedagogy and applied linguistics.
- Works with leading experts in the field of SLA, helping them share their practices with Columbia's language community.
- Developed and currently manages the Center's website and an array of digital assets supporting language instruction.
- Actively participates in the national community of applied linguists by attending relevant conferences and contributing original research.
- Works with the University administration on establishing attainable benchmarks for faculty development, and facilitates their attainment.
- Incentivizes and promotes curricular innovation by managing the Center's Instructional Innovation Grant Program.
- Recruits, hires, and manages the Center's undergraduate and graduate staff.

Instructor

Teachers College Columbia University, New York, NY

(January 2024 - Present, PT)

- Spring 2024: "Introduction to Corpus Linguistics"
 - The course introduces students to language corpora as a resource for linguistic analysis. It presents a survey of the available English-language corpora including learner corpora (texts produced by language learners) and teaches the use of web-based interfaces and computer tools. Students learn fundamental concepts and methods of corpus linguistics through investigation into the lexis and grammar of English and applications of corpora for language teaching.

PAST EMPLOYMENT

Analytical Linguist

Scale AI, San Francisco, CA

(November 2023 - January 2024, CPT)

- Trains LLMs by crafting and answering domain-specific questions.
- Evaluates and ranks responses generated by LLM-based systems.
- Uses domain expertise to assess the factuality and relevance of output produced by AI models.

Linguist

Converseon.ai, New York, NY

(May 2021 - December 2023, CPT)

- Reviews and annotates data from a variety of sources.
- Provides insights into sentiment, emotion, and topic to improve natural language understanding.
- Collects, annotates, and organizes text data from online sources.
- Evaluates the accuracy of output data.
- Collaborates in amending annotation guidelines to accurately capture sentiment and emotion.
- Provides feedback to language engineers and scientists on tool improvements and annotation processes.

Web Manager

New York African Studies Association (NYASA), New York, NY

(May 2021 - December 2023)

- Developed and managed the NYASA website.
- Managed NYASA's social media presence.
- Produced graphic designs for the organization.
- Maintained an up-to-date mass email list of existing, former, and potential NYASA members and email subscribers.
- Designed promotional content for NYASA Monthly Forum and mass email to members.
- Provided logistical and technical support for NYASA's events.

01/2017 - 03/2017 Instructor of German at Purdue University Northwest, Hammond IN

08/2016 – 12/2016 Instructor of ESL at Roosevelt University, International Study Center, Chicago IL

08/2016 – 12/2016 Instructor of German at DANK Haus German-American Cultural Center, Chicago IL

08/2015 – 03/2017 Instructor of German at North Park University, Chicago IL

08/2012 – 05/2013 Graduate Instructor of German at the UIC Germanic Studies Department, Chicago IL

08/2011 – 12/2011 Graduate Administrative Assistant and Researcher at the UIC Language and Culture Learning Center, Chicago IL

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- The Computer-Assisted Language Instruction Consortium (CALICO):
 - Associate Editor of the Learning Technology Review with The CALICO Journal
 - Reviewer for The CALICO Journal
- International Association for Language Learning Technology (IALLT)
 - Initiator and coordinator of the Immersive Learning Interest Group
 - Reviewer for The FLTMag
- American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)
- New England Regional Association for Language Learning Technology (NERALLT)
- The Northeast Association for Language Learning Technology (NEALLT)
- American Association of University Supervisors, Coordinators, and Directors of Language Programs (AAUSC)
- Linguistic Society of America (LSA)

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

- Bash/Shell
- HTML/CSS
- Java
- Python
- R
- SQL

NATURAL LANGUAGES

- English (Distinguished/Native)
- German (Superior)
- Latin (Intermediate)
- Polish (Distinguished/Native)
- Russian (Advanced)

PUBLICATIONS

Zuberek, S. (2023). Lingt. CALICO Journal, 40(3), 378-386.

Zuberek, Szymon E. (2016). The Effectiveness of Pronunciation Training Software in ESL Oral Fluency Development. University of Illinois at Chicago. Thesis. <https://hdl.handle.net/10027/20918>

PRESENTATIONS AND TALKS

Zuberek, S. (2024) Machine Learning and Grammar Instruction: The Case of German Nominal Gender. Presented as part of the IALLT monthly webinar series.
(By Invitation)

Zuberek, S. Yu, H. Li, X. Tillman, J. (2024) Introductory Workshop to Corpus Linguistics. Presented at the 2024 AL and TESOL Language and Technology Day, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY.
(By Invitation)

Zuberek, S. (2023). Automatically classifying written output in the Polish language classroom. Paper presented at the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Convention, Chicago, IL.

Zuberek, S. (2023). Harnessing generative AI to develop instructional content for foreign language writing. Workshop facilitated as part of the "Transformation in Language Teaching and Learning" series, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.
(By Invitation)

Zuberek, S. (2023). Harnessing generative AI to develop instructional content for foreign language writing. Interactive workshop facilitated at the Consortium for Language Teaching and Learning (CLTL) Workshop, "Current and Future Trends in AI: Practical Applications to Language Teaching and Assessment," Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.

Zuberek, S. (2023). Genusidator: A supervised ML system to explain grammatical gender assignment in German nouns. Paper presented at the Artificial Intelligence Research in Applied Linguistics (AIRiAL) Conference, Teachers College, New York City, NY.

Zuberek, S. (2023). Genusidator: A rule-based system to explain grammatical gender assignment in German nouns. Paper presented at the International Association for Language Learning Technology (IALLT) Conference, New Orleans, LA.
(By Invitation)

Zuberek, S. (2022). The emerging professional development landscape for foreign language instructors. Presentation at the Northeast Association for Language Learning Technology (NEALLT) Conference.

PRESENTATIONS AND TALKS (CONTINUED)

Zuberek, S. (2020). Am I your father? - Applying computational methods to detect grammatical similarities in the dialogues between Star Wars characters. Presentation at the CIRCL Fall Talk Series, CUNY Graduate Center, New York, NY.

Zuberek, S. (2019). The presence tense: Developing VR environments for the multimodal classroom. Presentation at the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Convention, Washington D.C.

Zuberek, S., & Barbazan, D. (2019). If genes could talk: Teaching video-mediated listening in the multiliteracies framework. Workshop at the New England Regional Association for Language Learning Technology (NERALLT) Conference, Yale University, New Haven, CT.

Zuberek, S. (2019). From VR to a multimodal task – Developing VR experiences for the multimodal language classroom. Interactive workshop at the International Association for Language Learning Technology (IALLT) Conference, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR.

Zuberek, S. (2018). BetterLearningThruTechnology. Interactive workshop at the Summer Teacher Institute, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL.

Zuberek, S., & Momescu, M. (2018). #CollaborateBetter: Padlet in mixed Romanian elementary and intermediate classes. Presentation at the Northeast Association for Language Learning Technology (NEALLT) Conference, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.

Zuberek, S., & Gozzi, M. L. (2017). Reading through technology: The role of language technologies in teaching academic foreign language reading. Presentation at the annual New England Regional Association for Language Learning Technology (NERALLT) Conference, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT.

Zuberek, S. (2016). The effectiveness of CAPT software in ESL oral fluency development - An exploratory study. Presentation at the In/Between Conference "Alterities," University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

Corpora and Data in the Language Classroom with Simon Zuberek
(Speaking of Language Podcast, October 18, 2023)

Language Learning and AI with Simon Zuberek
(Said and Done Podcast, September 7, 2023)

Upper Levels in English, German, and Italian with Simon Zuberek
(Said and Done Podcast, June 2, 2023)

IALLT Interview Project Episode 9: Interview about Artificial Intelligence with Cory Duclos, Simon Zuberek, and Anthony Spadafino (The FLTMag, February 23, 2023)

Bilingual Binds in English and Polish with Simon Zuberek
(Said and Done Podcast, October 24, 2022)

Extended Reality (XR) in the Language Classroom
(Speaking of Language Podcast, April 29, 2020)