

## ALISON BIGGS

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### EDUCATION

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- 2015      PhD in Linguistics, University of Cambridge  
            Dissertation: *Dissociating Case from Theta-roles: a comparative investigation*.
- 2011      MPhil in Linguistics (Distinction), University of Cambridge
- 2010      BA in Modern and Classical Chinese and Linguistics (Hons, First Class),  
            SOAS, University of London
- 2007-08   Study year abroad, Beijing Normal University (Beijing Shifan Daxue)

### EMPLOYMENT

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- 2015-      Lecturer, Department of Linguistics, University of Pennsylvania  
2014-      Junior Research Fellow, Wolfson College, University of Oxford

### PUBLICATIONS

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#### Journal articles

- 2016      Locating variation in the dative alternation. *Linguistic Variation* 16.2: 151-182.

#### Proceedings

- 2017      Different paths in Directed Manner of Motion Constructions. In Aaron Kaplan et al. (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 34<sup>th</sup> West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*, 81-88.
- 2017      Variants of Indonesian prepositions as intra-speaker variability at PF. In Amy Goodwyn-Davies and Kajsa Djarv (Eds.), *University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics* 23.1, Article 11. With Helen Jeoung.
- 2015      A new Case for A-movement in Northwest British English. In Ulrike Steindl et al. (Eds.) *Proceedings of the 32<sup>nd</sup> West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*, 218-227.
- 2013      The syntactic structure of long-distance A-movement. *Newcastle Working Papers in Linguistics* 19.2: 37-58.

#### Volumes - edited

- 2015      *The Proceedings of the Second Asian and European Linguistic Conference*. Alison Biggs, Man Li, Aiqing Wang, and Cong Zhang (Editors).

### **Working papers**

2012 Restructuring the ‘tough’ approach to East Asian passives. *Cambridge Occasional Papers in Linguistics* 6: 237-266.

### **Submitted**

In review On stative participles and their Time Span. (Chapter, edited volume)

Ms. The Path to Directed Manner of Motion in the history of Chinese. (Chapter, edited volume)

Ms. Limits of variation in dative licensing. (Chapter, edited volume)

### **GRANTS & AWARDS**

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#### **Grants**

2015 Oxford University Press John Fell Fund (£3350). Award 143/063: Documenting variation in spatial markers in the languages of China

2015 Wolfson College Research Fellow Academic Fund (£500)

2014 Conference organization grant, Linguistics Association of Great Britain (£500)

2011 Three-year Ph.D fellowship (tuition, stipend, all research expenses) European Research Council, via the research project Rethinking Comparative Syntax

2011 Three-year Ph.D fellowship (tuition, stipend) (declined), Arts & Humanities Research Council, UK

2012-2014 Travel and stipend bursaries, Linguistics Association of Great Britain

2012 Three month research residency at Queen Mary, University of London. QMUL and King’s College, University of Cambridge

#### **Awards**

2014 Richard M. Hogg Prize, International Society for the Linguistics of English

2013 Anna Siewierska Prize runner-up, Linguistics Association of Great Britain

2013 Premio de Vincenzi Prize, Marica De Vincenzi Onlus Foundation

### **TALKS**

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2017 Variation in the dative alternation. Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting, themed session on *Introducing Arguments: Insights from Micro- and Macro-Variation*, Austin, 8 January.

2017 Variation in local syntax across individuals (poster). Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting, Austin, 5-8 January. With Meredith Tamminga.

2016 Dialectal, individual, and lexical variation in the Done My Homework construction. *New Ways of Analyzing Variation* 45, Simon Fraser

- University/University of Victoria, 4-6 November. With Meredith Tamminga.
- 2016 Changing Paths in Directed Manner of Motion Constructions (poster). West Coast Conference in Formal Linguistics 34, University of Utah, 29 April - 1 May.
- 2016 On phonologically unrealized prepositions: the syntax and morphology of Indonesian preposition-drop (poster). Penn Linguistics Colloquium 40, University of Pennsylvania, 18-20 March. With Helen Jeoung.
- 2015 Passive variation in dialects of Northwest British English. Invited talk, Seminar series, University of Pennsylvania, 17 September.
- 2015 Parameters of abstract Case (poster). Generative Syntax in the Twenty-First Century: The Road Ahead, Athens, 28-30 May.
- 2015 The typology of radical pro-drop: evidence from Hawai'ian. Invited talk, Null arguments workshop, CamCoS, 8 May.
- 2015 All Case is structural Case? Invited talk, Case and  $\phi$ -features workshop, University of Cambridge, 26 January.
- 2014 The syntax of space: some problems from Chinese. Invited talk, General Linguistics Seminar Series, University of Oxford, 17 November.
- 2014 Assertion and Speech Acts in embedded clauses: evidence from Mandarin syntax. Linguistics Association of Great Britain, University of Oxford, 1-5 September.
- 2014 Passive variation in Northwest British English. Invited talk, International Society for the Linguistics of English Annual Meeting, University of Zurich, 27 August.
- 2014 A comparative approach to the syntax of Mandarin adpositions. Invited talk, Workshop on adpositions, Newcastle University, 27 June.
- 2014 A new Case for A-Movement in Northwest British English. 32<sup>nd</sup> West Coast Conference in Formal Linguistics, University of Southern California, 7-9 March.
- 2013 Locality in passives: variation in Northwest British English and its consequences. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Manchester Forum in Linguistics, University of Manchester, 15-16 November.
- 2013 The syntax of the speaker in the 'went and' construction. 1<sup>st</sup> UCL Graduate Conference in Linguistics, UCL, 7-8 November. (With Anne Beshears)
- 2013 Passive variation in Northwest English dialects. Invited talk, English Dialect Syntax Workshop, Cambridge, 6 November.
- 2013 Introduction to Differential Marking. The Differential Subject Marking and Ergativity Workshop at the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea (SLE 46), University of Split, 20-21 September. (With András Bárány and Michelle Sheehan)
- 2013 Microparametric variation in A-movement in Northwest British English. Linguistics Association of Great Britain, SOAS, 28-31 August.
- 2013 An abstract Case for A-movement: microvariation in Northwest British dialects. 39<sup>th</sup> Incontro di Grammatica Generativa (IGG 39), Università di Modena e Reggio

- Emilia, 21-23 February.
- 2012 Restructuring the *tough* approach to the Mandarin long *bei*-passive. Linguistics Association of Great Britain, University of Salford, 5-8 September.
- 2012 Improper approaches to the Mandarin long *bei*-passive. 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea (SLE 45), Stockholm, 29-31 August.
- 2012 Improper Movement and the long passive in Mandarin. 7<sup>th</sup> Postgraduate Conference, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 27-28 March.
- 2011 The cartography of information structure: the unmarked preposed object in Mandarin and its function in the low periphery. Undergraduate Linguistics Association of Britain, University of Edinburgh, 26-27 March.

## TEACHING

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### Lecturer and course convenor

#### *Graduate courses, University of Pennsylvania*

Topics in the Syntax-Semantics Interface	Fall 2018
Topics in the Syntax-Semantics Interface: Causation	Spring 2017
Topics in Natural Language Syntax: Syntactic Variation	Spring 2016

#### *Undergraduate courses, University of Pennsylvania*

Argument Structure	Spring 2018
Bilingualism in History (Freshman seminar)	Fall 2015, 2016; Spring 2018
Construct a Language	Spring, Fall 2017
Patterns in Language	Spring 2016
Language in Context: East meets West (Freshman seminar)	Fall 2016
Language in China	Fall 2015

### Tutor (Small group teaching)

#### *Undergraduate courses, University of Oxford*

General Linguistics (=Introduction to Linguistics)	2014-2015
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#### *Undergraduate courses, University of Cambridge*

Typology	2013-2014
Structures and Meanings (=Introduction to syntax and semantics)	2013-2014
Syntax (=Intermediate and advanced syntax)	2012-2013

### **Undergraduate dissertation advising**

Sarah Bennett

2014

*English Sentences Featuring Subject Omission: A Comparison of the Processing of Overt Pronouns and Covert Subjects.* (With John Williams)

### **Pedagogical training**

- 2013 Teaching students with Asperger's Syndrome, University of Cambridge
- 2012 Writing lectures, University of Cambridge
- 2012 Undergraduate admissions selection (Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, with particular reference to language subjects), Cambridge
- 2012 Secondary school teaching and course development training, TeachFirst
- 2011 Small Group Teaching training, Cambridge
- 2005 Teaching English as a Foreign Language, Birkbeck, University of London

### **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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- 2011-2014 Research Assistant, *Rethinking Comparative Syntax*, University of Cambridge; PI: Ian Roberts

### **SERVICE**

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#### **Editorial board**

- 2017-2020 Transactions of the Philological Society

#### **Reviewing**

- Journals Journal of Linguistics, Language Sciences, Linguistic Analysis, Linguistic Inquiry, Linguistic Variation, Linguistics in the Netherlands
- Conferences Asian and European Linguistic Conference, CamCoS, DiGS, LAGB, LSA, PLC, SLE, WCCFL

#### **Conference organization**

- 2014 Co-organizer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Asian and European Linguistic conference, Newcastle University, 5-6 December.
- 2015 Program committee, Cambridge Comparative Syntax 4, 8-10 May.
- 2014 Organizing committee, Cambridge Comparative Syntax 3, 8-10 May.
- 2013 Student coordinator, Cambridge Comparative Syntax 2, 9-11 May.
- 2012 Organizing committee assistant, Cambridge Comparative Syntax 1, 18-19 May 2012.

#### **Workshop organization**

- 2013 Co-organizer, Differential Subject Marking and Ergative Phenomena

workshop at the Annual Meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea, University of Split, 20-21 September.

- 2012 Co-organizer, Workshop on Case supporting the Henry Sweet plenary lecture (Mark Baker), Linguistics Association of Great Britain, Salford University, 5-8 September.

## **INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE**

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### **University service**

- 2015-16 Finance Committee, Wolfson College, Oxford  
 2015-16 Domestic and Premises Committee, Wolfson College, Oxford  
 2012 Elected officer of the graduate student executive committee, King's College, Cambridge

### **Department service**

- 2012-2015 Undergraduate admissions application review, interviews and selection for Linguistics and Linguistics with Modern Languages: Christ's, Fitzwilliam, Homerton, King's, and Robinson Colleges, University of Cambridge  
 2012-2014 Treasurer, Cambridge University Linguistic Society, Cambridge  
 2013 Co-organizer, Syntax Research Cluster, University of Cambridge  
 2012-2014 Open House Representative, Linguistics and Modern Languages, University of Cambridge  
 2012-2014 Graduate student peer mentor, Linguistics department, Cambridge

## **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

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- 2015 Introduction to Linguistics (one semester course). Oxford Programme for Undergraduate Studies.  
 2013, 2014 Introduction to Linguistics. Summer school classes. Pembroke-Kings Program, Cambridge.  
 2013 *The Building Blocks of Language: LingQUIZtics*. The University of Cambridge Festival of Ideas, 20 October. (With members of the Rethinking Comparative Syntax research project)  
 2013 A Linguistic perspective on language. Centre for Freudian Analysis and Research Public Seminar Series, London, 5 October  
 2013 Introduction to Linguistics. Summer school classes. Access Cambridge Program, Cambridge  
 2013 The structure of language – graduate study in Linguistics. King's College Foundation Lunch talk to alumni, University of Cambridge, 16 March  
 2013 How to acquire a language. King's College, King's Lunchtime Seminar

Series, University of Cambridge, 15 March

2012-2013 Tutor in Linguistics for secondary school students, The Brilliant Club, various schools, London.

2012 *LingQUIZtics*. The University of Cambridge Festival of Ideas, 20 October. (With members of the Rethinking Comparative Syntax research project)

## **LANGUAGES**

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Certification: Mandarin; Classical Chinese; French; German

Linguistic knowledge of: Hawai'ian; Indonesian; Kurmanji (Northern Kurdish); Taiwanese Mandarin; Cantonese; Yixing Chinese (a variety of Wu).

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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Linguistics Association of Great Britain  
Linguistic Society of America  
Societas Linguistica Europaea  
The Philological Society