

Ruby SLEEMAN

MAIN RESEARCH INTERESTS

Ordinal numerals, generative syntax, language variation, language change, comparatives, syntax of the nominal domain, syntax-semantics interface, corpus linguistics

EDUCATION

2017.10 -

Goethe University, Frankfurt am Main, Germany

Institut für Linguistik

Ph.D. candidate in General Linguistics

Project: [Nominal Modification](#) (DFG-funded Research Training Group)

Dissertation working title: *Ordering ordinals and superlatives in Dutch*

Advisors: Cecilia Poletto (Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany; Università di Padova, Italy), Sjef Barbiers (Universiteit Leiden, the Netherlands)

Selection of courses: The syntax of noun phrases (Eric Fuß); Linguistic variation and change (Cecilia Poletto); The morphosyntax around German d (Tom Leu); The order of adjectives (Cécile Meier)

2014 - 2017

Leiden University, Leiden, the Netherlands

Department of Linguistics

M.A. (Research) in Linguistics (cum laude)

Thesis title: *Ordinal Numerals in dialects of Dutch*

(Open access, available [here](#))

Supervisor: Sjef Barbiers

Selection of courses: Syntactic Agreement, Current Issues in Syntax, Samples of Linguistic Structure, Field Methods

2011 - 2014

Leiden University, Leiden, the Netherlands

Department of Linguistics

B.A. in Linguistics (cum laude)

Thesis title: *Inversion of Preposition and Noun Phrase in Bidayuh*

Supervisor: Lisa Cheng

Selection of courses: Language typology; Morphology; Syntax 1, 2; Historical Linguistics, Language and culture of the Indo-Europeans

WORK EXPERIENCE

2016.09 - 2017.09

Conference assistant

Leiden University Centre for Linguistics, Leiden, the Netherlands

A selection of the events organized:

2017.06

“LOT Summer School 2017” with Anikó Lipták, Gijsbert Rutten

2017.03

“GLOW₄₀” with Lisa Cheng, Anikó Lipták, Güliz Güneş

2016.10

“Language Change in Epic Greek and other Oral Traditions” with Lucien van Beek

2016.03 - 2016.12

Research assistant

Meertens Institute, Royal Dutch Academy of Sciences (KNAW)

Amsterdam, the Netherlands

In the project “[Language and Number](#)” (subproject in NWO-funded Horizon project “Knowledge and Culture”) with Professor Sjef Barbiers

and dr. Lisa Bylinina

Main tasks: contributing to a typological database on number constructions; supervising a team of research assistants/interns

2015.09 – 2015.12

Research intern

Meertens Institute, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

In the project ‘Language and Number’ with Professor Sjef Barbiers and Lisa Bylinina

Main task: contributing to a typological database on number constructions

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2019.09 “The superlative-internal ordinal in the Dutch and German DP.” Talk presented at SinFonJA 12, Masaryk University, Brno, Czechia.
- 2019.08 “The second best word order: How ordinals restrict superlatives and why it’s not reciprocated.” Talk presented at the 52nd Annual Meeting of the SLE (Societas Linguistica Europaea), Leipzig University, Germany.
- 2019.07 “Variation and its Limits in Ordinal-Superlative Order in Dutch.” Talk presented at the ATINER 12th Annual International Conference on Languages & Linguistics, Athens, Greece.
- 2019.05 “DP-internal modification: Ordering ordinals and superlatives in Dutch and German.” Poster presented at A Germanic Sandwich 2019, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- 2019.02 “Variation and its limits in ordinal-superlative order in Dutch.” Poster presented at IGG45, Università degli Studi di Padova, Italy.
- 2018.06 “Ordinal numerals in dialects of Dutch.” Poster presented at TEAM 2018, Università degli Studi di Padova, Italy.

PUBLICATIONS

- 2017 “Ordinal Numerals in dialects of Dutch.” MA thesis, Leiden University, the Netherlands. Available at <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/54385>.
- 2016 “Ordinal Formation in Standard Dutch and Dialects of Dutch.” In: *TWISTx Proceedings*, pp.57-68. Available at <https://zenodo.org/record/58157#.XKJN95gzaUk>.

OTHER PRESENTATIONS (SELECTION)

- 2020.01 “Modifying superlatives: cardinal or ordinal?” Talk presented at the workshop Formal and Experimental Approaches to Adjectival Modification, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany.
- 2019.07 “Nominal numbers and numeral nouns.” Poster presented at the 3rd Crete Summer School of Linguistics, University of Crete, Rethymno, Greece.
- 2019.06 “Modification by ordinal.” Talk at the Goethe University RTG retreat, Fulda, Germany.
- 2019.03 “DP-internal modification: ordering ordinals and superlatives in Dutch and German.” Talk in the DeMiNeS Masterclass, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece.
- 2018.06 “Ordering Ordinals.” Talk at the Goethe University RTG retreat, Fulda, Germany.

TEACHING

- FALL 2017 Biweekly reading group for prof. dr. Cecilia Poletto's colloquium at Goethe University Frankfurt (LING-COLL-VAR)
- FALL 2016 Guest lecture for prof. dr. Sjeff Barbiers ('Accentgroep Moderne Taalkunde: Een bijzonder onderwerp' at Leiden University, catalogue number 5583K93)
- SPRING 2016 Weekly tutorial Syntax 1 for prof. dr. Lisa Cheng (catalogue number 51V1027)

REVIEWING

- 2020-2021 Linguistic Inquiry Squibs and Discussion

PARTICIPATION IN SUMMER/WINTER SCHOOLS

July 2019

- 3rd Crete Summer School of Linguistics, University of Crete, Rethymno, Greece
Rajesh Bhatt & Winfried Lechner: *Intermediate Semantics*
Kai von Stechow: *The Only class: Exclusives, Exceptives, Minimizers*
Human language in evolution: some key perspectives, workshop organized by Shigeru Miyagawa (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

July 2018

- 2nd Crete Summer School of Linguistics, University of Crete, Rethymno, Greece
Jim McCloskey & Tim Stowell: *Ellipsis*
Kai von Stechow: *The Linguistics of Desire*
Shigeru Miyagawa: *Language and Animal Communication in Evolution*
Linguistic Explorations beyond Language: Music, Dance and Visual Narrative, workshop organized by Pritty Patel-Grosz & Patrick Grosz (University of Oslo)

June 2018

- Potsdam Summer School "Limits of Variability in Language", Potsdam University, Germany
Larry Hyman: *Morphophonological Variation in Bantu*
Jenneke van der Wal: *Morphosyntactic variation in Bantu*
Sjeff Barbiers: *Introduction to Macroscale Microsyntactic Variation Research*
Marjo van Koppen & Jeroen van Craenenbroeck: *Discovering parameters: from micro- to macrovariation*

January 2018

- LOT winter school, VU University, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Luigi Rizzi: *Cartography and explanation*
Roland Pfau: *Visible variation: Sign languages in typological perspective*
Michael Dunn: *From Lab to the World: Linking empirical typology to language evolution*