Eric M. Jackson 芮建生博士

Contact Information

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Affiliations

MS in Human Language Technology core faculty
Member of the Graduate Faculty
Second Language Acquisition & Teaching, GIDP faculty
Center for East Asian Studies, Affiliated faculty
College of Social & Behavioral Sciences Dean's Office fellow

Current Professional Interests

- Partnering with data-scarce language communities to make language technology tools available that support community needs and values
- Producing quality materials documenting threatened languages, and training & assisting others—especially members of those language communities—to do the same
- Lexical semantics of verbs: argument structure, event structure, and their morphological expression and manipulation
- Using novel computational tools to aid traditional dialectology, especially in Tai languages of China
- Impact of language-model-based technologies on teaching and learning in both linguistics and programming

Education

University of California, Los Angeles
Ph.D. in Linguistics, August 2002 – December 2005

Dissertation title	*Resultatives, Derived Statives, and Lexical Semantic Structure*
Committee Chair	Pamela Munro
Committee	Daniel Büring, Carson Schütze, Henning Andersen

M.A. in Linguistics, September 1999 – August 2002

Thesis title	*The Stative s- Morpheme in Pima*
Committee Chair	Pamela Munro
Committee	Carson Schütze, Timothy Stowell

University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona
B.A. in Linguistics & B.S. in Physics with honors, 1993 – 1998

Continuing Education

edX / HarvardX CS50X *Introduction to Computer Science*
edX / UCSanDiegoX DSE200X *Python for Data Science*
edX / ASUx *Foundations for Excellence in Teaching Online*
edX / IBM *Pytorch basics for machine learning*
(online self-study) *Neural Networks and Deep Learning*
MentiAcademy *Neuroscience Based Learning: Strategies for making your content stick*
University of Arizona *Teaching Exchange Symposium* (March 2025)
American Association of Colleges & Universities, 2026-27 *Institute on AI, Pedagogy, and the Curriculum*

Work Experience

Fall 2021 – present **University of Arizona Department of Linguistics**
July 2026 – present, Associate Professor of Practice
May 2022 – June 2026, Assistant Professor of Practice
Oct 2021 – Apr 2022, Adjunct Instructor
- Linguistics 123 "Intro to Mathematical Approaches to Language"
- Linguistics 503 "Foundations of Syntactic Theory"
- Linguistics 508 "Computational Techniques for Linguists"
- Linguistics 529 "Human Language Tech 1"
- Linguistics 531 "Human Language Tech 2: Information Retrieval"
- Linguistics 538 "Computational Linguistics"
- Linguistics 539 "Statistical Natural Language Processing"
- Linguistics 581 "Advanced Computational Linguistics"
- Linguistics 688 "Professionalism in Human Language Technology"

Fall 2005 – Spring 2022 **SIL International**
July 2010 – present, Linguistics Consultant*
Sept 2018 –Apr 2022, Associate Director for Academic Affairs, E. Asia
Mar 2013 – Aug 2018, Linguistics Coordinator, East Asia
Apr 2013 – Aug 2016, Regional archive curator, East Asia
Nov 2005 – May 2015, Community Project Linguist
** This work continues in a voluntary capacity at 4hrs/month*

Fall 2018 – Spring 2019 **Unbabel** (remote, contract)
Linguistic annotator: Annotating linguistic error type & severity in video captions.

Fall 2015 – Spring 2017 **Sino-Tibetan Institute, Yunnan Normal University, in partnership with SIL International**
Curriculum developer and instructor for MA-level course "语音学与音系学" ["Phonetics and Phonology"]; all course materials and instruction in Mandarin

Summer 2004 and 2005 **Oregon Summer Institute of Linguistics**
Lead Instructor, Linguistics 454/554 "Advanced Phonology"

Spring 2002	**Office of Instructional Development, for the Department of Linguistics, UCLA** TA Coordinator; Prof. Anoop Mahajan, faculty advisor Instructor, Linguistics 495b "College Teaching of Linguistics"
Fall 2000 – Winter 2002	**Department of Linguistics, UCLA** Teaching Assistant / Teaching Associate: Linguistics 1 "Introduction to the Study of Language" Linguistics 20 "Introduction to Linguistics" Linguistics 110 "Introduction to Historical Linguistics"
Summer 2000	**Tellme Networks** (remote) Linguistic Consultant: Developing phonetic database of street names for TTS & ASR
1998 – 1999	**Jordan's Language Center**, Hsinchu, Taiwan English Instructor Conversational English Business English Basic English for children

PUBLICATIONS AS PRIMARY AUTHOR

Jackson, Eric. 2019. Two-part negation in Yang Zhuang. *Journal of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society* 12.1, 52-82. URL: http://hdl.handle.net/10524/52443

Jackson, Eric, Emily Jackson & Shuh Huey Lau. 2012. A sociolinguistic survey of the Dejing Zhuang dialect area. SIL Electronic Survey Reports. URL: http://www.sil.org/resources/publications/entry/50901

Jackson, Eric. 2008. Review of Beth Levin and Malka Rappaport Hovav, *Argument Realization* (2005). SIL Electronic Book Reviews 2008-005. Dallas: SIL International. Online. URL: http://www.sil.org/resources/publications/entry/40632

Jackson, Eric. 2008. Dispersion in the vowel system of Pima. Department of Linguistics, UCLA. Working Papers in Phonetics. Paper 2_No107. Pages 31-55. Online. URL: http://repositories.cdlib.org/uclaling/wpp/2_No107

Jackson, Eric. 2005. Resultatives, derived statives, and lexical semantic structure. Doctoral dissertation, UCLA. URL: http://www.linguistics.ucla.edu/general/dissertations/JacksonDissertationUCLA2005.pdf

Jackson, Eric. 2002. The "s"-ence of Pima. In Jeanie Castillo, ed., Proceedings from the Fifth Workshop on American Indigenous Languages, 23-37. Santa Barbara Papers in Linguistics, Vol 13. Santa Barbara: University of California, Santa Barbara. URL: http://www.linguistics.ucsb.edu/sites/secure.lsit.ucsb.edu.ling.d7/files/sitefiles/research/papers/Working%20Papers%20Vol%2013.pdf

Jackson, Eric. 2002. The stative *s-* morpheme in Pima. Los Angeles: UCLA Masters thesis. http://www.linguistics.ucla.edu/general/matheses/Jackson_UCLA_MA_2002.pdf

Publications not as primary author

Fountain, Amy, Jennifer Medina, Michael Hammond, Gus Hahn-Powell, Eric Jackson, Youmi Ji, Alice Saebom Kwak, Ross Freeman, Braden Thue, Sydney Bess Greenspun, Jake Mains, Michael Gallaspy, John Ivens, Aresta Tsosie-Paddock, Rolando Coto-Solano. 2026. "Improving language technology with Indigenous language communities." Poster presented at the Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, January 10, 2026.

Thue, Braden, Sydney Greenspun, Michael Gallaspy, Rolando Coto-Solano, Gus Hahn-Powell, Aresta Tsosie-Paddock, Eric Jackson, Sevren Quijada, Alice Kwak, Jennifer Medina, Ross Freeman, John W. Ivens, Michael T. Hammond, and Amy Fountain. 2026. "Introducing AILT: Advancing Indigenous Language Technologies." In *Coyote Papers 26: Proceedings of ALC 18*. Tucson: University of Arizona.

Warner, Natasha and Eric Jackson. 2026. "Linguistics at schools and public events: University of Arizona." Paper presented at the Acoustical Society of America Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, May 11, 2026.

Invited Talks and Conference Presentations

October 2026	Presentation for Saddlebrooke Freethinkers (https://web.archive.org/web/20261023195407/https://sbfreethinkers.wordpress.com/events/past-events/) "Understanding AI: How it works – and is it the same as 'thinking'?"
October 2025	Presentation for U of A's Second Language Acquisition and Teaching proseminar "Applying linguistics and language technology for documentation of minority languages of China"
September 2025	Presentation for U of A's Linguistics Department Colloquium "Applying linguistics and language technology for documentation of minority languages of China"
September 2025	Presentation for U of A's East Asian Studies Department "Applying linguistics and language technology for documentation of minority languages of China"
November 2023	Presentation for Cedarville University LING 3090 *Sociolinguistics* "Language survey, documentation, and sociolinguistic assessment"
April 2021	Presentation in the UCLA American Indian Seminar "Vowel Space Density as a tool to guide language documentation" Handout URL: https://www.academia.edu/45687918/Vowel_Space_Density_as_a_tool_to_guide_language_documentation
December 2015	Presentation in the Sino-Tibetan Institute's Linguistics Colloquia series "语言学田野调查的录音理论，方法，与实践" [Audio recording for linguistic fieldwork: Theory, methods, and practice] Slides URL: https://prezi.com/view/JnJEtD0JwSuqazdqN5p9/

May 2015	Paper presented at the 25th Annual Conference of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society, May 27-29, 2015, Payap University, Chiang Mai "Two-part negation in Yang Zhuang"
May 2011	Paper presented at the 21st Annual Conference of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society, May 11th – 13th, 2011, Kasetsart University, Bangkok "Distinguishing inherent and contact-influenced intelligibility: An example from the Dejing dialect area of Zhuang"
January 2011	Invited talks, Chinese University of Hong Kong "The sociolinguistic situation of Dejing Zhuang: A case study in what counts as a language" "Essentials of modern linguistic fieldwork"
August 2005	Oregon SIL / University of Oregon colloquium series "Pima resultatives"
May 2005	UCLA Linguistics Department, dissertation colloquium "Pima resultatives"
January 2005	Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas, January 6th – 9th, 2005, Oakland, California "Derived statives in Pima"
June 2004	Invited talk, Stanford University, Syntax Working Group workshop "State-deriving suffixes in Pima"
October 2003	Presentation at the 32nd Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Association of the Southwest, October 17th – 19th, 2002, University of Texas-Pan American "Dispersion in the Vowel System of Pima"
November 2002	Invited talk, California State University, Northridge, Linguistics Program student colloquium "Distributed Morphology and the Pima s- prefix"
April 2002	Presentation at the Workshop on American Indigenous Languages, April 26th – 28th, 2002, University of California, Santa Barbara "The 's'-ence of Pima"

ACADEMIC HONORS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

2025	**U of A Office of Research, Innovation, and Impact**, Big Idea Challenge final-round proposal (received seed funding only), grant title: "Responsible, Reliable and Secure Language-based AI" Amy Fountain, Gus Hahn-Powell, Eric Jackson, Michael Hammond, Aresta Tsosie-Paddock, Rolando Coto Solano, Michael Gallaspy, John W. Ivens, Alice Kwak, Braden Thue, Ross Freeman, Youmi Ji

2024 – 2025	**NSF Dynamic Language Infrastructure – NEH Documenting Endangered Languages**, grant co-recipient with Amy Fountain, Aresta Tsosie-Paddock, and Rolando Coto-Solano Grant title: "Collaborative Research: Advancing Indigenous Language Technologies" (2347147/2347148) *Activities include leading 3 workshop sessions on FLEx at the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, supporting 3 workshop sessions on ASR for low-resource languages at Tohono O'odham Comm College*
2024	**U of A College of Social & Behavioral Science**, Early Career Teaching Award
2004 – 2005	**UCLA Graduate Division**, Dissertation Year Fellowship
2004	**Linguistic Association of the Southwest** Helmut Esau Student Paper Award, for the paper "Dispersion in the Vowel System of Pima"
2003 – 2004	**American Philosophical Society**, Phillips Fund for North Native American Research, grant co-recipient with Marcus Smith Grant title: "Aspects of the Grammar of Pima"
2002 – 2003	**UCLA** Research Mentorship, under Prof. Pamela Munro
2002 – 2003	**UCLA Institute of American Cultures** & **UCLA American Indian Studies Center**, research grant co-recipient with Marcus Smith Grant title: "Syntax and Semantics of Pima Verbs"
Summer 2002	**UCLA** Summer Research Mentorship, under Prof. Pamela Munro
1999 – 2000	**UCLA** Pauley Foundation Fellowship
1998	**University of Arizona Department of Physics** Outstanding Senior
Spring 1998	Undergraduate member, UA Dean of Science review committee
1997	Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society
1993 – 1997	Flinn Foundation Scholarship
1993 – 1995	NSF National Science Scholarship
1993	National Merit Scholarship
1993	International Baccalaureate diploma
1991	Eagle Scout rank, Boy Scouts of America

Professional Memberships

Linguistic Society of America
Southeast Asian Linguistics Society
American Association for the Advancement of Science

Archived data and publications

https://www.sil.org/resources/search/contributor/jackson-eric-m

University Service

2026-27	College of Social & Behavioral Sciences, Dean's Office Leadership Fellowship in Faculty Affairs and Advancement Dept of Linguistics • Assessment Committee
2025-26	College of Social & Behavioral Sciences, AI in Teaching and Learning working group, co-chair Interim director, online MS in Human Language Technology program Dept of Linguistics • Assessment Committee • Outreach Committee
2024-25	Interim director, online MS in Human Language Technology program Dept of Linguistics • Assessment Committee • Outreach Committee
2023-24	Dept of Linguistics • Outreach Committee
2022-23	Interim director, online MS in Human Language Technology program

Professional Service

2024-25	Advancing Indigenous Language Technology workshops • "Introduction to FLEx" at Salt River Pima–Maricopa Indian Community (designed and facilitated workshop) • "ASR for Indigenous Languages" at Tohono O'odham Community College (supported participants in workshop) NSF ad hoc evaluator and panel evaluator
June 2024	CoLang 2024, "Fieldworks Language Explorer (FLEx)," course facilitator "Natural Language Processing for Indigenous Languages," assistant "Speech Recognition for Indigenous Languages," assistant
March 2011 – present	Consulting editor, *Journal of Language Survey Reports*

Skills

Languages	English [eng]: native Mandarin [zho]: reading; advanced conversation (ACTFL Advanced+) Yang Zhuang [zyg] (Tai-Kadai): field work (ACTFL Intermediate Mid) Pima / Akimel O'odham [ood] (Uto-Aztecan): field work Bolivian Aymara [ayr] (Aymaran): basic field work German [deu]: reading; basic conversation Russian [rus]: reading; basic conversation

Other skills	Linux (desktop and shell, Ubuntu/Debian) Virtualization (VirtualBox) and containerization (Docker) tools Python (including NumPy, Pandas, MatPlotLib, NLTK, spaCy, Jupyter Notebooks), Perl, MySQL, HTML, CSS Version control (`git`, GitHub) Office suites (LibreOffice, Google Workspace)