

Omar Agha

Visiting Instructor at UConn

Doctoral Candidate at New York University

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Employment

2022 – 2023 **Visiting Instructor, University of Connecticut**
Semantics, Computational Linguistics, and Intro Linguistics

Education

2017 – 2023 **Ph.D. in Linguistics, New York University**
Title: *How to Ignore Counterexamples: Homogeneity Across Times and Worlds*
Advisor: Lucas Champollion
Committee: Sam Alxatib, Justin Bledin, Matthew Mandelkern, Philippe Schlenker

2012 – 2016 **B.A. in Mathematics and Linguistics, University of Chicago**

2015 **LSA Linguistic Summer Institute, University of Chicago**
Courses: Field Methods, Verb Initiality, Topics in Austronesian Syntax

2016 **Grammar Boot Camp at Yale University**, organized by Claire Bowers, NSF: #1423711
Participants were trained in how to create reference grammars from archival materials on endangered languages and produced a sketch grammar over the course of the program

Awards and Fellowships

2017 – 2022 **MacCracken Doctoral Fellowship**

Papers

(submitted) *Plural reference and exception tolerance in the semantics of habituals*. Omar Agha.
Submitted to *Semantics and Pragmatics*.

(in prep) *Non-maximal conditionals in sequence*. Omar Agha.

(in prep) *Aspectual ambiguities via verbal decomposition in Khoekhoe*. Omar Agha.

2023 *Weak necessity modals as homogeneous definite plurals*. **Omar Agha** and Paloma Jeretič. Proceedings of SALT 32.

2022 *Testing gradient measures of relevance in discourse*. Alex Warstadt and **Omar Agha**. Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 26.

2021 *NOPE: A Corpus of Naturally-Occurring Presuppositions in English*. Alicia Parrish, Sebastian Schuster, Alex Warstadt, **Omar Agha**, Soo-Hwan Lee, Zhuoye Zhao, Samuel R. Bowman, Tal Linzen. Proceedings of CONLL, 2021.

- 2021 *Does Putting a Linguist in the Loop Improve NLU Data Collection?* Alicia Parrish, William Huang, **Omar Agha**, Soo-Hwan Lee, Nikita Nangia, Alex Warstadt, Karmanya Aggarwal, Emily Allaway, Tal Linzen, Samuel R. Bowman. Proceedings of EMNLP, 2021.
- 2020 *Non-resolving responses to polar questions: A revision to the QUD theory of relevance.* **Omar Agha** and Alex Warstadt. Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 24

Presentations

- 2022 *Weak necessity modals as homogeneous definite plurals.* With Paloma Jeretič. Talk given at Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT) 32, COLMEX/UNAM, June 8-10.
- 2021 *Plural reference and exception tolerance in the semantics of habituals.* Talk given at Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT) 31, Brown University, May 7-9.
- 2021 *Testing gradient measures of relevance in discourse.* With Alex Warstadt. Talk given at Sinn und Bedeutung 26, University of Cologne, September 8-10.
- 2019 *Non-resolving responses to polar questions: A revision to the QUD theory of relevance.* With Alex Warstadt. Poster presented at Sinn und Bedeutung 24, University of Osnabrück, September 4-6.
- 2019 *Event Structure and Non-culmination in Khoekhoe.* Poster presented at MACSIM 8, April 6.

Teaching Experience

- 2022-2023 Primary Instructor at UConn. *Linguistics as Science* (Undergraduate Intro to Linguistic Theory).
Classes Taught at UConn in 2022-23:
Semantics, Computational Linguistics, Linguistics as Science (Undergraduate Intro to Linguistic Theory), *Intro to Coding for Cognitive Science*.
- 2020 Teaching Assistant to Juliet Stanton. *Language* (Undergraduate Intro to Linguistics).
- 2019 Teaching Assistant to Chris Barker. *Intro to Semantics* (Undergraduate Semantics).
- 2018 Teaching Assistant to Chris Collins. *Grammatical Analysis* (Undergraduate Syntax).

Service

2022	Co-organizer for HNM1.
2021-2022	Reviewer for journal, <i>Linguistics and Philosophy</i>
2018 – 2021	NYU Semantics Group, Organizer
2018 – 2019	NYU Linguistics Graduate Student Association, Secretary
2019	MACSIM 8 – 8 th Mid-Atlantic Colloquium of Studies in Meaning, Volunteer, New York University
2021	Reviewer for conferences, ESSLLI and CoNLL

Skills

Software	LaTeX, Python, R, Amazon Mechanical Turk
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Language Experience

English	native
Mandarin	research, intermediate
Khoekhoe	research, documentation work
Urdu	heritage