

Isaac L. Bleaman

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Education

New York University
Ph.D. Linguistics, in progress (2013–)
M.A. Linguistics, 2016

University of Oxford, St. Catherine's College
M.St. Yiddish Studies, 2013
Awarded with distinction

Stanford University
B.A. Linguistics and Comparative Literature, 2012
Awarded with honors and distinction

OTHER Davis School of Russian, Middlebury College (Summer 2012)
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel (Summer & Fall 2010)
Vilnius Yiddish Institute, Vilnius University, Lithuania (Summer 2007)

Publications

Research articles

- SUB. Analyzing big data in a low-resource language: Syntactic variation in Hasidic Yiddish on the web.
- SUB. Predicate fronting in Yiddish and conditions on multiple copy Spell-Out.
- 2015 Verbal predicate fronting in Modern Hebrew and Yiddish. *Journal of Jewish Languages* 3(1–2): 66–78. doi:10.1163/22134638-12340041.
Reprinted in *Language Contact and the Development of Modern Hebrew* (2016), ed. Edit Doron, 63–75. Leiden: Brill. doi:10.1163/9789004310896_006.

Reviews and translations

- 2016 Yiddish has a word for that! Notes on the *Comprehensive English-Yiddish Dictionary* (2016). In *geveb*. <http://ingeveb.org/blog/yiddish-has-a-word-for-that-notes-on-the-comprehensive-english-yiddish-dictionary-2016>
- 2016 Review of *Origins of Yiddish Dialects* by Alexander Beider (Oxford University Press, 2015). *East European Jewish Affairs* 46(2): 223–226. doi:10.1080/13501674.2016.1193682.

Presentations

- 2017 (upcoming) One city, two speech communities: A sociophonetic analysis of New York Yiddish. Talk given at *Pluralism, Multilingualism, and Jewish Identities*, Harvard University. 3/21/17.
- 2017 Empirical approaches to language contact, variation, and change: Fifty years after Uriel Weinreich (1926-1967). Talk given at the *Linguistic Society of America (North American Association for the History of the Language Sciences)*, Austin. 1/7/17.
- 2016 “The simple believeth every word”: Hasidic counterpublic discourse and the Yiddish newspaper hoax. Talk given at the *Association for Jewish Studies*, San Diego. 12/19/16.
- 2016 The Gettysburg Corpus: Testing the proposition that all tense /æ/s are created equal. Talk given at *New Ways of Analyzing Variation (NWAV) 45*, Vancouver. Co-authored with Daniel Duncan. 11/5/16.
- 2016 *Sholem-Aleykhems tsvishndialektishe folkshprakh: a statistisher analiz fun di monologn*. [Creating a pan-dialectal Yiddish voice: A quantitative analysis of Sholem Aleichem’s *Monologn*]. Talk given at *Sholem Aleichem 1916-2016: Writing Place*, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel. 5/17/16.
- 2016 Predicate fronting in Yiddish and conditions on multiple Spell-Out. Poster given at the *Linguistic Society of America*, Washington, D.C. 1/8/16.
- 2015 Predicate fronting in Yiddish and conditions on multiple Spell-Out. Talk given at the Syntax Brown Bag, NYU. 10/30/15.
- 2015 *A kvantitativer kuk af ‘sabesdikn losn’* [A quantitative approach to ‘sibilant confusion’ in Northeastern Yiddish]. Talk given at the Max Weinreich Center Yiddish Research Colloquium, YIVO, New York. 2/17/15.
- 2014 ‘She said {that/Ø} she couldn’t take a complement’: Complementizer *that* omission in American English. Talk given at *New Ways of Analyzing Variation (NWAV) 43*, Chicago (with Dan Duncan, Shelley Feuer, Gregory R. Guy, Zachary Jagers, Matthew Stuck). 10/24/14.
- 2014 *Sabesdiker losn*: The salience of sibilant confusion as a marker of Litvish Yiddish identity. Talk given at the *Yale Conference on Baltic and Scandinavian Studies*. 3/14/14.
- 2014 Authenticity and vernacular style in Sholem Aleichem’s monologues: A variationist approach. Talk given at *MLA Convention*, Chicago. 1/10/14. (Talks based on same research also given at *SYNC 2013* at Yale and the *Fifth Warsaw Conference for Young Jewish Studies Researchers* at the University of Warsaw, 2013.)
- 2012 Invited panelist, “Yiddish Theatre, Avrom Goldfaden, *Rumenye! Rumenye!*” *2012 Romanian Film Festival at Berkeley and Stanford*. 4/28/12.

2011 Language contact and morphological leveling in American Yiddish. Talk given at *Southern California Undergraduate Linguistics Conference*. UCLA. 4/9/11.

Fellowships, grants, and honors

2016 Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry, travel grant for the AJS

2016 [American Academy for Jewish Research, Special Initiatives Grant](#) (to establish New York Working Group on Jewish Orthodoxies)

2014–2019 [National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship](#)

2013–2018 [Henry M. MacCracken Fellowship](#), NYU

2012–2013 [English-Speaking Union Scholarship](#) (\$20k to study at Oxford)

2012–2013 [Random House Scholarship](#), St. Catherine’s College, Oxford

2012–2013 Mendel Friedman Scholarship, Faculty of Modern Languages, Oxford

2012 [Kathryn Davis Fellowship for Peace](#), Middlebury College (to study Russian)

2012 [J. E. Wallace Sterling Award for Scholastic Achievement](#), Stanford (top 25 graduating students in Humanities and Sciences)

2012 [Robert M. Golden Medal for the Humanities](#), Stanford (for best honors thesis in the Division of Literatures, Cultures, and Languages)

2012 [Donald and Robin Kennedy Jewish Studies Undergraduate Award](#), Stanford

2012 Phi Beta Kappa, Stanford

2011 Finalist, Rhodes and Marshall Scholarships

Teaching

Linguistics

2016 Teaching assistant for Stephanie Harves, “Grammatical Analysis” (Fall semester), NYU

2016 Course instructor, “Language” (Summer session), NYU

2015 Teaching assistant for Lucas Champollion, “Language” (Spring semester), NYU

2014 Teaching assistant for Gregory R. Guy, “Language and Society” (Fall semester), NYU

Language instruction

2017 Instructor, Intermediate II Grammar, [Uriel Weinreich Program in Yiddish Language, Literature, and Culture at YIVO](#) (Summer)

2017 Instructor, Beginning Yiddish II, [Workmen’s Circle](#) (Spring; taught online)

- 2016 Instructor, Beginning Yiddish I, [Workmen’s Circle](#) (Fall; taught online)
- 2016 Instructor, Intermediate II Grammar, [Uriel Weinreich Program in Yiddish Language, Literature, and Culture at YIVO](#) (Summer)
- 2016 Instructor, Conversation II for Heritage Speakers, [Workmen’s Circle](#) (Spring)
- 2015 Teaching assistant for Asya Vaisman Schulman, [Steiner Summer Program, Yiddish Book Center](#)
- 2014 Instructor, [Yiddish Farm Summer Program](#) (80 hours)

Service and employment

Academic service

- 2016– Co-organizer (w/ Ayala Fader), [New York Working Group on Jewish Orthodoxies](#)
- 2015–2016 President, [Linguistics Association of NYU](#)
- 2015 Member, [Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics 24](#) organizing committee
- 2014–2017 Member, Colloquium Committee, Department of Linguistics, NYU
- 2014 Member, [Semantics and Linguistic Theory 24](#) organizing committee

Editorial work

- 2017 (in prep.) Guest co-editor (w/ Brian D. Joseph), special issue of the *Journal of Jewish Languages*, “Jewish language variation and contact: Fifty years after Uriel Weinreich (1926-1967)”
- 2015– Managing Editor, [Jewish English Lexicon](#)
- VAR. I have served as a peer reviewer for *Glossa* (2016), *Philological Encounters* (2016), and an edited volume on Jewish languages (2015).

Employment, internships, and volunteering

- 2015– Staff writer, [Yiddish Daily Forward](#)
- 2014– Member, Editorial Board, [Afn shvel](#), League for Yiddish
- 2014–2015 Research assistant for Ayala Fader, Fordham University
- 2013 RA for Sarah Benor (researching and editing etymologies), [Jewish English Lexicon](#)
- 2012– Founder & Director, [Leyenzal – A Yiddish Literacy Project](#), 501(c)(3)
An online resource where scholars in the field of Yiddish studies deliver lectures on classic works of Yiddish literature, which users can download free of charge along with the texts being discussed. URL: www.leyenzal.org
- 2011 RA for Marisa Tice & Meghan Sumner, [Stanford Phonetics Lab](#)

2011 Program Assistant, [Steiner Summer Internship](#), National Yiddish Book Center

2009 Steiner Summer Intern, National Yiddish Book Center

Languages and programming

English (native), Yiddish (fluent), Modern Hebrew (advanced), Russian (intermediate)

C, HTML, Java, L^AT_EX, L^AT_EX, PHP, Praat, Python, R, Stata

Updated March 2017