

**HEATHER LITTLEFIELD**  
12 Maple Street, Sherborn, MA 01770  
508.651.7742; h.littlefield@neu.edu

## **EDUCATION**

---

**Doctorate of Philosophy**, 2006, Applied Linguistics, Boston University  
*Syntax and Acquisition in the Prepositional Domain: Evidence from English for fine-grained syntactic categories*. Advisors: Paul Hagstrom and Shanley Allen.

**Participant**, Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute  
2005: Harvard University/Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA  
1999: University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL  
1997: Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

**Master of Arts**, 1997, Applied Linguistics, Boston University  
Masters Thesis: *“Language Policy and Education Reform in West Africa.”*

**Bachelor of Arts with Honors**, 1991, Communication, Boise State University, Boise, Idaho  
Senior Thesis: *“Presidential Propaganda: Bush’s War of Words.”*

## **INTERESTS**

---

**Syntax**, with a focus on the structure and role of syntactic categories, especially prepositions

**First language acquisition**, especially the longitudinal development of syntactic categories

**Second language acquisition**, with a focus on the teaching of ESL, TEFL, and how the development of syntactic categories in L2 compares and contrasts with L1 acquisition

**Historical linguistics**, especially the history of the English language and grammaticalization

**Sociolinguistics**, especially issues of language and power with regard to gender, social dialects and multilingual nations

**African languages**, with special interest in sociocultural issues of linguistic hegemony

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

---

**Recipient, John Portz Faculty Excellence Award** **2018**  
Northeastern University Honors Program

**Voted a “Northeastern Favorite Faculty”** **2013**  
Northeastern University *Cauldron Yearbook*

**Nominated for the university-wide *Teaching Excellence Award*** **2012, 2011, 2010, 2008, 2004**  
Northeastern University

**Nominated for the Northeastern University Service Award** **2011**

**Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Fellowship** **2000-2001**  
Applied Linguistics Program, Boston University

<b>Member of Phi Sigma Iota</b> (Foreign Language Honor Society) Boston University	<b>1997, 2000</b>
<b>Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Fellowship</b> African Studies Program, Boston University	<b>1997-2000</b>
<b>Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute Fellowship</b> University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign	<b>1999</b>
<b>Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship</b> African Studies Program, Boston University	<b>1996-1997</b>
<b>Forensics Scholarship</b> Boise State University Speech and Debate Team	<b>1988-1991</b>
<b>Harvey Pitman Communication Scholarship Award</b> Boise State University	<b>1989-1990</b>
<b>Communication Department Scholarship Award</b> Boise State University	<b>1987-1988</b>

## **EMPLOYMENT AND TEACHING HISTORY**

---

<b>Associate Teaching Professor (Associate Academic Specialist)</b> <i>Northeastern University, Linguistics Program, Boston, MA</i> Responsible for designing and teaching five linguistics courses per academic year, as well as being the Head Advisor and the Assistant Director for the Linguistics Program.	<b>2012 - present</b>
<b>Assistant Academic Specialist</b> <i>Northeastern University, Linguistics Program, Boston, MA</i> Responsible for designing and teaching five linguistics courses per academic year, as well as being the Head Advisor for the Linguistics Program.	<b>2007 - 2012</b>
<b>Adjunct Lecturer</b> <i>Boston University, School of Education, Boston, MA</i> Responsible for all levels of planning and teaching graduate-level courses in linguistics.	<b>1998 - 2017</b>
<b>Postdoctoral Teaching Associate</b> <i>Northeastern University, Linguistics Program, Boston, MA</i> Developed and taught linguistics courses for the undergraduate Linguistics Program.	<b>2005 - 2007</b>
<b>Adjunct Lecturer</b> <i>Northeastern University, School of Professional and Continuing Studies, Boston, MA</i> Planned and taught introductory level linguistics courses.	<b>1998 - 2007</b>
<b>Adjunct Lecturer</b> <i>Northeastern University, Linguistics Program, Boston, MA</i> Designed and taught various undergraduate linguistics courses.	<b>1999 - 2005</b>

- Adjunct Lecturer** **2000**  
*Boston University, Sargent College of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences, Boston, MA*  
 Planned and taught a course on typical language acquisition for Speech Pathology students.
- Teaching Assistant, Syntax I: Government and Binding** **1998**  
*Boston University, Linguistics Program, Boston, MA*  
 Assisted in teaching graduate-level syntax; designed and led weekly practice and review sessions.
- Teaching Assistant, Language, Culture and Society** **1997**  
*Boston University, Linguistics Program, Boston, MA*  
 Assisted in teaching undergraduate course; led weekly discussion groups.
- ESL Instructor** **1994 - 1996**  
*EF International Language Schools, Brookline, MA*  
 Designed and taught courses, ranging from beginning listening and speaking skills to courses for advanced ESL learners in literature, fiction writing, acting, public speaking, and folk music.
- TEFL Instructor** **1992 - 1993**  
*United States Peace Corps, Guinea, West Africa*  
 Taught English to beginning and advanced students at Lycée Poudrière.
- Private Piano and Voice Instructor** **1990 - 1991**  
*Self-employed, Boise, ID*  
 Provided music lessons to beginning and intermediate students ages six to 21.
- Honors Seminar Facilitator** **1989 - 1991**  
*Honors Program, Boise State University, Boise, ID*  
 Conducted one credit, pass/fail courses in magazine production for undergraduate honors students, published the *Ivory Tower*, the Honors Program literary magazine.
- Teaching Assistant, Public Speaking** **1990**  
*Communication Department, Boise State University, Boise, ID*  
 Met with students to review their video-taped speeches; presented occasional lectures.
- Teaching Assistant, Reasoned Discourse** **1991**  
*Communication Department, Boise State University, Boise, ID*  
 Tutored students in argumentation; gave one lecture on debate techniques.
- Team Captain** **1990 - 1991**  
*Boise State University, Speech and Debate Team, Boise, ID*  
 Coached the novice speakers on the team; visited area high school speech classes and conducted seminars on interpretive speaking, humorous speaking, and the use of visual aids.
- French Tutor** **1987 - 1988**  
*Boise State University, Foreign Language Department, Boise, ID*  
 Directed weekly hour-long conversation practices for first-year students of French.

## **UNDERGRADUATE COURSES DESIGNED AND TAUGHT**

---

Designed all course curricula, including text selection, course content, and method of instruction; responsible for all aspects of teaching, including preparation of all in-class activities and lectures, design of all assessments, and grading student work. All courses are four-credit courses, unless otherwise noted. The terms that each course was taught are indicated, with student enrollments provided in parentheses; sections taught for extra compensation are marked with an asterisk (\*).

### **I. LINGUISTICS PROGRAM, *Northeastern University***

#### **African Linguistics (LIN/AFRU428; LING3428)**

Taught: Fall 2009 (5); Fall 2003 (5); Winter 2002 (7); Spring 1999 (8)

#### **History of the English Language (LIN/ENGU454; LING 3454)**

Taught: Spring 2013 (overload, Honors section, 8); Fall 2012 (19); Fall 2011 (15); Fall 2010 (11); Fall 2009 (11); Fall 2007 (21); Spring 2007 (41); Fall 2005 (12); Spring 2005 (16); Fall 2003 (23); Spring 2003 (47); Spring 2002 (36); Spring 1999 (26)

#### **Introduction to Language and Linguistics (LIN/ENGU150; LING 1150)**

Taught: Spring 2007 (51); Summer 2007 (overload, 43); Fall 2006 (44); Summer 2006 (39; overload); Fall 2004 (50); Fall 2002 (32; 33); Winter 2001 (22)

#### **Introduction to Syntax (LIN/ENGU450)**

Taught: Spring 2002 (18); Winter 2001 (10); Spring 2000 (15)

#### **Language and Culture (LIN/SOAU412; LING 3412)**

Taught: Spring 2018 (17); Spring 2017 (18); Spring 2016 (18); Fall 2014 (14); Spring 2014 (Honors section, 8); Fall 2013 (19); Fall 2012 (17); Fall 2011 (14); Spring 2011 (26); Spring 2009 (35); Fall 2009 (19); Fall 2007 (30); Fall 2006 (overload, 30); Fall 2005 (21); Fall 2004 (19); Fall 2003 (20); Fall 2002 (37); Spring 2001 (34); Fall 2001 (31); Winter 2000 (22)

#### **Language and Gender (LIN/ENGU456 ; LING3456)**

Taught: Fall 2017 (13); Fall 2015 (7); Spring 2014 (16); Spring 2010 (15); Spring 2008, Fall 2006 (25); Fall 2004 (23); Spring 2001 (13)

#### **Linguistic Analysis (LIN/ENGU350; LING2350)**

Taught: Fall 2014 (19); Spring 2013 (6; 15, overload); Spring 2012 (overload, 18; 25); Fall 2011 (15); Fall 2010 (17); Spring 2010 (17; overload, 18), Spring 2008 (20); Spring 2006 (13); Spring 2004 (23); Winter 2000 (14)]

#### **Linguistics at Northeastern, 1 credit course (LING1000)**

Taught: Fall 2017 (overload, 4); Fall 2016 (overload, 5); Fall 2015 (overload, 7); Fall 2014 (overload, 4); Fall 2013 (overload, 6); Fall 2012 (overload, 1); Fall 2011 (overload, 9)]

**Research Seminar in Linguistics (LING4891)**

Taught: Spring 2018 (overload, 7); Spring 2017 (8); Spring 2016 (overload, 6); Spring 2015 (overload, 6); Spring 2014 (overload, 4)]

**Semantics (LIN/ENG452; LING3452)**

Taught: Fall 2015 (7); Fall 2014 (overload, 20); Spring 2009 (45); Spring 2005 (12); Winter 1999 (6)]

**Seminar in Linguistics: Morphology (LIN/ENGU654)**

Taught: Spring 2005 (7); Spring 2000 (7)

**Seminar in Linguistics: Pidgins and Creoles (LIN/ENGU654)**

Taught: Winter 2002 (13)

**Seminar in Linguistics: Grammaticalization (LIN/ENGU654)**

Taught: Spring 2007 (17)

**Seminar in Linguistics: Lexical and Functional Categories in Minimalist Syntax (LING 4654)**

Taught: Spring 2011 (9)

**Sociolinguistics (LIN/SOCU442; LING3442)**

Taught: Spring 2015 (10); Fall 2005 (29)]

**Topics in Linguistics: Language Acquisition (LIN/ENGU458; LING3458)**

Taught: Spring 2018 (7); Fall 2016 (17); Spring 2015 (9); Fall 2013 (4); Fall 2012 (13); Fall 2010 (14); Spring 2008 (19)

**Topics in Linguistics: Lexical and Functional Categories (LIN/ENGU458)**

Taught: Spring 2004 (12)

**Topics in Linguistics: Humor and Verbal Play (LING3458)**

Taught: Spring 2016 (10)

**Topics in Linguistics: Minimalist Syntax (LIN/ENGU458)**

Taught: Spring 2006 (9)

**II. HONORS PROGRAM, *Northeastern University***

**Honors Inquiry: Language in Literature: Me Tarzan, You Jane! The Uses of Language in Literature: Linguistic Reality or Linguistic Fiction? (HONR 1209; HONR 1310)**

Taught: Fall 2017 (17); Fall 2016 (17); Fall 2015 (overload, 18); Fall 2014 (overload, 19); Fall 2013 (overload, 19)

### **III. Program for Undeclared Students, *Northeastern University***

#### **Freshmen Seminar: To Speak or Not to Speak, 1 credit course (FSEM1101)**

Taught: Fall 2013 (overload, 13); Fall 2012 (overload, 10)

### **IV. SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL AND CONTINUING STUDIES, *Northeastern University***

#### **Language and Gender (SOC4179)**

Taught: Winter 2005 (overload, 8)

#### **Linguistics (ENG4501)**

Taught: Winter 2007 (overload, 6); Winter 2006 (overload, 13); Winter 2005 (overload, 16); Winter 2004 (overload, 24); Winter 2003 (overload, 14); Winter 2002 (overload, 10); Winter 2001 (overload, 9); Fall 1999 (overload, 13); Fall 1998 (overload, 10)

### **GRADUATE COURSES DESIGNED AND TAUGHT**

---

Developed the curriculum for each of these courses, and was responsible for all details related to teaching each course. The terms that each course was taught are indicated, with student enrollments provided in parentheses; all graduate courses are taught for extra compensation, either as an overload or at another institution.

### **I. ENGLISH DEPARTMENT, *Northeastern University***

#### **History of the English Language (ENG 3402; ENGL 7324)**

Taught: Fall 2010 (7); Fall 2003 (15); Spring 2002 (4)

#### **Linguistics and Writing (ENG 3322)**

Taught: Fall 2000 (5)

#### **Semantics (ENG 3401)**

Taught: Winter 1999 (5)

### **II. SCHOOL OF EDUCATION, *Boston University***

#### **Introduction to Language and Linguistics (SED LS602; SED LS565)**

Taught: Summer 2016 (4); Summer 2015 (4); Summer 2014 (3); Summer 2012 (4); Summer 2011 (2); Summer 2010 (7); Summer 2009 (4); Summer 2008 (10); Summer 2007 (6); Summer 2006 (6); Summer 1998 (21)

#### **Language Acquisition (SED LS566)**

Taught: Summer 2016 (4); Summer 2015 (8); Summer 2014 (2); Summer 2011 (7); Summer 2010 (7); Summer 2009 (8); Spring 2008 (14); Summer 2008 (11); Spring 2007 (3); Summer 2007 (4); Summer 2006 (8); Summer 2005 (3)

#### **Introduction to Linguistics and Language Acquisition (SED LS560; SED LS560E)**

Taught: Summer 2017 (8); Fall 2001 (10)

**III. SARGENT COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND REHABILITATION SCIENCES,**  
*Boston University*

**Language Theories, Acquisition, and Analysis (CD708)**  
Taught: Fall 2000 (31)

**DIRECTED RESEARCH**

---

Supervised all aspects of the undergraduate research experience: topic conception, planning the method, data collection and analysis, synthesizing the results and presenting them (when possible) to a wider audience as papers or posters. Projects are listed by completion date; all grants and presentations are noted.

**I. UNDERGRADUATE HONORS PROJECTS, *Northeastern University***

All honors projects in linguistics require an approved proposal in addition to eight credit hours of work; these projects typically take students three semesters to complete. All projects working with human subjects require Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval, and beginning in 2013 all projects require a second reader.

MacNeal, Abbie. (anticipated 2019). "An Investigation of Cooperation and Competition in Sorority Discourse." Honors Project Proposal, approved. Second Reader: Robert Painter.

Robbins, Parker. (anticipated 2019). Proposal in progress: "Understanding the influence of beliefs about prescriptive grammar on grammaticality judgments in syntax." Honors Project. Second Reader: TBD.

Segarra, Jasmine. (anticipated 2019). "First-Language (L1) Acquisition and Personality: Extraversion." Honors Project Proposal, approved. Second Readers: Shiti Malhotra and Neal Pearlmutter.

Larsen, Erika. (2018). "Still Super, but Not As Super: A Linguistic Analysis of Gendered Portrayals in Superhero Movies." Second Reader: Robert Painter.

- Poster: *RISE 2018, Research, Innovation, and Scholarship Expo* at Northeastern University, April 5, 2018.

Lustig, Adanya. (2018). "Burying the lede: a linguistic analysis of lede-writing style over time." Second Reader: Robert Painter.

- Poster: *RISE 2018, Research, Innovation, and Scholarship Expo* at Northeastern University, April 5, 2018.
- To appear: *Northeastern University Working Papers in Linguistics (NEUWPL)*, Volume 3. Shiti Malhotra, editor. Northeastern University Linguistics Program.

Pire, Nicolette. (2018). "Analysis of Language Used Discussing Deafness Online." Second Reader: Amy Lieberman, Boston University.

- Poster: *RISE 2018, Research, Innovation, and Scholarship Expo* at Northeastern University, April 5, 2018.
- To appear: *Northeastern University Working Papers in Linguistics (NEUWPL)*, Volume 3. Shiti Malhotra, editor. Northeastern University Linguistics Program.

- Marsalisi, Callie. (2018). "Search Engine Behaviors across Generations." Second Reader: Adam Cooper.
- IRB# 17-04-26.
  - Advanced Research/Creative Endeavor Award (\$1,460).
  - Poster: *RISE 2018, Research, Innovation, and Scholarship Expo* at Northeastern University, April 5, 2018.
- Elliott, Mary. (2017). "The Effects of Students' Use of African American Vernacular English on Teachers' Attitudes and Evaluations." Second Reader: Neal Pearlmutter.
- IRB# 10-02-05.
  - Research grant from the Office of Undergraduate Research and Fellowships (\$250).
  - Note: Incomplete final paper due to personal issues; she is trying to complete is now.
- Fielding, Heather. (2015). "Self-Directed Speech as a Tool for Increased Reading Performance." Second Reader: Neal Pearlmutter.
- IRB# 14-09-24.
  - Grant from the Honors Program (\$500)
  - Poster: *13<sup>th</sup> Annual Honors Evening Research Expo (HERE)*, Northeastern University, April 14, 2015.
  - Poster: *RISE 2015, Research, Innovation, and Scholarship Expo* at Northeastern University, April 9, 2015.
  - Poster: *Cornell Undergraduate Linguistics Colloquium*, Ithaca, NY, April 18-19, 2015.
- Coffin, Lindsay. (2014). "The Referential Self in English Language Acquisition." Second Reader: Neal Pearlmutter.
- Poster: *RISE 2014, Research, Innovation, and Scholarship Expo* at Northeastern University, April 10, 2014.
- Riva (Patten), Brittany. (2014). "ASL for SLPs: American Sign Language for Speech-Language Pathologists." Second Reader: Neal Pearlmutter.
- Poster: *11<sup>th</sup> Annual Honors Evening*, Northeastern University, April 8, 2014.
- Proctor, Leanne. (2013). "Successful Strategies?: Linguistic Elements Used in Advertising." Second Reader: Neal Pearlmutter.
- IRB# 13-01-21.
  - Gladys A. Brooks Award from the Honors Program (\$530)
  - Poster: *10<sup>th</sup> Annual Honors Evening*, Northeastern University, April 9, 2013.
- Kennedy, Danielle. (2013). "Social influence on social essentialism." Second Reader: Craig Gruber.
- IRB# 13-03-04
  - Gladys Brooks Award from the Honors Program (\$240)
  - Poster: *10<sup>th</sup> Annual Honors Evening*, Northeastern University, April 9, 2013.
- Martinek, Lisa. (2013). "Solving the Problem of the Hierarchy of Projections in Minimalist Syntax: Evidence from L1 Longitudinal Acquisition Patterns." Second Reader: Neal Pearlmutter.
- Poster: *RISE 2012: Research, Innovation, and Scholarship Expo* at Northeastern University, March 29, 2012.
  - Poster: *Cornell Undergraduate Linguistics Colloquium*, Ithaca, NY, April 2012



- Poster: *RISE 2013: Research, Innovation, and Scholarship Expo* at Northeastern University, March 22, 2013.
  - Paper presented at Northeastern University, April 16, 2013.
  - Paper: *Cornell Undergraduate Linguistics Colloquium*, Ithaca, NY, April 20, 2013.
  - Poster: *10<sup>th</sup> Annual Honors Evening*, Northeastern University, April 9, 2013.
  - Travel Grant from the Northeastern University Honors Program.
- Thomann, Hollis. (2013). "The Processing of Fine-Grained Prepositional Elements." Second Reader: Neal Pearlmutter.
- IRB# 13-01-20.
  - Gladys Brooks Award from the Honors Program (\$775)
  - Poster: *10<sup>th</sup> Annual Honors Evening*, Northeastern University, April 9, 2013.
- Rubenstein, Cale. (2012). "Evidence from L1 Acquisition for a Functional Spectral Typology of the Verbal Domain."
- Poster: *RISE 2012: Research, Innovation, and Scholarship Expo* at Northeastern, March 29, 2012.
  - Poster: *Cornell Undergraduate Linguistics Conference*, Ithaca, NY, April 2012.
  - Poster: *9<sup>th</sup> Annual Honors Evening*, Northeastern University, April 10, 2012.
- Funke, Elise. (2012). "Language, dialect, and power in the courtroom."
- Honors Senior Fellowship Award (\$2000)
- Ketcham, Eric. (2011) "Internet Discourse: The application of discourse analysis to instant messaging communication."
- Provost Undergraduate Research Award (\$300)
  - Honors Early Research Grant (\$250)
  - Poster: *8<sup>th</sup> Annual Honors Evening*, Northeastern University, April 12, 2011.
- Bauermeister, Mischa. (2008) "Battle of words: Language, gender and power in the courtroom."
- Provost Undergraduate Research Award (\$900)

## **II. DIRECTED STUDY RESEARCH, *Northeastern University***

Directed study research projects consist of four-credit hours projects that are typically completed over the course of a single semester, although development of the concept likely takes place in advance of beginning the research project.

Castillo, Cruz. (2017). "Motherese in American Sign Language."

Shah, Monica. (2016). "An Analysis of Language and Gender in Political Roundtables."

Cathcart, Julia. (2015). "Morphosyntactic Complexity in Narratives of Sexual Assault."

Siembor, Anna. (2013). "How a multilingual framework in social service gatekeeping can improve clients access to services." Experiential Education Directed Study.

Silvestri, Alicia. (2013). "Gendered Comedy Complexity in Archer."

Donadio, Jillian. (2013). "Acquisition of Non-literal and Ambiguous Verb Phrases."

Ramirez, Michaela. (2013). "Inventory and Categorization of Eve and Sarah's Check-Verbs."

Fernandes, Desiree. (2012). "A pilot study of Cape Verdean Criolou: A linguistic comparison of the structure of the two primary dialects, and a survey of speakers' attitudes toward those dialects and the movement to create a "standard" language."

Robbins, Fenna. (2011). "Linguistic features in female and male sports reporting."

- Stewart, Victoria. (2011; incomplete). Topic: Problems with the prepositional domain in Germanic.
- Hopkins, Jessica, Jaclyn Karvales and Fran Sales. (2011) “She threw up the pizza!; Processing times of lexical and functional prepositional elements.”
- Poster presented, *Northeastern Research and Scholarship Expo*, April 2011
- Martinek, Lisa and Cale Rubenstein. (2011) “Using a fine-grained approach to examine the longitudinal patterns of the first language acquisition of the English verbal domain.”
- Schultz, Carolyn and Mariah Warren. (2011) “Using a fine-grained approach to examine the longitudinal patterns of the first language acquisition of the English nominal domain.”
- Aravind, Athulya and Grace Sullivan. (2011) “A hierarchical approach to adverb distribution within Minimalism.”
- Poster presented, Northeastern Research and Scholarship Expo, April 2011
  - Paper presented, *9th Annual Undergraduate Linguistics Colloquium* at Harvard University, April 2011
- Heigh, Crystal. (2011) “The difficulties of Second Language Learners’ Understanding and Use of English Prepositional Elements.”
- Awarded a Provost Undergraduate Research Award (\$400)
  - Poster presented, *Cornell Undergraduate Linguistics Conference*, Ithaca, NY, April 2011
  - Poster presented, *Northeastern Research and Scholarship Expo*, April 2011
- Kubrin, Mara. (2010) “Difficulties with Second Language Acquisition of English Prepositional Elements.”
- Piorek, Samantha. (2010) “Linguistic Features and Sex Role Stereotypes of Personal Ads on craigslist.org.”
- Ablott, Kristine. (2009) “Evidence for fine-grained syntactic categories in the nominal domain”
- Paper presented, *7th Annual Undergraduate Linguistics Colloquium* at Harvard University, April 2009
- Greene, Sarah. (2009) “The links between mirror neurons and autism, a critical review.”
- DeSantis, Chelsea. (2008) “A Fine-Grained Approach to Second Language Acquisition and the Prepositional Domain.”
- Paper accepted, *6th Annual Undergraduate Linguistics Colloquium* at Harvard University, April 2008.
- Cross, Lauren and Jaclyn Karvelas. (2008) “Developmental Patterns as Evidence for a Fine-Grained Analysis of the Verbal Domain.”
- Swanson, Alexandra. (2007) Semiotics of web design.
- Garza, Leah. (2006) “The verbal domain: Evidence for fine-grained categories.”
- Poster presented, *NU Women in Science Poster Exposition*, Northeastern University, April 2006
- Gleason, Lindsey. (2006) “Verbs and children: A study of language acquisition in children.”
- Poster presented, *NU Women in Science Poster Exposition*, Northeastern University, April 2006, April 2006
- Hayes, Emily. (2006) “Classifiers in American Sign Language.”
- Poster presented, *NU Women in Science Poster Exposition*, Northeastern University, April 2006, April 2006

- Krulikowski, Kim. (2006) "Semi-lexical prepositions in German."
- Poster presented, *NU Women in Science Poster Exposition*, Northeastern University, April 2006, April 2006
- Saadi, Zina. (2005) "Evidence of developmental patterns in the acquisition of a language: A study of prepositions and particles in Arabic."
- Carney, Danielle. (2005) "Do children acquire prepositions, adverbs, and particles by imitating their parents?"
- Kaneko, Masako. (2004) "Acquisition of Japanese postpositions."
- Penuel, Tabitha. (2004) "Another look at 'down' and what it can tell us about child language development."

### III. RESEARCH SEMINAR PROJECTS

Projects are completed as part of the four-credit course "Research Seminar" in which students work on independent research. Weekly meetings are used to promote progress and collaboration.

- Jones, Shaughnessy. (2018). "Phonological Iconicity."
- Richardson, Donovan. (2018). "Measuring Second Language Learners' Speaking Frequency: Pilot study of best practices."
- Shaller, Caitlin. (2018). "Do We All Imagine the Same Way?"
- Benson, Julia. (2017). "Labelling Effects on Stigma Surrounding Disabilities."
- *Northeastern University Working Papers in Linguistics (NEUWPL)*, Volume 2. Shiti Malhotra, editor. Northeastern University Linguistics Program.
- Boni, Chase. (2017). "On Generational Trends in the Phonetics of Rhode Island English."
- Gallant, Lydia. (2017). "A Comparative Analysis of First Language Development in First- and Second-Born Siblings"
- Hunter-Schlorholtz, Arin. (2017). "Effects of Subtitled Second Language Content in Language Acquisition."
- Powers, Hannah. (2017). "Cross-linguistic Approaches to Gender in Personal Pronouns."
- *Northeastern University Working Papers in Linguistics (NEUWPL)*, Volume 2. Shiti Malhotra, editor. Northeastern University Linguistics Program.
- Reich, Adrianna. (2017). "Comparative Analysis of Syntactic Errors in High and Moderately Functioning Autism."
- Swift, Duane. (2017). "The SAVVAAC Study: Sonorant and Vowel variation across the Anglo-Caribbean."
- Carmeli, Alexandra. (2016). "The Structure of Compliments in *Mean Girls*."
- Dana, Qatherine. (2016). "A Model of Parallel Segments in American Sign Language."
- Kurtz, Daniel. (2016). "Examining Lexical Diffusion of Slang Words in the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Community."
- Marshall, Deanna. (2016). "Memorability of Idiom Variants in Advertising."
- Shah, Monica. (2016). "A Pilot Study: Language and Gender Televised Political Roundtables."
- Abreu, Erick. (2015). "Causative Morphology in Mesoamerican Languages."
- Emmendorfer, Alexandra. (2015). "Cognitive Models of Metaphor – Evidence from Crosslinguistic Metaphor Comprehension."

- Oliveira, Bridget. (2015). "A Comprehensive Analysis of Twitter as a Campaign Tool: From Constituent Opinions to Political Implementation."
- Chaffee, Jillian. (2015). "Gendered Language of the Jesus Feminist Movement in the American Church."
- Isakson, Kerry. (2015). "The relationship between African American Vernacular English and mainstream American English: Implications for education and clinical assessments."
- Lovas, Rebecca. (2015). "Reading Comprehension of Novel Words."
- Fettisova, Inna. (2014). "Cultural Equivalence in translation: the importance of translating cultural elements in subtitled films."
- Riley, Clay. (2014). "How, slash by whom: the sociolinguistics of a new coordinator."
- Rolf, Jake. (2014). "Prosodic behavior of prepositions in and out of noise."
- Shmulevich, Isabel. (2014). "Difficulty in Poetry: Comparing Categories of Difficult Phenomena."

#### **IV. OTHER MENTORED RESEARCH**

- Swift, Duane. (2015). "Trinidad and Tobago English Creole: A Dynamic Fusion." University Scholars Independent Research Project.
- Scholars Independent Research Fellowship (\$3700)

#### **INDEPENDENT STUDY**

---

Developed a study plan or syllabus, assignments and assessment tools for each four-credit independent study; met periodically with students (often weekly) to discuss readings and progress.

##### **I. UNDERGRADUATE INDEPENDENT STUDY, *Northeastern University***

- 2015 Linguistics, Humor and Verbal Play; Language and Gender; Language and Culture; Sociolinguistics
- 2014 Second language acquisition and teaching English as a second/foreign language (for three students); Forensic linguistics (for two students)
- 2013 Sociolinguistics
- 2010 Language acquisition
- 2009 Structure of Spanish
- 2007 Classifiers in American Sign Language (ASL); Language and gender; Morphology; Methods of research of first language acquisition; History of the French language

##### **II. GRADUATE INDEPENDENT STUDY, *Northeastern University***

- 2011 History of the English language practicum, for Shannon Garner-Balandrin
- 2008 Linguistic Analysis, for Diane Duchardt

## **PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH**

---

### **I. MONOGRAPH**

Littlefield, H. (2009) *A Fine-Grained Approach to Lexical and Functional Syntactic Categories: Evidence from English prepositions and their acquisition*. Saarbrücken, Germany: VDM Verlag Dr. Müller.

### **II. EDITED VOLUMES**

Githiora, C, H. Littlefield, & V. Manfredi (eds). (2004) *Trends in African Linguistics 6: Kinyi)ra Nji)ra!--Step Firmly on the Pathway*. Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press.

Greenhill, A., H. Littlefield, & C. Tano (eds). (1999) *Boston University Conference on Language Development Proceedings 23*. Boston: Cascadilla Press.

Greenhill, A., M. Hughes, H. Littlefield, and H. Walsh (eds). (1998) *Boston University Conference on Language Development Proceedings 22*. Boston: Cascadilla Press.

### **III. BOOK REVIEWS**

Littlefield, H. (2002) "Book Review: *Beyond Ebonics*." *Linguistics and Education* 13 (1): 137-141.

### **IV. CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (all internationally attended and vetted)**

Littlefield, H. (accepted). "Challenging the oppressor's language: Contextualizing and questioning the role of standard English in academia." Two-hour workshop, *National Collegiate Honors Conference*, November 2018.

Littlefield, H. (2007) "Figuring out English prepositions, particles, and prepositional adverbs: A fine-grained approach to the prepositional domain." *Georgetown University Round Table on Linguistics and Languages (GURT): Little Words: Their History, Phonology, Syntax, Semantics, Pragmatics, and Acquisition*. Washington, DC, March 2007.

Littlefield, H. (2006) "Are prepositions 'lexical' or 'functional' elements? Evidence from the acquisition of English prepositions." *Boston University Conference on Language Development*. Boston, MA, November 2006.

Littlefield, H. (2004) "Lexical and Functional Prepositions in Acquisition: Evidence for a Hybrid Category." *Boston University Conference on Language Development 29*, Boston, MA, November 2004. Poster.

Littlefield, H. (1998) "Sociocultural Reasons for the Failure of French as a Medium of Instruction In West African Primary Schools." *Annual Conference of African Linguistics (ACAL)*, Yale University, March 1998.

Littlefield, H. (1998) "Fula Extensions: An Exploration." *Annual Conference of African Linguistics (ACAL)*, Yale University, March 1998.

### **V. OTHER PRESENTATIONS (all local)**

Littlefield, H. and M. Calley. (2014). "Quantitative and qualitative differences between oral and written feedback on student writing in the sciences." Poster presented, *RISE 2014, Research, Innovation, and Scholarship Expo* at Northeastern University, April 10, 2014.

- Littlefield, H. (2006). "A fine-grained approach to syntactic categories: Evidence from the prepositional domain in English." *Northeastern University Women in Science Fair*, Boston, MA, April 2006.
- Littlefield, H. (2005). "Prepositions in Acquisition: Evidence for a Semi-Lexical Category." Talk sponsored by the *Northeastern University Linguistics Club*, Boston, MA, April 2005.
- Littlefield, H. (2004). "Prepositions as a Hybrid Category: Semi-lexical Categories." *Boston University Research Sharing Forum*, Boston, MA, April 2004.
- Littlefield, H. (2003). "Preposition Acquisition in English." *Boston University Research Sharing Forum*, Boston, MA, February 2003.
- Littlefield, H. (2002). "The Acquisition of Prepositions, Adverbs and Particles in early child language." *Boston University Research Sharing Forum*, Boston, MA, March 2002.
- Littlefield, H. (2001). "Fula Applicatives in Lexical Mapping Theory." *Boston University Research Sharing Forum*, Boston, MA, February 2003.
- Littlefield, H. (2000). "Fula Applicatives: The Instrumental and Benefactive Constructions." *Boston University Research Sharing Forum*, Boston, MA, September 2000.
- Littlefield, H. (1999). "Fula Extensions: A Descriptive and Theoretical Exploration." *Seventh Annual Graduate Student Research Conference on African Studies*, Boston University, Boston, MA, March 1999.

## VI. GRANTS PROPOSED AND AWARDED

Principal Investigator, Grant: "The use of oral and written feedback in linguistics courses pilot study". College of Science Instructional Grant Program, 2012. Award amount: \$1115.00.

Principal Investigator, Grant Proposal: "L1 Acquisition of Fine-grained Categories in the Nominal and Verbal Domains." National Institutes of Health (NICHD, Language, Bilingualism and Biliteracy Program). 2012-2014; \$155,500 total costs requested. Not accepted.

## ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING

---

**Assistant Director** **2012 - present**

*Linguistics Program, Northeastern University, Boston, MA*

Worked with the Program Director in all aspects of the administration of the program.

**Supervisor** **2006 - present**

*Linguistics Program, Northeastern University, Boston, MA*

Hire, train and supervise all aspects of students working in the roles of office assistants, teaching assistants, and grading assistants.

**Acting Director** **2017**

*Linguistics Program, Northeastern University, Boston, MA*

Oversaw the administration of the Linguistics Program from January through May, including course scheduling and staffing, conducting meetings, and approving expenditures. Developed and

formalized the assessment plans for the Linguistics major and combined majors for the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) accreditation process.

**Interim Director**

**2012**

*Linguistics Program, Northeastern University, Boston, MA*

Responsible for all aspects of program administration, course scheduling and staffing from December 2011 through August 2012. Evaluated faculty and staff for annual performance reviews; developed a brochure to promote the program; organized faculty meetings; coordinated the search for new full-time lecturer; reviewed and approved budgets and expenditures.

**Leadership Skills for Engineering and Science Faculty**

**2011**

*Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, MA*

Selected by the Dean's office in the College of Science as one of two faculty members to attend this intensive two-day short course on leadership styles and techniques.

**Acting Director**

**2003 - 2004**

*Linguistics Program, Northeastern University, Boston, MA*

Responsible for program administration, course scheduling and staffing (including hiring three new part-time lecturers), student advising and course registration, senior clearances, advising the Linguistics Club, organizing and attending Freshman Orientation sessions through the summer, and attending all administrative meetings that the Program Director would normally attend.

**SERVICE**

---

**I. LINGUISTICS PROGRAM**

**Faculty Advisor**

**2007 - present**

*Linguistics Program, Northeastern University*

Advise prospective and incoming students, linguistics majors, minors, and combined majors with Linguistics/Psychology, Linguistics/English, Linguistics/Cultural Anthropology, Computer Science/Linguistics, and American Sign Language/Linguistics. Participate in Head Advisors meetings and trainings.

**Linguistics Program Faculty Representative and Coordinator**

**2005 - present**

*Linguistics Program, Northeastern University*

Staff faculty and student representatives for the Incoming Student Welcome (fall), Meet the Majors Fairs (fall and spring), Accepted Student Welcome Days (two or three each spring), Open Houses (two or three each fall), Summer Orientation for incoming freshmen and transfer students (six or seven each summer).

**Member, Search Committee**

**2005 - present**

*Linguistics Program, Northeastern University*

Aid in interviewing and selecting prospective faculty and staff for the Linguistics Program. Orient new hires, and provide ongoing support as needed, answering questions on teaching methodology and administrative issues. Occasionally handle administrative paperwork related to hire.

**Organizer, LSA Summer Institute Information Campaign** 2005 - present  
*Linguistics Program, Northeastern University*

Organize an informal information campaigns to encourage students to attend the Summer Institute; this includes e-mail and in-class announcements, and group and individual meetings.

**Administrative Tasks** 2005 - 2012  
*Linguistics Program, Northeastern University*

Reviewed and tracked course enrollments, course listings for registration, and publicized courses. Occasionally oversaw computer installations, office moves, etc.

**Website design and maintenance** 2008 - present  
*Linguistics Program, Northeastern University*

Planned the layout, wrote the majority of the text for the site (over 2200 words), provided the content for the 20+ pages of the original Linguistics Program website site. Contribute to in periodic revisions of the site to update content and/or design.

**Guest Lecture: “Complements, Adjuncts, and X-Bar Theory”** 2003  
*LIN/ENG450: Introduction to Syntax, Northeastern University*

Prepared and presented a lecture for Dr. Rachel Hayes-Harb’s Introduction to Syntax course.

**Guest Lecture: “Topics in Syntax: Structural Ambiguity”** 2003  
*LIN/ENG350: Linguistic Analysis (Dr. Janet Randall), Northeastern University*

Prepared and presented a lecture for Dr. Janet Randall’s Linguistic Analysis course.

**Guest Lecture: “Topics in Syntax: WH-movement”** 2003  
*ENGL7311: Introduction to Linguistics, Northeastern University*

Prepared and presented a lecture for Dr. Janet Randall’s Introduction to Linguistics course.

## II. COLLEGE

**Member, College of Science Undergraduate Curriculum Committee** 2012 - present  
*College of Science, Northeastern University*

Attended monthly meetings, provided feedback on proposed courses and curriculum changes.

**Member, Academic Standing Sub-committee** 2012-present  
*College of Science Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Northeastern University*

Met when needed to aid in the determination and resolution of student petitions for grade revision and other affairs.

**Faculty Representative, Admitted Student Phonathons** 2009 - present  
*College of Science, Northeastern University*

Call admitted students interested in the linguistics major; complete and submit appropriate forms tracking student responses and interest.

**Member, Sub-committee on Undergraduate Research** 2014



*College of Science Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Northeastern University*

Attended meetings, contributed to the development and drafting of a position paper on the best practices for undergraduate research: “Supervision of Undergraduate Research Projects (Directed Study and Research Credits): Tips to Improve Productivity”.

**Member, Non-tenure Track Faculty Committee**

**2012 - 2014**

*College of Science, Northeastern University*

Participated in monthly meetings, helping to shape college policies with regard to issues of non-tenure track faculty. Also served on the Academic Specialist Job Description Sub-committee, which generated a document differentiating the responsibilities of this and other faculty positions.

**Persistence Officer**

**2011-2014**

*College of Science, Northeastern University*

Attended meetings with the College of Science Academic Advisors and other faculty persistence officers to develop and implement actions likely to increase student retention.

**Sub-committee on Undergraduate Graders**

**2013**

*College of Science Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Northeastern University*

Attended meetings, contributed to the development and drafting of the college policy on the hiring and use of undergraduate graders.

**Editor, Guidelines for Academic Specialist Promotion Dossier**

**2012**

*College of Science, Northeastern University*

Significantly revised the guidelines for promotion track, non-tenure track faculty (Academic Specialist track) in winter 2012, working with the Associate Dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs. The document, “Preparation and Format of the Academic Specialist Promotion Dossier” was approved by the Provost’s office in March 2012.

**III. UNIVERSITY**

**Master Class, Honors Welcome Day**

**2017, 2018**

*Northeastern University*

Designed and taught an intensive master class on the linguistic approach to dialects for students visiting the university, to give them a sense of what courses are like.

**Conference Opening Address and Welcome**

**2017**

*Northeastern University*

Delivered the conference opening, welcome, and introductory remarks at the Syntax of Justice: Law, Language, Access, and Exclusion Conference at Northeastern University, March 30-31.

**Affiliated Faculty Member**

**2013 - present**

*Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program, Northeastern University*

Attended occasional meetings and conferences; taught courses related to the program goals, such as Language and Gender, and guided student research projects in the area of language and gender.

**3Qs with News@Northeastern****2012 - present***Northeastern University*

Responded to questions from Northeastern journalists writing articles for Northeastern's homepage drawing on faculty experts to talk about their areas of interest and expertise. The following articles have been featured:

“Weaponizing language: How the meaning of ‘Allahu akbar’ has been distorted” (November 8, 2017)

“What using the name ‘Daesh,’ rather than ‘ISIS’ or ‘ISIL,’ really means” (November 25, 2015)

“The evolution of profanity” (November 27, 2012)

“Not your mother’s neologisms” (September 7, 2012)

“That’s, like, super coool” (March 14, 2012)

**Examiner, Graduate Comprehensive Exam****1999 - 2012***English Department, Northeastern University*

Prepared linguistics questions for the “Special Work” section of the graduate comprehensive exam; evaluated and prepared written feedback for students who completed the linguistics sections of the exam. [Years in which linguistics sections were completed: 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2007, 2006, 2004, 2003, 2001, 1999.]

**Advisory Board Member****2007 - 2012***Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program, Northeastern University*

Attended meetings and taught courses within the program.

**Faculty Evaluator, Transfer Credits in Linguistics****2007 - present***Registrar's Office, Northeastern University*

Evaluate all possible linguistics courses submitted for evaluation of transfer credit to Northeastern.

**Invited Presenter and Panelist****2008***NU Culture and Language Learning Society (NUCALLS), Northeastern University*

Presented “Linguistic Hegemony: The effect of globalization on the world’s languages” as one of three invited panelists at the NUCALLS event ‘Modern Imperialism and Globalization: How the West influences global languages and culture.’

**Faculty Advisor****2006 - 2007***Northeastern University Craft Initiative, Northeastern University*

Wrote a letter in support of the creation of this student organization and oversaw the creation of a constitution. Was responsible for supervising the club’s budget and expenditures.

**Guest Speaker****2005***NU Teaching English Language and Literacy Skills Group (NUTELLS), Northeastern University*

Presented a talk “Basic Speaking and Listening Skills: Strategies for Teaching ESL” for student volunteers who teach English to the cafeteria workers at Northeastern. Included an extensive handout with sample exercises and lessons for students to use as they prepared their classes.

**Guest Speaker** 2005  
*NU Linguistics Club, Northeastern University*  
Presented “The Prepositional Domain: Evidence for a graduated approach to categories,” introducing students to my line of research.

**Guest Speaker** 2005  
*Sociology and Anthropology Student Association (SASA), Northeastern University*  
Discussed the Peace Corps Experience, and how to join the Peace Corps.

#### **IV. PROFESSION**

**Abstracts Reviewer** 2011 - present  
*Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD)*  
Rated and provided comments for 15 blind abstracts.

**Reviewer** 2016 - present  
*Northeastern University Undergraduate Working Papers in Linguistics (NUWPL)*  
Reviewed and provided feedback for undergraduate research projects submitted for publication.

**Reviewer** 2017  
*Neuropsychologia.*  
Rated and provided comments for article on the processing of prepositions.

**Faculty Mentor for Visiting Research Scholar** 2015 - 2016  
*Linguistics Program, Northeastern University*  
Served as a faculty mentor for Xiulan Chen, Assistant Professor in English at the School of Foreign Languages at Huaqiao University in China from April 2015 – April 2016. Prepared a plan of study and research, aided in the completion of all required paperwork including letters of support. Allowed visiting scholar to audit all courses, discussed the various American approaches to teaching methods, and discussed her progress on various ongoing research projects.

**Grant Proposal Reviewer** 2011  
*National Science Foundation (NSF), Linguistics Program*  
Reviewed two large research proposals submitted to the NSF in general linguistics.

**Dissertation Grant Proposal Reviewer** 2008  
*National Science Foundation (NSF), Linguistics Program*  
Invited to review a dissertation research proposal in my field of expertise.

**Co-organizer** 2000  
*Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL), Boston University*  
Helped plan and organize all aspects of this conference, from the call to papers to the final party.

**Co-organizer** 1998 - 1999  
*Boston University Conference on Language Acquisition (BUCLD), Boston University*  
Played a major role in organizing all levels of conference planning and implementation, from organizing abstracts and reviewers to giving opening remarks at the conference.

## **V. COMMUNITY SERVICE**

### **Lead Team Manager, Destination Imagination**

**2018**

*3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Engineering Team “The Flaming Pizzas,” Sherborn, MA*

Acted as Lead Team Manager for the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade team competing in the “Drop Zone” engineering task. Guided the team’s learning about the basic principles of tower engineering, the properties of materials to be used, brainstorming ideas for performances, and practicing team-building exercises, as well as learning to evaluate and re-design as needed to complete the task requirements. Organized and hosted all meetings and attended all required and suggested trainings for Team Managers.

### **Co-leader, Girl Scout Troop 66049**

**2017 - present**

*3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Brownies, Sherborn, MA*

With the aid of a co-leader, arranged, organized, and supervised all events for the fifteen girls in the troop, including a year-long sewing instruction program culminating in the design and fabrication of a troop quilt donated to the school for decoration, a tour of the Massachusetts State House, the Jackson Homestead, the Boston Ballet, among others. Also completed all trainings required by the Girl Scouts, including CPR Certification.

### **Piano Accompanist**

**2015 - present**

*Pine Hill Elementary School Chorus, Sherborn, MA*

Aided the music program director by providing piano accompaniment for practices, dress rehearsals, and all chorus performances both at the school and in the wider community.

### **Bake Sale Coordinator**

**2015 - present**

*Sherborn Cooking Club, Sherborn, MA*

Organized the annual bake sale for the Sherborn Cooking Club, which raises money for charity. Submitted all required forms and applications to the Arts and Crafts Fair and the local Board of Health; organized materials and ingredients lists for the event and dispersed proceeds to various charities.

### **Volunteer**

**2009 - 2016**

*MetroWest Parents of Multiples (Formerly WSCMMOTA)*

Cashiered at the biannual Mother of Twins Tag Sale, and aided in creating materials to help new members who are joining the sale and flyers for advertising the sale.

### **Volunteer Program Leader**

**2003 - 2008**

*Council on Aging, Sherborn, MA*

Lead six or seven sing-alongs each year for the council on aging. Was responsible for song selection, creation of each booklet of lyrics used, as well as the leading each sing-along and performing the musical accompaniment on piano or guitar.

### **Guest Speaker**

**2004**

*Sherborn Public Library, Sherborn, MA*

Presented a brief history of the English language for the public library.

**Volunteer, United States Peace Corps**

**1991 - 1993**

*Linsan-saran and Mamou, Guinea, West Africa.*

Served as a Natural Resource Management and Appropriate Technology Extensionist in Linsan-saran (1991-1992) and Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) Instructor at Lycée Poudrière in Mamou (1992-1993).

**LANGUAGES**

---

**English**, native speaker.

**French**, conversational fluency.

**Fula, Fouta-Djallon dialect**, limited fluency from lack of practice.

**German, Spanish, Mandarin**, studied through coursework.