Rebecca Lee

Department of Linguistics
University of Colorado Boulder
Lucille Berkeley Buchanan 104, 295 UCB, Boulder, CO
rebecca.lee@colorado.edu
home.rebeccalee.buffscreate.net

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Linguistics   Expect. 2025
University of Colorado Boulder
Certificate in Cognitive Science
Certificate in Progress: College Teaching
Certificate in Progress: Culture, Language, and Social Practice

M.A. Linguistics   2020
University of Colorado Boulder

B.A. Cognitive Science   2013
University of California Berkeley
Minor: African American Studies
High Honors

PUBLICATIONS

Rebecca Lee "Nothing racist in that comment": Spatial metaphor, syntactic variation, and socio-polysemy. *Proceedings of Chicago Linguistics Society 57 (2021)*, 2022.

Rebecca Lee. Something Funny about English: The Post-Indefinite Pronoun Modification Construction. *Colorado Research in Linguistics*, Vol. 26, 2022.

Rebecca Lee. Ideology, frame semantics, and variation: A cognitive sociolinguistic study of the English lexeme *racist*. *Proceedings of Chicago Linguistics Society 56 (2020)*, p. 269-281, 2021.

INVITED TALKS AND WORKSHOPS

Rebecca Lee. Ethics of AI in Research. *Laboratory for Atmospheric & Space Physics Scientist's Lunch, University of Colorado Boulder*, Feb 29, 2024.

Rebecca Lee and Juan Vásquez. Ethics of AI in Higher Education. *Artificial Intelligence Community of Practice at University of Colorado Boulder*, Feb 6, 2024.

Rebecca Lee. 'The People Calling Others Racist are the True Racists': Ideology and Semantic Variation of *Racist* on Twitter. *Cognition in a Changing World, Department of Cognitive Science at Case Western Reserve University*, Oct 14, 2022.

Rebecca Lee. The Co-construction of Syntactic Patterns and Ideology: Variation in Construals of

Racist on Twitter. *University of Colorado Boulder Linguistics Department PhD Open House*, Mar 14, 2022.

Rebecca Lee. The Social Meaning of Semasiological Semantic Variation: Ideology & the Syntax-Semantics Interface, *University of Pittsburgh Linguistics Colloquium*, Feb 18, 2022.

TEACHING

Lead Graduate Teacher   Fa 2021 - Sp 2024
Center for Teaching and Learning, CU Boulder

Lead Graduate Teacher for the Department of Linguistics. I coordinate and facilitate a year-long pedagogy workshop series for all new graduate teachers in the department and help experienced graduate students prepare to teach as an instructor of record for the first time. I also perform video teaching consultations to ensure success of other graduate teachers and run a mentorship program for new students in the department. In addition, this year I spearheaded a project to create and implement a TA Agreement for the Linguistics department. Finally, I am currently organizing efforts to respond to the advent of artificial intelligence with regards to Linguistics teaching.

DESIGNED, INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD:

Figurative Language   Sp 21
University of Colorado Boulder

Upper division cognitive linguistic elective course, online synchronous mode, 17 students. Proposed and designed course, lectured and facilitated activities, created assignments, & graded all student work.

INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD:

First-Year Writing and Rhetoric   Fa 22 - Sp 24
University of Colorado Boulder

Two courses of freshman composition per semester, in person, 19 students each. Facilitated 150 min of reading and writing activities per week and coached students to improve their writing skills through five papers with multiple drafts.

Introduction to Linguistics   May 22, May 23
University of Colorado Boulder

Lower division introduction course, online synchronous mode, 10 students. Re-designed course to weave sociolinguistics throughout the term and incorporate the perspectives of marginalized linguists, as my capstone project for the [Micro-credential in Just and Equitable Teaching (JET Program).](#)

Introduction to Linguistics   Sp 20
University of Colorado Boulder

Lower division introduction course, 90 students. Re-designed course with new textbook, created all assignments and exams, supervised teaching assistants, & adapted course for online instruction mid-semester

TEACHING ASSISTANT:

Language, Gender, & Sexuality   Sp 22
University of Colorado Boulder

Teach 2 weekly discussion sections, grade student work, mentor students in writing final papers, hold office hours

Introduction to Linguistics Fa 19, Fa 20, Fa 21
University of Colorado Boulder
 Taught 2-3 weekly discussion sections, graded student work, held office hours

Study of Words Sp 19
University of Colorado Boulder
 Taught 2 weekly discussion sections, graded student work, held office hours

Language in US Society Fa 18
University of Colorado Boulder
 Taught 2 weekly discussion sections, graded student work, held office hours

GUEST LECTURER:

Theories and Practices of College Writing Instruction Fa 23
University of Colorado Boulder
 Facilitated a guest graduate seminar on artificial intelligence and college writing instruction

WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCE PANELS ORGANIZED

Rebecca Lee and Kate Arnold-Murray. *Linguistics Pedagogy Series.* Linguistics Department, University of Colorado Boulder, Fa 23 - Sp 24.

 Topics: *Backwards Design & Learning Goals, Group Work & Discussions, Authentic Learning & Real-World Context, TA-Instructor Relationships, Feedback & Grading, Metacognition, Collaborative Learning Techniques, How to Identify & Support Struggling Students, Artificial Intelligence in Linguistics Classes, Teaching Portfolios*

Rebecca Lee, Stevie Ibonie, Kayli Plotner, & Mohammad Rezwanul Haque Masud. Well-being for Ourselves and Our Students, *Center for Teaching & Learning*, University of Colorado Boulder, February 8, 2024.

Rebecca Lee, Liz Bohl, Katie Mercer, & Caleb Jacobs. Making a Course Your Own: Personalizing Course Design, *Center for Teaching & Learning*, University of Colorado Boulder, November 3, 2022.

Rebecca Lee. Learning Objectives in Linguistics, *Graduate Research and Resource Workshops*, Linguistics Department, University of Colorado Boulder, September 30, 2022.

Rebecca Lee. Active Learning in Linguistics, *Graduate Research and Resource Workshops*, Linguistics Department, University of Colorado Boulder, Mar 14, 2022.

Rebecca Lee, Maureen Kosse, Michael Barnes, & Cameron Mozafari. Cognitive Linguistics and Social Meaning: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Situated Meaning Making. *American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting*, Baltimore, Nov 17 - 21, 2021.

Rebecca Lee, Kimberley Bianca, & Steven Kordonowy. Teaching Well with Technology, *Center for*

Teaching and Learning Fall Intensive, University of Colorado Boulder, Aug 19, 2021.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Rebecca Lee. Ideology and semantic appropriation at the syntax-semantics interface. In *Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting*, Denver, Jan 5 - 8, 2023. Paper.

Rebecca Lee. Conflicting Spatial Metaphors in Racism Discourse. In *Researching and Applying Metaphor 15*, Virtual, University of Białystok, Poland, Sept 21 - 24, 2022. Paper.

Bhuvana Narasimhan, **Rebecca Lee**, Katie Conger, Emily Reynolds, Nadine Salvadore, Landon Helwig, Rebekah Tozier, and Sarah Adams. The influence of working memory on syntactic choice in children and adults. In *Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting*, Washington DC, Jan 6 - 9, 2022. Poster.

Rebecca Lee. Syntactic frames and the construction of ideological differentiation in discourse about racism on twitter. In *American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting*, Baltimore, Nov 17 - 21, 2021a. Paper.

Rebecca Lee. The same way to say different things: Leveraging patterns at the syntax-semantics interface to uncover semasiological variation. In *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 49*, Virtual, University of Texas at Austin, Oct 19 - 24, 2021b. Paper.

Rebecca Lee and Katie Conger. 'This Presentation is Bursting with Metaphor': Preference for Metaphor in the Location-Subject Construction with Burst-Class Verbs. In *Researching and Applying Metaphor 14*, Virtual, Vilnius University, June 23 - 26, 2021. Paper.

Rebecca Lee. "Nothing racist in that comment": Spatial metaphor, syntactic variation, and socio-polysemy. In *Chicago Linguistic Society 57*, Virtual, University of Chicago, May 6 - 8, 2021c. Paper.

Rebecca Lee and Maureen Kosse. The Social Domain of Understanding: Ethnographically-Informed Frame Semantics of Dog Whistles. In *High Desert Linguistics Society 14*, Virtual, University of New Mexico, Nov 20 - 22, 2020. Paper.

Rebecca Lee. Frame Conflict in Attributions of Racism on Twitter. In *UK Cognitive Linguistics Conference 2020*, Virtual, University of Birmingham, July 27 - 29, 2020a. Poster.

Rebecca Lee. Ideology, Frame Semantics, and Variation: A Cognitive Sociolinguistic study of the English lexeme *racist*. In *Chicago Linguistic Society 56 Digital Repository*, 2020b. Poster.

Rebecca Lee. 'What do we have to lose?': White anti-racist activists and the fusional categorization of race and class. In *2019 AAA/CASCA Annual Meeting*, Vancouver, Nov 20th - 24th 2019. Paper.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Doctoral Researcher   2023 - present
Implementing a Rhetorical Approach to Grammar in First Year Writing & Rhetoric
University of Colorado Boulder

In this dissertation project, I am leveraging my background in linguistics to implement lessons in rhetorical grammar in my first-year writing courses. To assess student learning with respect to the target learning

goal (increasing student agency to make grammatical choices connected to their writing purposes), I am analyzing classroom discourse, student writing, and student perceptions of their own learning.

Doctoral Researcher   2020-2022
The Social Meaning of Semasiological Variation
University of Colorado Boulder

This research project culminated in my second qualifying paper for my doctoral program. I unified literature that approaches different meanings of the same word (polysemy, or semasiological variation) from cognitive linguistic, sociolinguistic, and linguistic anthropological perspectives. I evaluated previous approaches and developed a new synergistic framework of semasiological variation that takes into account both cognitive and social motivations for semantic extension as well as integrating this type of variation with the notion of social meaning.

Research Assistant   2020-2021
The Role of Working Memory in Sentence Planning Strategies in Adults
Language, Development, and Cognition Lab, University of Colorado Boulder

The goal of this project was to determine the factors that affect the choice of different grammatical constructions in sentence planning, including the effect of working memory load. I contributed to the development of stimuli, coordinated online participant intake and consent, ran trials over zoom with participants and managed five other students to collect data. Lastly, I annotated the data in audacity and coded the data for analysis.

Annotator, Adjudicator   2019-2021
Computational Language and Education Research (CLEAR)
University of Colorado Boulder

I contributed semantic annotation for use in machine learning, for research and industry application. I ensured correct tagging of polysemous verbs, conceptual metaphor source and target domains, and semantic roles, as well as assisting with parallel updates of Verbnet, Propbank, and Framenet verb frames. In addition, I reviewed and adjudicated other annotators' work.

Doctoral Researcher   2020
Metaphor Project, Computational Language and Education Research (CLEAR)
University of Colorado Boulder

The goal of this project was to evaluate new methods for computational detection and interpretation of metaphors in natural language. I helped devise annotation schemes and contributed expertise in conceptual metaphor theory.

Doctoral Researcher   2019-2020
Semantic Variation of racist *on Twitter*
University of Colorado Boulder

This project fulfilled my first qualifying paper for my doctoral program. Using cognitive sociolinguistic methods, I analyzed variation in the use of the word *racist* by tweeters with *blacklivesmatter* vs *maga* in their user descriptions. I developed an annotation scheme involving adjectival grammatical constructions and types of modified phrases, and analyzed several ways that these tweeters construed the concept associated with *racist* differently. This project synergizes work in construction grammar and sociolinguistic variation.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Advisory Board Member   Dec 2021-present
Arts & Sciences Support of Education Through Technology (ASSETT), CU Boulder

Improve the effectiveness of ASSETT programs by participating in biannual board meetings and suggesting new ways to integrate technology with education at CU Boulder.

AI Syllabus Policy   Fa 23
Program for Writing & Rhetoric, CU Boulder

Wrote the artificial intelligence syllabus policy that was recommended for use across the program of 350 writing seminars per academic year.

Coordinator   2021-2023
Graduate Research and Resource Workshops (GRoW)

Coordinate and facilitate weekly workshops and presentations in which graduate students share their writing with fellow graduate students and receive feedback.

Events Chair and Graduate Student Paper Contest Chair   2019-2022
Culture, Language, and Social Practice; Society for Linguistic Anthropology

Co-Organizer for the SLA 2022 Conference co-sponsored by the Culture, Language, and Social Practice Organization at CU Boulder. I organized a social event for graduate students, and managed the CLASP Graduate Student Paper Contest review process. *Conference was postponed due to Covid-19*

Invited Speaker   Jan 2022
Graduate Student Panel, New Graduate Student Programming, CU Boulder

Answered questions about my experience as a graduate student at CU Boulder.

Planning & Outreach Coordinator   2020-2021
Talking Politics: Anthropologists and Linguists Analyze the 2020 Election
Culture, Language, and Social Practice, with University of Chicago Department of Anthropology

The goal of this five part online series was to provide a platform for discussion of the 2020 Election from the perspective of linguistic anthropologists, for academics as well as the larger public. I spearheaded the publicity campaign and assisted with Q&A moderation for three of the events. Each event had 100+ live attendees as well as 500+ additional online viewers.

Reviewer
Cognitive Semantics, International Review of Pragmatics, Colorado Research in Linguistics

MENTORING EXPERIENCE

Mentor for Just and Equitable Teaching (JET) Program   Sp 23, Fa 23
University of Colorado Boulder

Mentored Christy Shoemaker and Sara Moore on their JET program capstone projects.

Mentor for Linguistics Undergraduate Research Award   Sp 2022, 2023
University of Colorado Boulder

Mentored Maria Dunatov, Rebekah Cohen, Em Fox, Clara Paternostro, and Lucy Bowling on their blog posts that showcase their exemplary final projects in undergraduate Linguistics classes.

Research Assistant   2020-2021
Language, Development, and Cognition Lab, University of Colorado Boulder

I supervised five other students in the collection of data over zoom and subsequent annotation of data. I organized the schedule and accountability protocols, and maintained communication to remind supervisees of upcoming deadlines.

Peer Mentor   2019-2021

University of Colorado Boulder
  Periodically meet with and advise 1-2 first-year graduate students on their future academic plans.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Micro-credential in Just and Equitable Teaching (JET Program)   Fall 2021-Spr 2022
Center for Teaching and Learning, CU Boulder
  This year long micro-credential program focuses on unpacking implicit biases and fostering better under-standing of the historical circumstances that led to the marginalization of populations, while also helping participants to build the skills to design and support a culture of equity in their department around teaching and learning. My capstone project was to redesign the Introduction to Linguistics course to incorporate perspectives and scholarship from marginalized linguists and to encourage student reflection on the relationship between language and identity.

Strategic Course Design for Flexible Teaching Modes   Jan 2021
ASSETT, CU Boulder
  This four-day workshop was designed to help participants develop a range of technology-enhanced learning experiences appropriate for online, hybrid, remote, and face-to-face courses. Through a combination of virtual meetings and hands-on application activities, I engaged in 15 hours of guided instruction and achieved learning outcomes focused on the Backward Design process, constructing learning outcomes, ensuring alignment between learning outcomes, assessments, and activities, and development of engaging materials.

GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND AWARDS

2022 POD Network Career Development Grant $445, Nov 2022
POD Network, GPPD Sig

Best Should Teach Silver Award   Mar 2022
Center for Teaching and Learning, CU Boulder

SLA 2021 Public Outreach and Community Service Award $100, Nov 2021
American Anthropological Association, for work on Talking Politics Event Series

CU Boulder Linguistics Department Student Research Fund $175, Fa 2021
Linguistics Department, CU Boulder

Departmental Scholarship $1000, 2020-2021
Linguistics Department, University of Colorado Boulder

Graduate Student Travel Grant $350, Fa 2019
University of Colorado Boulder

First Year Fellowship $2000, 2018-2019
Linguistics Department, University of Colorado Boulder

SKILLS

Languages	English (mother tongue)
	Spanish (intermediate)
	Latin (intermediate)
Technical	Python, R, SQL

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network	2023
American Anthropological Association (AAA)	2022
Linguistic Society of America (LSA)	2022
The Association for Researching and Applying Metaphor (RaAM)	2022

NON-ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Document Management and Forms Coordinator   2018-2019
Mercy Housing Management Group

I updated and maintained the forms library for all regulatory and landlord tenant compliance processes for Mercy Housing's portfolio of 350 properties. I ensured the document management and forms work flow processes met local and state compliance requirements, and that forms were easy to find for onsite community managers. I prepared all compliance forms and documents for implementation into Onesite, a new housing management software. As a part of this process, I collaborated with Onesite product developers to ensure that forms generated with the correct information at the correct stage of the workflow process.

Administrative Assistant, Compliance   2015-2018
Mercy Housing Management Group

I tracked and ensured implementation of compliance processes such as reasonable accommodations and fair housing for disabled residents. I assisted the Vice President of Compliance with special projects including researching and implementing new compliance procedures and training programs for community managers.