Rodrigo Ranero

Department of Spanish & Portuguese
University of California, Los Angeles
5331 Rolfe Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90095

E-mail: ranero@ucla.edu
URL: rodrigoranero.com

Employment

2023 -   Assistant Professor
            Department of Spanish and Portuguese
            University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

2021 - 2023   Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellow
              American Indian Studies Center
              University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

Education

2016 - 2021   PhD in Linguistics
              University of Maryland, College Park
              Flagship Fellow

              Dissertation: Identity Conditions on Ellipsis

2015   MPhil, *with distinction*, Theoretical and Applied Linguistics
            University of Cambridge
            Pomona – Downing Scholar

2014   BA, *magna cum laude*, Linguistics and Cognitive Science
            Pomona College

Research Interests

BROAD   syntax, language revitalization, phonology
NARROW   ellipsis, agreement, linearization, reclamation, documentation, harmony
LANGUAGES Kaqchikel, Tz'utujil, K'iche', Chuj, Xinka, Spanish, Kuria, Luganda, Maay

Publications

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES & CHAPTERS

Under review   **Ranero, Rodrigo**, Maria Polinsky & Gregory Scontras. "Diagnosing the diagnostics: Evidence from Spanish relative clauses".

Under review   Royer, Justin, Cristina Buenrostro & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "*Wh*-questions and

predication in Mayan". [link]

To appear	**Ranero, Rodrigo**. "VP-ellipsis in Spanish". In Laura Stigliano & Andrés Saab (eds.), *Ellipsis in Romance*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
2025	Royer, Justin, **Rodrigo Ranero**, Petul Federico Felipe Gómez, & Diego Neper López. "El cuento de kokolom/chi'jolom: Bosquejo gramatical y comparación dialectal del idioma Chuj". *Tlalocan* 30 (2). 187-289. https://doi.org/10.19130/iifl.tlalocan.2025.2/00X23Ws293. [link]
2025	**Ranero, Rodrigo**, Gregory Scontras & Maria Polinsky. "Weak Crossover in Spanish Relative Clauses". *Probus*. https://doi.org/10.1515/probus-2025-0010
2025	**Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Gender and Ellipsis Revisited". In Lauren Eby Clemens, Vera Gribanova, and Gregory Scontras (eds), *Syntax in Uncharted Territories: Essays in Honor of Maria Polinsky*. UC eScholarship Repository. 453-476. DOI: https://doi.org/10.7280/S9FF3QDW
2022	Lyskawa, Paulina & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Optional agreement as successful/failed AGREE: Evidence from Santiago Tz'utujil (Mayan)". *Linguistic Variation*. 22:2. 209-267. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1075/lv.20013.lys [link]
2021	Mendes, Gesoel & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Chain Reduction via Substitution: Evidence from Mayan". *Glossa: a journal of general linguistics* 6(1): 10. 1–31. DOI: https://doi.org/10.5334/gjgl.1087
2020	Levin, Theodore, Paulina Lyskawa & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Optional agreement in Santiago Tz'utujil (Mayan) is syntactic". *Zeitschrift für Sprachwissenschaft*. Volume 39, Issue 3. 329-355. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1515/zfs-2020-2018.
2019	**Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Deriving an Object Dislocation Asymmetry in Luganda". In Emily Clem, Peter Jenks, and Hannah Sande, *Theory and Description in African Linguistics: Selected Proceedings of the 47th Annual Conference on African Linguistics*, Berlin: Language Science Press. 595-622. DOI:10.5281/zenodo.3367189
2018	Landman, Meredith & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Focus Marking in Kuria". In Jason Kandybowicz, Travis Major, Harold Torrence, and Phillip Duncan (eds), *African linguistics on the prairie: Selected papers from the 45th Annual Conference on African Linguistics*. Berlin: Language Science Press. 393-412. DOI:10.5281/zenodo.1251754.
2015	Diercks, Michael, **Rodrigo Ranero** & Mary Paster. "Evidence for a Clitic Analysis of Object Markers in Kuria". In Ruth Kramer, Elizabeth Zsiga, and One Boyer (eds), *Selected Proceedings of the 44th Annual Conference on African Linguistics*. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Proceedings Project. 52-70. [link]

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS (REFEREED ABSTRACT)

To appear	**Ranero, Rodrigo** & Justin Royer. "Split ergativity isn't always epiphenomenal". In Gabriel Correa and Kevin Morand (eds.), *NELS 56: Proceedings of the Fifty-Sixth meeting of the North East Linguistics Society*.
To appear	Mauffray, Erin, Victoria Mateu & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Ellipsis in Contact: VPE and Sluicing in Spanish Heritage Speakers". In *Proceedings of the 50th Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 50)*. [link]
2024	**Ranero, Rodrigo** & Justin Royer. "Deep and surface anaphora: A Mayan reappraisal". In Shaunak Phadnis, Carla Spellerberg and Brynne Wilkinson (eds.), *NELS 54: Proceedings of the Fifty-Fourth Meeting of the North East Linguistics*

Society: Volume Two. GLSA: University of Massachusetts Amherst. 127-136. [link]

2023   **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Voice mismatches in Kaqchikel (Mayan) sluicing". In D. K. E. Reisinger and Hannah Green (eds.), *Proceedings of Workshop on the Structure and Constituency of Languages of the Americas 24*. Vancouver, BC: UBCWPL. 88-102. [link]

2021   Fried, Marisa, Paulina Lyskawa & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Agreement in K'iche' Mayan: Reflections on Microvariation and Acquisition". In *Proceedings of Penn Linguistics Colloquium 44*, 55-59. [link]

2021   Lyskawa, Paulina & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Sibilant Harmony in Santiago Tz'utujil (Mayan)". In *Proceedings of the Linguistics Society of America (LSA) Annual Meeting,* 265-279. DOI: https://doi.org/10.3765/plsa.v6i1.4968

2017   Douglas, Jamie, **Rodrigo Ranero** & Michelle Sheehan. "Two Types of Syntactic Ergativity in Mayan". In Michael Yoshitaka Erlewine (ed.), *Proceedings of GLOW in Asia XI: Volume 2* . Cambridge, MA: MIT Working Papers in Linguistics. 41-56. [link]

TEXTBOOKS AND DOCUMENTATION

2023   Montenegro Hernández, Aleyda Margarita, **Rodrigo Ranero**, COPXIG & Cooperativa el Recuerdo. " 'Alyamalh Xinka - Wirimalh Xinka—Módulo III: Sintaxis Básica*"* ("Let's teach and speak Xinka—Module III: Basic Syntax"). 78 pp.

2018   Estrada, Yolanda, **Rodrigo Ranero** & Filiberto Patal Majzul. "Kaqchikel ritual language: Four ceremonies by the Waqxaqi' B'atz' collective". Video/audio recordings and transcriptions (~6 hours; archived by the Firebird Foundation).

2014   "Talking Dictionaries of Guatemala" (contributor to 22 online dictionaries). Living Tongues Institute for Endangered Languages. [link]

2013   **Ranero, Rodrigo** & COPXIG. " 'Alyamalh Xinka - Wirimalh Xinka—Módulo II: Morfología*"* ("Let's teach and speak Xinka—Module II: Morphology"). Guatemala: Editorial Cholsamaj. 124 pp.

2012   **Ranero, Rodrigo** & COPXIG. " 'Alyamalh Xinka - Wirimalh Xinka—Módulo I: Guía de Ortografía y Pronunciación" ("Let's teach and speak Xinka—Module I: Orthography and Pronunciation"). Guatemala: Editorial Cholsamaj. 52pp.

REVIEWS AND GRAMMATICAL SKETCHES

2018   **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Review of Eguren, Luis, Olga Fernández-Soriano, and Amaya Mendikoetxea eds. (2016) Rethinking Parameters". *Linguistic Variation* 18:1, 197-204. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1075/lv.17009.ran

2015   Paster, Mary & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "CASL Introductory Sketches for African Languages: Maay". Technical Report 2.9B, DO050: UMD-CASL.

2013   **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Review of Haider, Hubert (2012) Symmetry Breaking in Syntax". *California Linguistic Notes*. Volume XXXVIII, No.1, pp. 1-11.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

In prep   **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Ellipsis". For *The Routledge Handbook of Syntax* (2nd Ed.).

In prep   **Ranero, Rodrigo**, Justin Royer & Carol Rose Little. "Null Complement Anaphora cannot involve transitivity alternations: A novel argument from Mayan". [link]

In prep   **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Voice and Ellipsis Revisited: A Mayan Reappraisal".
In prep   **Ranero, Rodrigo** & Paulina Lyskawa. "True progressive harmony exists". [link]

Grants & Awards

Presentations

INVITED TALKS

2026   **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Ellipsis in Heritage Languages". Colloquium. Department of Linguistics, UC Santa Barbara.

2025   **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "¿Hay sintaxis en el silencio? Nueva evidencia de los idiomas mayas". Seminario de Estudio de Lenguas Indígenas de México (SELIM). CIESAS-Sureste.

2024   **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Reviving Voices: Community Linguistic Endeavors in Guatemala". *Santa Monica College Associates Lecture Series*. Santa Monica College.

2024   **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Language Reclamation: The Case of Xinka". Heritage Language Institute, panel on *Language and Social Justice*. University of California, Irvine.

2024   **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Kaqchikel Ritual Language". Mayfest 2024: The Science of Linguistic Diversity—In honor of Masha Polinsky. Roundtable: *Experimental work*

and fieldwork on understudied and heritage languages. University of Maryland, College Park.

2024 **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "The Syntax of What's Left Unsaid: A View on Silence from Mayan". 27th Workshop on the Structure and Constituency of the Languages of the Americas (WSCLA). University of Toronto.

2024 **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Language Documentation and Reclamation: Community-Based Research in Guatemala". Division of Humanities, Dean's Advisory Board Meeting. UCLA.

2024 **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Against a What-You-See-Is-What-You-Get approach to Null Complement Anaphora: A Mayan perspective". Syntax & Semantics Circle. Department of Linguistics, UC Berkeley.

2023 **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Sobre la importancia de revitalizar el idioma Xinka". At *Simposio sobre el idioma y cultura Xinka*. Dirección General de Educación Bilingüe (DIGEBI); Ministerio de Educación, Gobierno de Guatemala.

2023 **Ranero, Rodrigo.** "La reclamación del Xinka". At *Entrega del Módulo III: Sintaxis del Idioma Xinka*. Event organised in honor of the *International Decade of Indigenous Languages*. Ministerio de Cultura y Deportes, Gobierno de Guatemala.

2023 **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Identity in Ellipsis = Nondistinctness". Current Issues in Comparative Syntax 2: Boundaries on Ellipsis Mismatch (Workshop). Tsuda University, Japan.

2023 **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Connecting the dots: Linguistic theory, documentation, and reclamation". Department of Anthropology, UCLA.

2023 **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Commentary on panel presentations by J.P. González, C. Vázquez, and I. Heinze-Balcazar". Heritage Language Research Institute, UCLA.

2023 **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Reflexiones sobre idiomas en proceso de recuperación". Conference *Intercambio de experiencias sobre investigaciones para la recuperación de los idiomas en peligro de extinción*. Ministerio de Cultura y Deportes, Gobierno de Guatemala.

2023 **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Connecting the dots: Linguistic theory, documentation, and reclamation". Language, Literacy and Learning (LLL) Collaborative brown bag lecture. UCLA.

2023 **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "The syntax of what's left unsaid: A view of ellipsis from Mayan and Spanish". Colloquium. Department of Spanish & Portuguese, UCLA.

2023 **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Connecting the dots: Linguistic theory, documentation, and reclamation". LatCrit Sociocultural Linguistics Lab. Latino & Latin American Studies Center, UC Riverside.

2023 **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Connecting the dots: Linguistic theory, documentation, and reclamation". Colloquium. Department of Linguistics, Stanford University.

2023 **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "A new perspective on the syntax of silence: The view from Mayan". Seminar. Department of Linguistics, Stanford University.

2023 **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "A new perspective on the syntax of silence: The view from Mayan". Colloquium. Department of Linguistics, Rutgers University.

2022 **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Language Reclamation: The Case of Xinka in Guatemala". Central America series. Latin American Institute, UCLA.

2022 **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "On the Virtues of Individual-Speaker Fieldwork: Lessons from Agreement in Tz'utujil". Linguistic Fieldwork Working Group. Department of

Linguistics, UC San Diego.

2022   **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Obstáculos en la recopilación de información sobre el idioma Xinka" ("Obstacles in the collection of information on the Xinka language"). Online conference *Retos y Desafíos del Idioma Xinka* (*Challenges for the Xinka Language*). Ministerio de Cultura y Deportes, Gobierno de Guatemala.

2022   **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Optional Agreement in Tz'utujil: An Argument for Individual-Speaker Fieldwork". Department of Linguistics, UCLA.

2021   **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "An I-language approach to optional agreement in Tz'utujil". Fieldwork Forum. Department of Linguistics, UC Berkeley.

2021   **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Identity in ellipsis reconsidered: The view from Kaqchikel and beyond". Department of Language Science Colloquium Series, UC Irvine.

2021   Lyskawa, Paulina & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Sibilant Harmony in Santiago Tz'utujil: Synchrony, Diachrony, and Typology". Workshop on the Languages of Meso-America (WLMA) meeting. Department of Linguistics, UC Santa Cruz.

2020   **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Linguistic Links of Xinka". Online conference "*Characterizing the Xinka People*", organized by the Guatemalan government's CODISRA.

2016   **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "La Lingüística Generativa y la Evolución del Lenguaje". Universidad San Carlos de Guatemala.

2016   **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Fundamentos de la Lingüística: Adquisición, Variación y Evolución del Lenguaje". Universidad del Valle de Guatemala.

2013   **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Retos del Análisis Estructural del Idioma Xinka". *X Congreso de Estudios Mayas*. Guatemala City, Guatemala.

2013   Paster, Mary & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "The Reclamation of Rumsen". Indigenous Languages Symposium, Pomona College.

2013   **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "The Reclamation of Xinka". Indigenous Languages Symposium, Pomona College.

REFEREED TALKS

2025   Mauffray, Erin, Victoria Mateu & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Aux-stranding VPE in Heritage Spanish: Consequences for Ellipsis Licensing". Going Romance 2025, Ca' Foscari University, Venice.

2025   Mauffray, Erin, Victoria Mateu & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Ellipsis in contact: VPE and sluicing in Spanish heritage speakers". Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD) 50, Boston University.

2023   **Ranero, Rodrigo** & Justin Royer. "Lo que ves no es lo que hay: una perspectiva maya sobre la anáfora de complemento nulo". Conference on Indigenous Languages of Latin America (CILLA) X, UT Austin.

2022   Lyskawa, Paulina & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "True progressive harmony exists". Linguistic Society of America (LSA) Annual Meeting. Washington, DC. *Paper withdrawn due to COVID-19 pandemic*.

2021   Lyskawa, Paulina & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "La armonía progresiva sí existe". Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics (FAMLi) VI.

2021   Lyskawa, Paulina & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "True progressive harmony exists". North East Linguistics Society (NELS) 52. Rutgers University, Department of Linguistics.

2021   Lyskawa, Paulina & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Vowel Harmony in Santiago Tz'utujil

(Mayan)". Society for the Study of Indigenous Languages of the Americas (SSILA) Annual Meeting.

2021   Lyskawa, Paulina & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Sibilant Harmony in Santiago Tz'utujil". Linguistic Society of America (LSA) Annual Meeting.

2020   Baron, Christopher, Paulina Lyskawa & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Narcissistic allomorphy in Santiago Tz'utujil". Society for the Study of Indigenous Languages of the Americas (SSILA), New Orleans, LA.

2019   **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Truncamiento en kaqchikel: consecuencias para la identidad en la elipsis". Conference on Indigenous Languages of Latin America (CILLA) IX, UT Austin.

2019   **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Voice Mismatches in Kaqchikel (Mayan) Sluicing". Workshop on the Structure and Constituency of the Languages of the Americas (WSCLA) 24. University of Maryland.

2019   Levin, Theodore, Paulina Lyskawa & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Optional agreement in Santiago Tz'utujil (Mayan) is syntactic". Contrasts and Oppositions in 'Free' Linguistic Phenomena—Workshop at DGfS 2019, Bremen, Germany.

2018   Levin, Theodore, Paulina Lyskawa & **Rodrigo Ranero.** "Derivando la Concordancia Opcional en los Idiomas Mayas de Oriente". Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics (FAMLi) 5, Antigua Guatemala.

2018   Levin, Theodore, Paulina Lyskawa & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Microvariation in Eastern Mayan number agreement". Cambridge Comparative Syntax (CamCoS) 7, University of Cambridge.

2017   Mendes, Gesoel & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Restrictions on Adjunct Extraction: Microvariation in Mayan". Cambridge Comparative Syntax (CamCoS) 6, University of Cambridge.

2017   Mendes, Gesoel & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Adjunct Extraction: A View from Mayan". Berkeley Linguistics Society (BLS) 43, University of California, Berkeley.

2017   Mendes, Gesoel & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Adjunct Extraction in Kaqchikel and Tz'utujil". Society for the Study of Indigenous Languages of the Americas (SSILA), Austin, TX.

2016   Douglas, Jamie, **Rodrigo Ranero** & Michelle Sheehan. "Derivando la Ergatividad Sintáctica en los Idiomas Mayas". Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics (FAMLi) 4, Universidad de Oriente, México.

2016   Mendes, Gesoel & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "La Extracción de Adjuntos en Kaqchikel y Tz'utujil". Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics (FAMLi) 4, Universidad de Oriente, México.

2016   **Ranero, Rodrigo**. "The syntax of object dislocation in Luganda". 47th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL), University of California, Berkeley.

2014   Landman, Meredith & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "On focus marking in Kuria". 45th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL), University of Kansas.

2013   Diercks, Michael, **Rodrigo Ranero** & Rebekah Cramerus. "On object marking in Kikuria". 44th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL), Georgetown University.

REFEREED POSTERS

2025   **Ranero, Rodrigo** & Justin Royer. "Split ergativity isn't always epiphenomenal". North East Linguistics Society (NELS) 56. NYU.

2024	**Ranero, Rodrigo** & Justin Royer. "Deep and surface anaphora: Insights from Mayan". North East Linguistics Society (NELS) 54. MIT.
2023	Estrada, Yolanda & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Empowering the practitioners of the verbal arts: Lessons from a collaboration with Kaqchikel Ajq'ija' ". Linguistic Society of America (LSA) Annual Meeting. Denver, Colorado.
2021	Lyskawa, Paulina & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "True progressive harmony exists". Annual Meeting on Phonology (AMP) 2021, University of Toronto and York University.
2020	Fried, Marisa, Paulina Lyskawa & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Agreement in K'iche' (Mayan): Reflections on Microvariation". Penn Linguistics Colloquium (PLC) 44.
2019	Lyskawa, Paulina & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "A Mayan Diagnostic for the Unergative vs. Unaccusative Distinction". Generative Linguistics in the Old World (GLOW) 42, University of Oslo.
2018	Levin, Theodore, Paulina Lyskawa & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Optional agreement in Santiago Tz'utujiil (Mayan): The effects of animacy and grammatical function". Linguistic Society of America (LSA) Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City.
2017	Douglas, Jamie, **Rodrigo Ranero** & Michelle Sheehan. "Two Kinds of Syntactic Ergativity in Mayan". Generative Linguistics in the Old World (GLOW) Asia XI, National University of Singapore.

WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS

2025	Mauffray, Erin, Victoria Mateu & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Ellipsis in contact: VPE and sluicing in Spanish heritage speakers". American Indian Seminar (AIS). UCLA, Department of Linguistics.
2023	**Ranero, Rodrigo** & Justin Royer. "What you see is not what you get: A Mayan perspective on Null Complement Anaphora". American Indian Seminar (AIS). UCLA, Department of Linguistics.
2023	**Ranero, Rodrigo** & Justin Royer. "What you see is not what you get: A Mayan perspective on Null Complement Anaphora". Southern California Annual Meeting on Syntax (SCAMS) 3. Pomona College, CA.
2022	**Ranero, Rodrigo**, & Paulina Lyskawa. "Sibilant Harmony in Santiago Tz'utujil: Synchrony and Diachrony". American Indian Seminar (AIS). UCLA, Department of Linguistics.
2022	**Ranero, Rodrigo**. "The Reclamation of Xinka in Guatemala". American Indian Studies Center (AISC), UCLA.
2021	**Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Identity in ellipsis reconsidered: The view from Kaqchikel and beyond". 'You're on mute' ellipsis seminar series. NYU, Department of Linguistics.
2020	**Ranero, Rodrigo**. "Revisiting Gender Mismatches in Ellipsis". S-Lab. University of Maryland.
2020	**Ranero, Rodrigo**. "No movement out of negation? A Kaqchikel (Mayan) puzzle." S-Lab, University of Maryland.
2018	Levin, Theodore, Paulina Lyskawa & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Opcionalidad en la Conjugación Verbal del Tz'utujil de Santiago". Universidad del Valle de Guatemala, Altiplano.
2018	Douglas, Jamie, **Rodrigo Ranero** & Michelle Sheehan. "How A-movement can lead to extraction restrictions". Asymmetries 2018, DGfS workshop at Stuttgart University. Michelle Sheehan (invited speaker) presenting joint work.

| 2017 | Lyskawa, Paulina & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Thinking like a fieldworker: number agreement in Tz'utujil Mayan". LSLT, University of Maryland. |

Teaching

AWARD

| 2021 | HOWARD LASNIK AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED TEACHING (UMD)
Awarded by faculty consensus in the Linguistics Department |

INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD

Spring 2026	*SPAN 100B Introduction to Study of Spanish Grammar: Syntax*
Spring 2026	*SPAN 256A Studies in Spanish Linguistics: (Im)possible vs. (Im)probable Grammars*
Fall 2025	*Span 202B: Morphology*
Fall 2025	*SPAN/PORT M35 Spanish, Portuguese, and Nature of Language*
Spring 2025	*SPAN 256A Studies in Spanish Linguistics: Syntax of Heritage Languages*
Spring 2025	*SPAN/PORT M35 Spanish, Portuguese, and Nature of Language*
Fall 2024	*Span 202B: Morphology*
Fall 2024	*SPAN 160 Topics in Spanish Linguistics: Mayan Languages and Cultures*
Spring 2024	*SPAN 256A Studies in Spanish Linguistics: (Im)possible vs. (Im)probable Grammars*
Spring 2024	*SPAN/PORT M35 Spanish, Portuguese, and Nature of Language*
Fall 2023	*SPAN 160 Topics in Spanish Linguistics: Mayan Languages and Cultures*
Summer 2022	*Introducción a la Lingüística* (Introduction to Linguistics); Virtual/Free Coordinated 20-week introductory course to linguistics for students in Guatemala; taught syntax section. In collaboration with Museo Xinka and Editorial Maya' Wuj.
Fall 2019	*LING 419B: The Syntax of Silence* (University of Maryland, College Park)

MEMBERSHIP IN DISSERTATION COMMITTEES

| 2025 - | Jesús Duarte (Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese, UCLA)
TBD
<u>Committee</u>: Ji Young Kim (chair), Justin Davidson, Joshua Guzmán, Norma Mendoza-Denton, **Rodrigo Ranero** |
| 2024 - | Jenny Eonsuh Choi (Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese, UCLA)
"The English and Spanish Vowel Spaces of Heritage Speakers of Spanish in the Greater Los Angeles Area"
<u>Committee</u>: Ji Young Kim (chair), Sun-Ah Jun, **Rodrigo Ranero**, Kie Zuraw |

INVITED LECTURES

Fall 2025	"Ellipsis in Heritage Spanish" Course: *M297A – Proseminar I* (UCLA) Instructor: Javier Patiño Loira
Fall 2025	"Translating Humberto Ak'abal (K'iche' Mayan)" Course: *LIT 156 Translation* (Harvey Mudd College) Instructor: Isabel Balseiro
Fall 2024	"Community-Based Linguistic Research in Guatemala" Course: *M297A – Proseminar I* (UCLA)

	Instructor: Maarten van Delden
Fall 2024	"Translating Humberto Ak'abal (K'iche' Mayan)"
	Course: *LIT 156 Translation* (Harvey Mudd College)
	Instructor: Isabel Balseiro
Fall 2023	"Sintaxis de los verbos en Xinka"
	Online course: *Introducción al idioma y la cultura Xinka* (USAC, Guatemala)
	Multiple instructors
Fall 2023	"Morfología Xinka"
	Online course: *Introducción al idioma y la cultura Xinka* (USAC, Guatemala)
	Multiple instructors
Fall 2023	"Fonología Xinka"
	Online course: *Introducción al idioma y la cultura Xinka* (USAC, Guatemala)
	Multiple instructors
Spring 2023	"Silence in Mayan: Some results and prospects"
	Course: *LING 651: Seminar in Syntax, The Syntax of Ellipsis* (Stony Brook U.)
	Instructor: Francisco Ordóñez
Spring 2022	"Syntactic Identity in Ellipsis: Some Results and Questions"
	Course: *Ling 819 Ellipsis Seminar* (UMD)
	Instructor: Howard Lasnik
Fall 2021	"Mayan literature in translation: The view from Humberto Ak'abal's poetry"
	Course: *LIT 156 Translation* (Harvey Mudd College)
	Instructor: Isabel Balseiro
Fall 2020	"¿Qué es el lenguaje y cómo evolucionó?"
	Course: *Teoría Antropológica 1* (Universidad del Valle de Guatemala)
	Instructor: Alejandra Colom

STUDENT MENTORSHIP

2018 - 2020	Mentor for Marisa Fried, an undergraduate, NSF-funded RA.
2019 - 2020	Mentor for Daniel Coyne, an undergraduate, NSF-funded RA.
2019	Mentored seven students (3 graduate / 4 undergraduate) during four-week summer school and research program on K'iche' in El Novillero, Guatemala.

Research

FIELDWORK

2023 -	Work with Chuj language consultants.
2021 -	Reclamation project with the Xinka community. Meetings with community members to co-write pedagogical material, teach classes on Xinka grammar. Collaboration with *Consejo Coordinador del Pueblo Xinka de Guatemala (COPXIG)*, *Cooperativa El Recuerdo*, *Museo Xinka*, *Editorial Maya' Wuj*.
2016 -	Work with Tz'utujil, Kaqchikel, and K'iche' consultants in Santiago Atitlán, Patzún, Tecpán, Sumpango, and El Novillero (Guatemala).
2015 - 2020	Advise members of the Xinka community on language reclamation efforts.
2012 - 2015	Language reclamation project with the Xinka community (Guatemala). Duties included analyzing material on Xinka, writing textbooks, leading teacher trainings, and establishing a partnership with the government. In collaboration with *COPXIG*.
2017 - 2018	Language documentation project with Kaqchikel ajq'ija' in Sumpango, Guatemala.

Duties included supervising the documentation of ceremonies, supervising editing and transcription of recordings, and leading workshops. In collaboration with *Waqxaqi' B'atz'* and Yolanda Estrada.

2014 - 2015   Work with Luganda language consultant in Cambridge, UK.
2013 - 2014   Work with Maay language consultants in San Diego, CA.
2012 - 2014   Work with Kuria language consultant in Claremont, CA.

ASSISTANTSHIP

2019   For Howard Lasnik. Duties included revising handouts for colloquium talks and compiling the bibliography and index for two books.
2012 - 2013   For Mary Paster. Assist members of the Rumsen tribe in establishing a language reclamation project.

Service to the Institution

2024 -   OTHER
Faculty Reviewer; 2025-2026 UC postdoctoral fellowships
Presented on the job search to UCLA Postdoctoral Fellows
2023 -   UCLA INTERNAL COMMITTEE/BOARD MEMBER
Lecturer Search Comm. (Spring 2025); Department of Spanish & Portuguese
Grad Affairs Comm. (2024-2025); Department of Spanish & Portuguese
Lecturer Search Comm. (2024); Department of Spanish & Portuguese
Undergrad Affairs Comm. (2023-2024); Department of Spanish & Portuguese
Faculty Advisory Committee; American Indian Studies Center
Faculty Advisory Committee; Chicano Research Studies Center
Faculty Advisory Board; Center for World Languages
2016 - 2019   UMD INTERNAL COMMITTEES
Member, WSCLA 24 Committee (2018-2019)
Co-chair, Colloquium Committee (2017-2018)
Chair, Mayfest (*Nayfest*) Committee (2017-2018)

Service to the Field

2024   CONFERENCE ORGANIZING
Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics (FAMLi) VII; (UNAM, Mexico City)
Livestream: [Day 1], [Day 2]
2023 -   PANEL ORGANIZING
Organized a panel at the Heritage Language Research Institute (UC Irvine); Spring 2024
Organized a panel at the Heritage Language Research Institute (UCLA); Spring 2023
2022 -   REVIEW: SCHOLARSHIP/GRANT PROPOSALS
Endangered Languages Documentation Programme (x2)
Donald A. Strauss Foundation Scholarship
NSF Documenting Endangered Languages (DEL) program (x1)
2021 -   PEER REVIEW: CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS
Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL) 55
Fifth International Conference on Heritage/Community Languages

Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics (FAMLi) VI
North East Linguistics Society (NELS) 56
West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL) 40, 42, 44
Workshop on Structure and Constituency on Languages of the Americas (WSCLA) 24

2019 -   PEER REVIEW; BOOKS, JOURNALS, AND BOOK CHAPTERS
Syntactic Theory and Research (STAR) (x1)
Cambridge Elements book series (x1)
Oxford Studies in Comparative Syntax (x1)
Languages (x1)
Glossa: a journal of general linguistics (x3)
Diachronica (x1)
Journal of Linguistics (x4)
Linguistic Inquiry (x2)
Natural Language and Linguistic Theory (x2)
The Cambridge Handbook of Comparative Syntax (x1)

2014   WORKSHOP FACILITATOR
Living Tongues Institute for Endangered Languages and ALMG

Language Proficiency

Spanish (*native*)
English (*fluent*)
Italian (*advanced*)
French, Kaqchikel, German, Mandarin (*intermediate*)
Tz'utujil, Kaqchikel, K'iche', Chuj, Luganda, Maay, Kuria (*elicitation, corpus collection*)
Xinka, Rumsen (*research knowledge*)

References

Professor Maria Polinsky
Linguistics Department, UMD
polinsky@umd.edu

Professor Harold Torrence
Department of Linguistics, UCLA
htorrence@humnet.ucla.edu

Distinguished University Professor Howard Lasnik
Linguistics Department, UMD
lasnik@umd.edu

Last updated: 03-13-2026