

Rodrigo Ranero

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[Academic website](#)
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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 documentation, language revitalization, phonology
- NARROW relative clauses, ellipsis, split ergativity, consonantal harmony, microvariation
- LANGUAGES Kaqchikel, Tz'utujil, K'iche', Chuj, Ch'ol, Spanish, Xinka, Kuria, Luganda, Maay

Publications

ARTICLES & CHAPTERS (PEER-REVIEWED)

- Under review **Ranero, Rodrigo** & Justin Royer. "Romance isn't so simple: Against Haspelmath 2023's definition of clitic"
- Under review Mauffray, Erin, Victoria Mateu, & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Auxiliary-stranding VPE in

- Heritage Spanish: Consequences for Ellipsis Licensing”
- Under review **Ranero, Rodrigo**, Maria Polinsky, & Gregory Scontras. “Diagnosing the diagnostics: Evidence from Spanish relative clauses”
- Under review **Ranero, Rodrigo**, Justin Royer, & Carol Rose Little. “Null Complement Anaphora cannot involve transitivity alternations: A novel argument from Mayan” [[link](#)]
- To appear **Ranero, Rodrigo**. “VP-Ellipsis in Spanish”. In Laura Stigliano & Andrés Saab (eds.), *Ellipsis in Romance*. Oxford: Oxford University Press
- 2026 Royer, Justin, Cristina Buenrostro, & **Rodrigo Ranero**. “Wh-Questions and Predication in Mayan.” *Journal of Linguistics*. 1–44. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0022226726101303>.
- 2026 **Ranero, Rodrigo**, Gregory Scontras, & Maria Polinsky. “Weak Crossover in Spanish Relative Clauses”. *Probus* 38(2). 289–317. <https://doi.org/10.1515/probus-2025-0010>
- 2025 Royer, Justin, **Rodrigo Ranero**, Petul Federico Felipe Gómez, & Diego Neper López. “El cuento de kokolom/chil’jolom: Bosquejo gramatical y comparación dialectal del idioma Chuj”. *Tlalocan* 30 (2). 187–289. <https://doi.org/10.19130/iifl.tlalocan.2025.2/00X23Ws293>
- 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. <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. <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. <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. <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 (eds.), *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 (PEER-REVIEWED ABSTRACT)

- To appear **Ranero, Rodrigo**, Justin Royer, & Diego Neper López García. “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*. GLSA: University of Massachusetts Amherst [[link](#)]
- 2026 Mauffray, Erin, Victoria Mateu, & **Rodrigo Ranero**. "Ellipsis in Contact: VPE and Sluicing in Spanish Heritage Speakers". In Romi Hill, Xinhao Jiang, Danutham Worapipat, and Aditya Yedetore (eds.), *BUCLD 50: Proceedings of the 50th Boston University Conference on Language Development*. 506–519 [[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. 52 pp.

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. <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. 24 pp.
- 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”. In Andrew Carnie, Yosuke Sato, and Daniel Siddiqi (eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Syntax* (2nd Ed.)
- In prep **Ranero, Rodrigo**. “Voice and Ellipsis Revisited: A Mayan Reappraisal”
- In prep **Ranero, Rodrigo** & Paulina Lyskawa. “True progressive harmony exists”

Grants & Awards

EXTERNAL

- 2023 [Explorer’s Club](#) Exploration Fund Grant [co-PI with J. Royer; with N. López & P. Gómez]
- 2020 [Cosmos Club Foundation Scholarship](#)
- 2020 [Jacobs Research Funds](#) group grant [with P. Lyskawa & M. Fried]
- 2019 [Jacobs Research Funds](#) group grant [with O. Preminger, P. Lyskawa & C. Baron]
- 2018 [Jacobs Research Funds](#) group grant [with T. Levin & P. Lyskawa]
- 2018 [Cosmos Club Foundation Scholarship](#)
- 2017 [Firebird Foundation Research Grant](#) [co-PI with Y. Estrada]
- 2013 [Donald A. Strauss Scholarship](#)
- 2013 [Davis Projects for Peace Grant](#)

INTERNAL

- 2026 UCLA Academic Senate, Research Allowance Program Grant
- 2025 UCLA Academic Senate, Research Allowance Program Grant
- 2021 - 2023 [Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Fellowship at UCLA](#)
- 2021 Howard Lasnik Award for Distinguished Teaching in Linguistics
- 2016 - 2021 [UMD Flagship Fellowship](#) (recruitment award)
- 2019 Arts and Humanities (ARHU) Graduate Student Travel Award
- 2019 Jacob K. Goldhaber Travel Award
- 2016 Arts and Humanities (ARHU) Graduate Student Travel Award
- 2016 Jacob K. Goldhaber Travel Award
- 2016 Pomona College Sherwood Heiser Fellowship
- 2014 - 2015 [Pomona College Downing Scholarship](#)
- 2014 Glass Linguistics Prize
- 2014 Phi Beta Kappa, Gamma of California
- 2013 [Pomona College Summer Undergraduate Research Project \(SURP\) Grant](#)
- 2012 Pomona College Summer Undergraduate Research Project (SURP) Grant

Presentations

INVITED

- Upcoming **Ranero, Rodrigo**. TBD. *Colloquium*. Department of Romance Languages and Department of Linguistics. University of Georgia, Athens.

Upcoming	Ranero, Rodrigo. “Condiciones sintácticas y semánticas de la elipsis.” <i>Three-week graduate seminar/ workshop</i> . CIESAS-Sureste
Upcoming	Ranero, Rodrigo. TBD. <i>Plenary presentation</i> . Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics (FAMLi) 8. Centro Estatal de Lenguas, Arte y Literatura Indígenas (CELALI), San Cristóbal de las Casas.
Upcoming	Ranero, Rodrigo. TBD. <i>Colloquium</i> . Centro de Estudios Antropológicos, Universidad Autónoma de México (UNAM).
2026	Ranero, Rodrigo. “Ellipsis in Heritage Languages”. <i>Colloquium</i> . 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. University of California, Irvine
2024	Ranero, Rodrigo. “Kaqchikel Ritual Language”. <i>Plenary presentation</i> . Mayfest 2024: The Science of Linguistic Diversity—In honor of Masha Polinsky. University of Maryland, College Park
2024	Ranero, Rodrigo. “The Syntax of What’s Left Unsaid: A View on Silence from Mayan”. <i>Plenary presentation</i> . 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”. 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”. Entrega del Módulo III: Sintaxis del Idioma Xinka. Event to celebrate 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”. 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. 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”. 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”. *Colloquium*. 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”. *Colloquium*. Department of Language Science, 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). Department of Linguistics, UC Santa Cruz
- 2020 **Ranero, Rodrigo.** “Rasgos Lingüísticos del Xinka”. Caracterizando al Pueblo Xinka (conferencia). Comisión contra la Discriminación y el Racismo (CODISRA). Gobierno de Guatemala
- 2016 **Ranero, Rodrigo.** “La Lingüística Generativa y la Evolución del Lenguaje”. Departamento de Historia, 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

- Upcoming Royer, Justin, Cristina Buenrostro, & **Rodrigo Ranero.** “Cláusulas copulativas en Chuj de San Mateo Ixtatán”. XIX Encuentro Internacional de Lingüística en el

- Noroeste (ELNOR), Hermosillo (Sonora)
- 2025 Mauffray, Erin, Victoria Mateu, & **Rodrigo Ranero**. “Aux-stranding VPE in Heritage Spanish: Consequences for Ellipsis Licensing”. Going Romance, 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’utujil (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 2027 *SPAN 256A Studies in Spanish Linguistics: Syntax of Heritage Languages*
- Spring 2027 *SPAN/PORT M35 Spanish, Portuguese, and Nature of Language*
- 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); Online/Free
Volunteered to coordinate 20-week intro course to linguistics for students in Guatemala; taught syntax. With [Museo Xinka](#) and [Editorial Maya’ Wuj](#).
- Fall 2019 *LING 419B: The Syntax of Silence* (University of Maryland, College Park)

MEMBERSHIP IN DISSERTATION COMMITTEES

- 2026 - Madelynn Paulow (PhD; Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese, UCLA)
Title and full committee TBD
- 2026 - Gabriela Cruz (PhD; Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese, UCLA)
Title TBD
Committee: Patricia Arroyo (chair), Adriana Bergero, **Rodrigo Ranero**, Maite Zubiaurre
- 2026 - Joshua Lieberstein (MA; Dept. of Linguistics, UC Santa Cruz)
Title TBD
Committee: Roumyana Pancheva, Maziar Toosarvandani (co-chairs), **Rodrigo Ranero**
- 2026 - Jiaxin Jia (PhD; Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese, UCLA)
Contact-induced Phonetic Variation in Border Spanish: Portuguese Influence on Selected Consonantal and Vocalic Phonemes
Committee: Ji Young Kim (chair), Ana Maria Carvalho, Victoria Mateu, **Rodrigo Ranero**
- 2025 - Jesús Duarte (PhD; Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese, UCLA)
Sexuality and Language: A Sociophonetic Analysis of Gay and Lesbian Speech in Mexico and the United States
Committee: Ji Young Kim (chair), Justin Davidson, Joshua Guzmán, Norma Mendoza-Denton, **Rodrigo Ranero**
- 2024 - Jenny Eonsuh Choi (PhD; Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese, UCLA)
The English and Spanish Vowel Spaces of Heritage Speakers of Spanish in the Greater Los Angeles Area
Committee: Ji Young Kim (chair), Sun-Ah Jun, **Rodrigo Ranero**, Kie Zuraw

INVITED LECTURES

- Spring 2026 Q&A on Mayan Languages
LING 210B: Field Methods II—Language, Tsotsil (UCLA)
Instructor: Ben Eischens
- Fall 2025 “Ellipsis in Heritage Spanish”
M297A – Proseminar I (UCLA)
Instructor: Javier Patiño Loira
- Fall 2025 “Translating Humberto Ak’abal (K’iche’ Mayan)”
LIT 156 Translation (Harvey Mudd College)
Instructor: Isabel Balseiro
- Fall 2024 “Community-Based Linguistic Research in Guatemala”
M297A – Proseminar I (UCLA)
Instructor: Maarten van Delden
- Fall 2024 “Translating Humberto Ak’abal (K’iche’ Mayan)”
LIT 156 Translation (Harvey Mudd College)
Instructor: Isabel Balseiro
- Fall 2023 “Sintaxis de los verbos en Xinka”
Introducción al idioma y la cultura Xinka (USAC, Guatemala)
Multiple instructors
- Fall 2023 “Morfología Xinka”

- Introducción al idioma y la cultura Xinka* (USAC, Guatemala)
Multiple instructors
- Fall 2023 “Fonología Xinka”
Introducción al idioma y la cultura Xinka (USAC, Guatemala)
Multiple instructors
- Spring 2023 “Silence in Mayan: Some results and prospects”
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”
Ling 819 Ellipsis Seminar (UMD)
Instructor: Howard Lasnik
- Fall 2021 “Mayan literature in translation: The view from Humberto Ak’abal’s poetry”
LIT 156 Translation (Harvey Mudd College)
Instructor: Isabel Balseiro
- Fall 2020 “¿Qué es el lenguaje y cómo evolucionó?”
Teoría Antropológica I (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 President's Postdoctoral Fellowships (PPFP)
Presented on the job search to UCLA PPFP 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](#) applications
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
World Conference of African Linguistics (WOCAL) 12

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

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 htorrence@humnet.ucla.edu

Professor Emeritus Howard Lasnik

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Last updated: 09-13-2026