Aaron Braver

Curriculum Vitæ

Texas Tech University
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Academic positions

2019–present   **Associate Professor of Linguistics**, *Texas Tech University*, Lubbock, TX
Department of English, Linguistics Program
Director, Texas Tech Phonetics and Phonology Linguistics Laboratory
Affiliated faculty member, Department of Philosophy

2022—2024   **Senior Research Associate**, *Rhodes University*, Makhanda, South Africa
Honorary appointment in the department of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies

2013–2019   **Assistant Professor of Linguistics**, *Texas Tech University*, Lubbock, TX

Education

2007–2013   **Ph.D. in Linguistics**, *Rutgers University*, New Brunswick, NJ

Dissertation   *Degrees of Incompleteness in Neutralization: Paradigm Uniformity in a Phonetics with Weighted Constraints*

Committee   Shigeto Kawahara (chair), Bruce Tesar, Kristen Syrett, Alan C.L. Yu (external)

2003–2007   **B.A.**, *Brandeis University*, Waltham, MA
Linguistics/Cognitive Science (with honors) and Anthropology
Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa

Publications

Journal articles (peer reviewed)

2023   Stefano Coretta, Joseph V. Casillas, …, Aaron Braver, 153 others, and Timo B. Roettger. Multidimensional signals and analytic flexibility: Estimating degrees of freedom in human speech analyses. *Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science* 6(3):1–29.

2020   Aaron Braver and Will Bennett. Different speakers, different grammars: Productivity and representation of Xhosa labial palatalization. *Phonological Data and Analysis* 2(6).

2020   Takehiro Iizuka, Kimi Nakatsukasa, and Aaron Braver. The efficacy of gesture on second language pronunciation: An exploratory study of handclapping as a classroom instructional tool. *Language Learning* 70(4).

2019   Aaron Braver. Incomplete neutralization as paradigm uniformity with weighted phonetic constraints. *Phonology* 36(1):1–36.

2016   Aaron Braver and Will Bennett. Phonotactic c(l)ues to Bantu noun class disambiguation. *Linguistics Vanguard* 2(1):1–11.

2015   Will Bennett and Aaron Braver. The productivity of 'unnatural' labial palatalization in Xhosa. *Nordlyd* 42:33–44 (special issue on palatalization).

2014   Aaron Braver. Imperceptible incomplete neutralization: Production, identification, and discrimination of /d/ and /t/ flaps in American English. *Lingua* 152:24–44.

2014   Shigeto Kawahara and Aaron Braver. Durational properties of emphatic consonants in Japanese. *Journal of the International Phonetic Association* 44(3):237–260.

2013   Shigeto Kawahara and Aaron Braver. The phonetics of multiple vowel lengthening in Japanese. *Open Journal of Modern Linguistics* 3(2):141–148.

Conference proceedings

2023   Aaron Braver. Naturalness as a heuristic for (in)complete neutralization: Xhosa's 'unnatural' labial palatalization. In *Proceedings of NELS 53*, vol. 1, pp. 119–128.

2020   Peter Westfall, Andrea Arias, Aaron Braver, and Joshua Fredman. You like day-tuh and I like daa-tuh; let's call the whole thing off! In *2020 Proceedings of the Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, & Education Conference*.

2016   Aaron Braver and Will Bennett. Phonotactics of noun class disambiguation in Xhosa. In *Proceedings of the 2015 Annual Meeting on Phonology*.

2016   Aaron Braver and Shigeto Kawahara. Incomplete neutralization in Japanese monomoraic lengthening. In *Proceedings of the 2014 Annual Meeting on Phonology*.

2016   Aaron Braver, Natalie Dresher, and Shigeto Kawahara. The phonetics of emphatic vowel lengthening in English. In *Proceedings of the 2014 Annual Meeting on Phonology*.

2015   Aaron Braver and Shigeto Kawahara. Incomplete neutralization via paradigm uniformity and weighted constraints. In *Proceedings of NELS 45*, vol. 1, pp. 115–124.

2014   Aaron Braver and Shigeto Kawahara. Incomplete vowel lengthening in Japanese: A first study. In *Proceedings of WCCFL 31*, pp. 86–95.

2013   Aaron Braver. Perception of incompletely neutralized /d/ and /t/ flaps in American English. In *Proceedings of NELS 42*, vol. 1, pp. 93–104.

2011   Aaron Braver. Incomplete neutralization in American English flapping: A production study. In *Proceedings of Penn Linguistics Colloquium 34*.

Books edited

2010   *Rutgers Working Papers in Linguistics (RuWPL) 3.* Peter Staroverov, Daniel Altshuler, Aaron Braver, Carlos A. Fasola, and Sarah Murray (eds.). Rutgers LGSA, New Brunswick.

Invited talks

2018   Aaron Braver. Pedagogical gestures in computer-mediated language learning. University of Calgary.

2018   Aaron Braver. Gesturing avatars in computer-mediated learning of vowel length contrasts. 7th Annual Conference on Applied Linguistics and Intercultural Communication in Higher Education (CALICHE). Texas Tech University.

2015   Aaron Braver and Will Bennett. Using root shape to choose among prefixes in Xhosa. Colloquium talk. Seoul National University.

2014   Aaron Braver. What does emphatic lengthening tell us about binary length distinctions? Cognitive Science Brown Bag lecture. Texas Tech University.

2012   Aaron Braver and Shigeto Kawahara. Monomoraic lengthening in Japanese as incomplete neutralization. Colloquium talk. Seoul National University.

2008   Aaron Braver. Features, markedness, and articulatory, phonetic, and phonological constraints in signed languages. Rutgers University Signed Languages Reading Group.

Presentations and posters

Refereed conferences

2023   Aaron Braver. Degree of Neutralization in Xhosa's 'Unnatural' Labial Palatalization. North East Linguistic Society (NELS) 53. Göttingen, Germany.

2023   Aaron Braver. Neutralization in an unnatural process: Labial palatalization in Xhosa. 97th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA). Denver.

2020   Aaron Braver and Shigeto Kawahara. Perception of fine-grained duration distinctions: Evidence from English pragmatic emphasis. 94th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA). New Orleans.

2019   Kimi Nakatsukasa, Aaron Braver, and Miranda Scolari. Attending to a Gesturing Avatar Facilitates Perception of L2 Phonology: An Eye-Tracking Study. American Association for Applied Linguistics (AAAL) 2019. Atlanta.

2019   Kimi Nakatsukasa, Aaron Braver, and Miranda Scolari. Gestures' limited effect on L2 phonology development: an eye-tracking study. Second Language Research Forum (SLRF) 2019. Michigan State University.

2019   Aaron Braver. Neutralization in Xhosa's 'unnatural' labial palatalization. 93rd Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA). New York, New York.

2019   Liang Guangsheng, Vinh T. Nguyen, Kimi Nakatsukasa, Aaron Braver, Tommy Dang, and Miranda Scolari. Multisensory Integration of Visual and Auditory Signals during Second Language Learning. Vision Sciences Society (VSS). St. Pete Beach, Florida.

2018   Aaron Braver. Neutralization of underlying vs. derived 'unnatural' palatals in Xhosa. 176th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America (ASA). Victoria, BC, Canada.

2018   Kimi Nakatsukasa, Aaron Braver, and Miranda Scolari. Attention in computer-mediated learning: Avatars' gestures in learning vowel length contrasts. Second Language Research Forum (SLRF) 2018. Université du Québec à Montréal.

2018   Aaron Braver. Underlying vs. derived palatals in Xhosa: Neutralization of an 'unnatural' pattern. 2018 Annual Meeting on Phonology (AMP). UC San Diego.

2017   Aaron Braver. How do you whisper a click? Acoustic correlates of click voicing in whispered speech. 2017 Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA). Austin, Texas.

2017   Aaron Braver and Seunghun J. Lee. Perceiving non-native contrasts: Xitsonga's 'whistled' fricative vs. [ʃ]. 2017 Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA). Austin, Texas.

2016   Aaron Braver and Seunghun J. Lee. An anti-dispersive contrast: Xitsonga's 'whistled' fricative vs. [ʃ]. Annual Meeting on Phonology (AMP) 2016. USC.

2016   Takehiro Iizuka, Kimi Nakatsukasa, Aaron Braver, and Andrew Farley. Bridge between syllabic and moraic languages: Does gesture help pronunciation learning?. Second Language Research Forum (SLRF) 35. Columbia University.

2016   Aaron Braver and Will Bennett. Length-based allomorphy in Xhosa noun class prefixes. 2016 Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA). Washington, DC.

2015   Aaron Braver and Will Bennett. Abstract morphological information cued by phonotactics: Noun class disambiguation in Xhosa. 2015 Annual Meeting on Phonology (AMP). Vancouver.

2015   Danica Kreusch, Will Bennett, and Aaron Braver. Disambiguating isiXhosa noun classes with phonotactic c(l)ues. 8th World Congress of African Linguistics (WOCAL). Kyoto.

2015   Kelly Goldstuck, Will Bennett, and Aaron Braver. Experimentally assessing length-based noun prefix alternations in isiXhosa. 8th World Congress of African Linguistics (WOCAL). Kyoto.

2015   Aaron Braver and Will Bennett. Phonology or morphology: inter-speaker differences in Xhosa labial palatalization. LSA Annual Meeting 2015. Portland, Oregon.

2014   Will Bennett and Aaron Braver. Wug-testing a case of 'unnatural' labial palatalization in Xhosa. Palatalization Conference. University of Tromsø.

2014   Aaron Braver and Seunghun J. Lee. Perceiving small contrasts: Xitsonga's 'whistled' fricative vs. [ʃ]. South African Microlinguistics Workshop (SAMPWOP) 3. North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus, South Africa.

2014   Aaron Braver and Will Bennett. Wug-testing bilabial palatalization in isiXhosa passivized verbs. South African Microlinguistics Workshop (SAMWOP) 3. North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus, South Africa.

2014   Aaron Braver and Shigeto Kawahara. Incomplete neutralization via paradigm uniformity and weighted constraints. North East Linguistic Society (NELS) 45. MIT.

2014   Aaron Braver, Natalie Dresher, and Shigeto Kawahara. The phonetics of emphatic vowel lengthening in English. Annual Meeting on Phonology (AMP) 2014. MIT.

2014   Aaron Braver and Shigeto Kawahara. Modeling incomplete neutralization: Paradigm uniformity and a phonetics with weighted constraints. Annual Meeting on Phonology (AMP) 2014. MIT.

2013   Aaron Braver and Shigeto Kawahara. Japanese monomoraic vowel lengthening as incomplete neutralization. Congrès International des Linguistes. Geneva.

2013   Aaron Braver and Shigeto Kawahara. Incomplete vowel lengthening: Japanese monomoraic lengthening as incomplete neutralization. WCCFL 31. Arizona State University.

2013   Aaron Braver and Shigeto Kawahara. Incomplete neutralization of Japanese vowel length in monomoraic nouns. LSA Annual Meeting 2013. Boston.

2011   Aaron Braver. The perception of incompletely neutralized /d/ and /t/ flaps in American English. NELS 42. University of Toronto.

2010   Aaron Braver. Is there incomplete neutralization in American English flapping? Manchester Phonology Meeting 18. University of Manchester.

2010   Aaron Braver. Incomplete neutralization in American English flapping. Penn Linguistics Colloquium 34. University of Pennsylvania.

2010   Aaron Braver. Incomplete neutralization in American English flapping. Laboratory Phonology 12. University of New Mexico.

2009   Aaron Braver. Restrictions on DP-internal ellipsis in Spanish. Hispanic Linguistics Symposium 2009. San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Non-refereed workshops (selected)

2012   Aaron Braver and Shigeto Kawahara. Monomoraic lengthening in Japanese as incomplete neutralization. Tokyo Circle of Phonologists. University of Tokyo.

2011   Aaron Braver. (Im)perceptible incomplete neutralization: Two experiments on flapping in American English. Rutgers, UMass, MIT meeting of phonologists (RUMMIT) II. Rutgers University.

2009   Aaron Braver. A task effect on incomplete neutralization? UMass/MIT Meeting of Phonologists (UMMM) 2009. UMass, Amherst.

2008   Aaron Braver. Does phonological output contain morphological structure? Evidence from consistency of exponence and fine phonetic details. Hopkins-UMD-Rutgers-UMass joint meeting (HUMDRUM) 2008. Rutgers University.

Advisees' projects

2020   William Kariampuzha, Aetizaz Sameer, Olivia Chen, Hannah Kang, Aaron Flores, and Aaron Braver. Estimating Lexicon Size Based Upon Zipf's Law: A Novel Mathematical Approach. 12th Annual Texas Tech Undergraduate Research Conference.

Awards, grants, fellowships, and research assistantships

2022   Impactful Faces of First-Gen Champions
For making an impact on the experience of first-generation students

2018   TTU Scholarship Catalyst Program Grant ($3,500)
Computer Avatar Language Teacher: Improving Japanese and Arabic Learners' Pronunciation
With Kimi Nakatsukasa, Miranda Scolari, and Tommy Dang

2017   TTU Seed Grant for Interdisciplinary Research ($100,000)
Teaching Foreign Language Pronunciation through Educational Avatars
With Kimi Nakatsukasa, Miranda Scolari, and Tommy Dang

2017   TTU Humanities Center Fellowship ($5,000)

2011   Mellon Summer Research Grant

2010, 2012   Mellon Small Departmental Grant

2009–2011   Rutgers University Graduate School Conference Travel Award

2007–2009   Rutgers University Graduate School Fellowship

Teaching

A full list of courses by semester, along with course evaluations and syllabi, is available at www.aaronbraver.com/teaching.

Courses at Texas Tech University

Graduate   Phonetics and Phonology
Structure of Sign Languages
Perception, Cognition, and Language (co-taught with Alex Grzankwoski)
Principles of Language (introductory course)

Undergraduate   Phonetics and Phonology
Introduction to Language
How Language Works/Linguistic Science
Language in a Multicultural America
Structure of Sign Languages

Courses at Rutgers University

Undergraduate	Linguistics of Signed Languages
	Introduction to Linguistic Theory
	Expository Writing

Advising

PhD students

in progress	Mohammed Alahmadi (PhD, Texas Tech University, chair)
in progress	Amnah Madkhali (PhD, Texas Tech University, chair)
in progress	Anna Kroon (Phd, Texas Tech University, member)
2023	Georgianna Ravenna (PhD, Texas Tech University, member)
2023	Khaleel Abusal (PhD, Texas Tech University, chair)
2022	Anastasia Coles (PhD, Texas Tech University, member)
2022	Yilan Liu (PhD, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, member)

MA students

in progress	Jamal Hossain (MA, Texas Tech University, member)
2022	Shannon Cearley (MA, Texas Tech University, chair)
2019	Tate Quinn (MA, Texas Tech University, chair)
2019	Marcus Roberts (MA, Texas Tech University, chair)
2016	Mikhaela Köhlo (MA, Rhodes University, external member)
2015	Neal Durbin (MA, Texas Tech University, member)
2014	Amy Huff (MA, Texas Tech University, member)

Service

Reviewing	Papers: *Asian and African Languages and Linguistics* (special issue on phonetic typology, 2023), *Journal of Phonetics* (2014, 2016, 2023), *Wiley Blackwell Companion to Diachronic Linguistics* (2023), *Phonology* (2022), *Laboratory Phonology* (2016, 2018×2, 2019, 2020), *Language and Speech* (2020, 2021), *Handbook of Click Languages* (2019), *Journal of Morphology* (2019), *Linguistics Vanguard* (2019), *Glossa* (2016), *Phonetica* (2015), *Lingua* (2015), *SALALS* (special issue on phonetics and phonology in Bantu, 2015), *Prosody Matters: Essays in Honor of Elisabeth Selkirk* (2012).
	Conferences: Laboratory Phonology (2022), Annual Meeting on Phonology (2016, 2017, 2018, 2020, 2022), LSA Annual Meeting (2014).
2019–present	Director of Linguistics, Texas Tech University.
2020–2023	Director of Undergraduate Studies for Literature, Creative Writing, and Linguistics. Department of English, Texas Tech University.

2016–2019	Texas Tech Arts and Sciences Committee on Academic Programs (college curriculum committee).
2015–2020	Secretary, Texas Tech Department of Undergraduate Studies Committee.
2014–present	Texas Tech Department of English Technology Committee.
2014	Workshop organizer, *Appealing to an international audience: Writing abstracts and articles for international journals*. (With Will Bennett and Seunghun J. Lee). University of Venda, Thohoyandou, Limpopo, South Africa.
2006–2007	Editorial Assistant to Editor in Chief Joan Maling, *NLLT*.

Computer skills

programming	Praat scripting, R scripting, JavaScript, SQL
web	HTML, CSS, PHP, JavaScript
software	R, Praat, PsychoPy, Superlab, Audacity
other	LaTeX, XᴇLaTeX, *nix

Professional memberships

Linguistic Society of America, Association for Laboratory Phonology

Last updated: December 2023