

Diti Bhadra

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RESEARCH

Specialization: formal semantic, syntactic, and pragmatic theories and their interfaces.

Interests: questions, perspective-sensitivity, indexicals, quantificational variability, concealed questions, disjunction, ellipsis, epistemic modality, evidentiality, clausal complementation/factivity/veridicality, discourse particles

Fieldwork: Q-particles, unaccusativity, unergativity, participials, epistemic modals, evidentials.

EMPLOYMENT

Fall 2019— Assistant Professor, University of Minnesota
 Institute of Linguistics

Jan 2018 - June Lecturer, Harvard University
2019 Department of Linguistics

Fall 2017 Lecturer, Princeton University
 Program in Linguistics

Fall 2017 Lecturer, Rutgers University
 Department of Linguistics

EDUCATION

2011-17 Rutgers University, Ph.D., Linguistics
 Dissertation: *Evidentiality and Questions: Bangla at the Interfaces*
 Co-Chairs: Mark Baker and Veneeta Dayal
 Committee Members: Anthony Gillies, Valentine Hacquard
 New Brunswick, NJ.

- 2011-17 Certificate in Cognitive Science
Project Supervisor: Anthony Gillies
New Brunswick, NJ.
- 2009-11 Jawaharlal Nehru University, M.A., Linguistics
Thesis: *Participials, Unaccusativity and Unergativity in Dhundari*
Chair: Ayesha Kidwai
New Delhi, India
- 2006-09 Lady Shri Ram College, B.A., English Literature
New Delhi, India

PAPERS and BOOK CHAPTERS

- 2018 Evidentials are syntax-sensitive: The view from Bangla.
Glossa: a journal of general linguistics, 3(1), 106.
- To appear Evidentiality
an invited contribution in D. Altshuler (ed.), *Linguistics Meets Philosophy*
Cambridge University Press.
- Under Revision The dynamics of evidentials in questions
Submitted to *Journal of Semantics*. 50pp.
- Ms. Embedded Alternatives and Alternative Questions
Submitted. 47pp.
- 2018 Questioning speech acts.
with Jess Law and Haoze Li
Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 22
- 2016 Bangla Negative Polarity Items: A Detailed Study.
with Bidisha Bhattacharjee, Madhumanti Datta & Yangchen Roy.
Indian Linguistics, 77 (1-2), 79-102.
- 2016 Uttering evidentials without evidence.
Proceedings of ConSOLE XXIV, 1-18.

2016 Epistemic modals under attitudes in questions
Ms. Cognitive Science Certificate Project, Rutgers University.

2015 The Syntax of Q in Manipuri Wh-questions
Ms. Rutgers University Qualifying Paper II.

INVITED TALKS

May 2019 *Questions with and about disjunction*
Semantics of African, Asian, and Austronesian Languages (TripleA6)
Organized by the MIT Department of Linguistics.

March 2019 *Questions are multidimensional: evidence from perspective-sensitivity*
University of Minnesota Linguistics Colloquium Series
Institute of Linguistics, University of Minnesota.

May 2018 *Where is Perspective-Sensitivity Headed?*
Clause-Typing & the Syntax-Discourse Relation in Head-Final
Languages
Organized by University of Konstanz, Germany.

November 2017 *Coordinates of a Finite Clause*
Seminar on Addressees (taught by Bill Haddican)
The City University of New York (CUNY).

November 2016 *Evidentials in Biased Questions*
Semantics Group Meeting
New York University.

TEACHING

Spring 2019 Advanced Seminar: Semantics of Questions
Co-teaching with Gennaro Chierchia
Harvard University

Ling 99b: Senior Thesis-Writing Seminar
Harvard University

	Ling 101: Introduction to the Science of Language Harvard University
Fall 2018	Graduate Semantic Theory I Harvard University
	Ling 99a: Senior Thesis-Writing Seminar Harvard University
Spring 2018	Linguistics 117r: Field Methods Harvard University
	Linguistics 101: The Science of Language Harvard University
Fall 2017	Ling 461: Linguistics of Sign Languages Rutgers University
	Ling 471: Selected Topics in Linguistics Rutgers University
	LIN 201: Introduction to Language and Linguistics Preceptor for Christiane Fellbaum Princeton University
Summer 2016	Ling 201: Introduction to Linguistic Theory Rutgers University
Spring 2015	Ling 101: Introduction to Language Rutgers University
Fall 2014	Ling 101: Introduction to Language Rutgers University
Summer 2014	Ling 201: Introduction to Linguistic Theory Rutgers University
Spring 2014	Ling 201: Introduction to Linguistic Theory Rutgers University

Fall 2013 Ling 201: Introduction to Linguistic Theory
Teaching Assistant to Veneeta Dayal, Rutgers University

REFEREED PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 *Epistemic Modals, Deduction, and Factivity*
with Dora Mihoc & Anamaria Falaus
talk at SALT 29, UCLA.
- 2019 *Davidsonian and Kimian States in the Gerund-Copula Landscape*
with Arka Banerjee
Formal Approaches to South Asian Languages 9, Reed College,
Portland.
- 2019 *Domain Restrictions in Bangla Concealed Questions*
with Jon Ander Mendia
talk at the LSA 2019 Annual Meet, January 3-6, NYC.
- 2018 *Embedded Alternatives and Alternative Questions*
Formal Approaches to South-Asian Linguistics (FASAL) 8
Wichita State University, Kansas.
- 2017 *Questioning speech acts*
with Haoze Li & Jess Law
talk at the North-East Linguistic Society 48, Iceland.
- 2017 *Evidentials come in two shapes*
poster at the North-East Linguistic Society 48, Iceland.
- 2017 *Questioning speech acts (with Haoze Li & Jess Law)*
Sinn und Bedeutung 22, Germany.
- 2017 *Evidentials in Biased Questions*
Penn Linguistics Conference 41, UPenn.
- 2017 *Evidentiality, Bias, and Questions*
Formal Approaches to South Asian Languages 7, MIT.

- 2016 *To Flip or Not to Flip: Evidentials in Interrogatives*
Semantics of African, Asian and Austronesian Languages 3,
University of Tubingen.
- 2016 *Accessing non-accessible content: The case of the Bangla 'nishchoi'*
ConSOLE XXIV, University of York.
- 2015 *One Modal can Affect the Presupposition of Another*
2nd UCL Graduate Conference in Linguistics,
University College London.
- 2015 *The syntax of question particles in Manipuri Wh-questions*
Formal Approaches to South-Asian Languages 5, Yale University.
- 2013 *Bangla biased questions with 'naki'*
MACSIM, University of Maryland.
- 2013 *The semantics of epistemic bias in Bangla 'naki' questions*
Formal Approaches to South-Asian Languages (FASAL)-3, USC.
- 2012 *Restricted Null Object parameter and V-stranding VPE in Bangla*
South Asian Languages: Theory, Typology, and Diachrony,
Yale University.
- 2011 *Reduplication in Bangla*
South Asian Languages Analysis Roundtable 29, CIIL Mysore.
- 2011 *Grammatical Aspect and Reduplication in Bangla*
Students' Conference of Linguistics in India 5,
University of Hyderabad.
- 2010 *A Comparative Study of Bangla and Assamese Classifier Systems*
with Madri Kakoti
Students' Conference of Linguistics in India 4, University of Mumbai.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2019 Harvard University Certificate of Teaching Excellence (Derek Bok Center) for 'Semantic Theory I' (graduate-level introduction to semantics, Fall 2018)
- 2016-17 Mellon Dissertation Fellowship
The Andrew Mellon Foundation.
- 2016 & 2015 TA/GA Professional Development Fund for fieldwork in 4 language families across India.
- 2015-16 Excellence Fellowship for Doctoral Study
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Rutgers University.
- 2015 Special Study Award for attending an advanced summer school in Linguistics in India.
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Rutgers University.
- 2013 Mellon Summer Research Grant for fieldwork in the understudied Tibeto-Burman language, Meiteilon.
The Andrew Mellon Foundation.
- 2012 Special Study Award for fieldwork in the understudied Indo-Aryan language, Dhundhari.
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Rutgers University.
- 2011-13 Excellence Fellowships for Doctoral Study, Rutgers University
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Rutgers University.
- 2011 Junior Research Fellowship (UGC-NET JRF)
University Grants Commission, India
(awarded to the top 10% of students taking the competitive NET exam.)

FIELDWORK

Winter 2015 &
Summer 2016

Epistemic modals in neutral contexts (30 speakers)

Intensive fieldwork across 4 language families in India:
Hindi, Bangla (Indo-Aryan), Manipuri/Meiteilon (Tibeto-Burman),
Tamil (Dravidian), Santhali (Austro-Asiatic).

Methodology:

- (i) Detailed questionnaires for literate native speakers.
- (ii) Recording verbal interviews with illiterate native speakers.
- (iii) Separate interviews within the literate & illiterate speaker groups according to age-criteria.
- (iv) follow-up recordings with literate native speakers to determine the nuances of their judgments received on paper.

Supported by the TA/GA Professional Development Fund.
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Rutgers University.

2013-14

Q-Particles in Manipuri (Meiteilon) Wh-questions (5 speakers)

Methodology:

- (i) Detailed questionnaires for 5 literate native speakers from Manipur, India.
- (ii) Data elicited mostly over email over the period of a year.
- (iii) Follow-up elicitation sessions with each speaker over email.

Supported by a Teaching Assistantship, Rutgers Graduate School.
Results written up as a department-internal Qualifying Paper.

Summer 2013

Evidentials in Manipuri (Meiteilon) (5 speakers)

Methodology:

In-person elicitation tasks with literate native speakers from Manipur, India, with the aid of detailed questionnaires.

Supported by the Mellon Summer Research Grant,
Andrew Mellon Foundation.

Summer 2012 **Participials and Unergativity in Dhundari (2 speakers)**

Fieldwork conducted as a follow-up to the fieldwork done for the 2011 Master's thesis.

Methodology:
In-person elicitation tasks with native speakers from Rajasthan, India, with the aid of detailed questionnaires.

Supported by the Special Study Award, Rutgers Graduate School.

SERVICE

2018-2019 Manuscript Reviewer:
Linguistics and Philosophy
Journal of Semantics
Glossa

2017 & 2018 Abstract Reviewer:
NELS 50
WCCFL 38
FASAL 9
LSA 2019 Annual Meet
FASAL 8
WCCFL 36
SALA 34
HFL 2018
NASSLLI 2016
FASAL 4
MACSIM IV

2016 & 2017 International TA Orientation Leader
(led discussions with new international students about being an instructor in the American classroom)
Invited twice by the Graduate School Dean, Rutgers University.

2016 Organizing Committee member
North American Summer School on Logic, Language, and Information.

2016-17 Co-Organizer, Rutgers Semantics Group (SURGE).

2014-16 Co-Organizer, Rutgers Syntax Group (ST@R)

- 2014 Organizing Committee member
Formal Approaches to South Asian Languages, FASAL 4.
- 2014 Organizing Committee member
Mid-Atlantic Colloquium of Studies in Meaning, MACSIM IV.
- 2013 Judge at the Undergraduate Research Symposium
Aresty Research Center, Rutgers University.
- 2012-13 Co-Organizer, Linguistics Colloquium Series
Rutgers University.

SUMMER SCHOOLS

- 2015 **LISSIM-9** (Linguistics Summer School in the Indian Mountains)
selection based on essays and interviews. Solang Valley, India.
- Theme: Negation and Modality
Invited instructors: Chris Collins, Hedde Zeijlstra, Utpal Lahiri
- 2013 **LISSIM-7** (Linguistics Summer School in the Indian Mountains)
selection based on essays and interviews. Kangra Valley, India.
- Theme: Syntactic Variation
Invited instructors: David Adger, Sjef Barbiers, Hilda Koopman, Julie Legate, Charles Yang
- 2011 **LISSIM-5** (Linguistics Summer School in the Indian Mountains)
selection based on essays and interviews. Kangra Valley, India.
- Theme: Nanosyntax, Clause-structure, Word Order
Invited instructors: Zeljko Boskovic, Norvin Richards, Michal Starke

LANGUAGES AND SKILLS

Bengali / Bangla (native)
Hindi (fluent)
English (fluent)
French (basic - DELF A1, DELF A2 at Alliance Française, New Delhi)

LaTeX (advanced)
HTML, CSS (intermediate)
Praat (intermediate)
OT Workplace (intermediate)
R (basic)

REFERENCES

Dr. Veneeta Dayal

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Dr. Mark Baker

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