

Sarah Ouwayda

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Highlights

Research areas: Syntax, Semantics, Typology, Computational Modeling
General Linguistics

Keywords: Nouns, Plural, Numerals, Count-Mass distinction, Collective-Distributive interpretations, Possessives, Modals, Imperatives

Education

- 2014** **Ph.D. in Linguistics** **University of Southern California**
Thesis: *Where Number Lies: Plural marking, numerals, and the collective-distributive distinction*
Committee: Hagit Borer (advisor, chair), Roumyana Pancheva (chair), Irene Heim, Audrey Li, Kevin Van Bladel
- 2012-2013** **Visiting Research Associate** **Queen Mary University of London**
Linguistics Department (Supervisor: Hagit Borer)
- 2011** **Visiting PhD student** **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**
Linguistics Department (Supervisor: Sabine Iatridou)
- 2009 (May)** **M.A. in Linguistics** **University of Southern California**
Linguistics Department
Thesis: Semantics of Semitic Construct State Nominals
Committee: Hagit Borer (advisor), Barry Schein (chair)
- 2008** **Foreign-Language Assistant Lecturer Training**
Language Center **University of Southern California**
- 2007 (June)** **Bachelor of Engineering,** **American University of Beirut**
Major: Computer and Communications Engineering
Minors: English Language, Cognitive Science, Psychology

Employment

- 2013-2015** **Post-Doctoral Research Associate** **University of Geneva**
Theoretical and Computational Linguistics
- 2014-Pres.** **Assistant Editor** **Journal of Computational Linguistics**
- 2008-2012** **Assistant Lecturer** **University of Southern California**
Designed and taught language classes at all levels

Publications

- Ouwayda, Sarah and Ur Shlonsky (2015) "Order in the DP! On word order and the structure of the DP" *Linguistic Society of America ExtAbs*, e-Language.
- Ouwayda, Sarah (2014) "Where number lies: plural marking, numerals, and the collective-distributive distinction", Ph.D. Thesis, University of Southern California (USC Digital Library)
- Ouwayda, Sarah (2014) "Composing additive complex numerals in the DP". *The proceedings of WECOL 2013*, Arizona State University
- Ouwayda, Sarah (2013) "Where Plurality Is: Agreement and DP Structure". In Principal Eds. Stefan Keine & Shayne Sloggett: *Proceedings of NELS 42*. GLSA Publications: Amherst, MA.
- Ouwayda, Sarah (2012) "Cardinals Without Plurality". In *Chernilovskaya, Anna, Ana Aguilar Guevara, and Rick Nouwen (eds.) Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 16*, Massachusetts Institute of Technology WPL publications
- Ouwayda, Sarah (2012) "On Construct State Nominals: Evidence for a predicate approach". In G. Zuckermann (ed.), *Burning Issues in Afro-Asiatic Linguistics* Cambridge Scholars.
- Ouwayda, Sarah (2012) "Construct State Nominals as Semantic Predicates". In R. Bassiouney and G. Katz (eds.), *Arabic Language and Linguistics*, Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press.
- Byram, Mary, Sarah Ouwayda, Chuoying Ouyang, Bin Yin, Canan Ipek, Lisa Marston and Aaron Walker (2011) Editors of the proceedings of the 28th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics.
<https://sites.google.com/site/wccfl28pro>
- Ouwayda, Sarah (2010) "Contrast Preservation in dialects of Northern Levantine Arabic", *Linguistic Society of America ExtAbs*, e-Language

Work In Progress:

- Ouwayda, Sarah (In Prep) "Actuality Entailment and Epistemic Modality"
- Ouwayda, Sarah and Paola Merlo (In Prep) 'Structure and Movement Effects on Universal 20 Word Order Frequencies: a Quantitative Study' Article in preparation for submission to *Lingua*
- Ouwayda, Sarah (In Prep) 'Semantics and Syntax of Complex Numerals'
- Ouwayda, Sarah and Xiao He (In Prep) 'Lexical, Pragmatic, and Syntactic Influences on Mass and Count interpretations.'

Invited talks

- 2015 University of Manchester: Perfective Aspect is Trouble for All Kinds of modals (April 14th, 2015)
- California State University, Fullerton: Syntax and Semantics of the noun phrase in Arabic (January 23rd, 2015)
- 2014 University of Goettingen: *Singular with Numerals: The role of the DP in collective interpretations* (January 15th, 2014)
- University of Geneva: *Numerals and Universal 20*, Seminaire de Recherche (October 28th, 2014)
- 2013 University of Geneva: *Where plurality is: Distributive and Collective Interpretations* (October 15th, 2013)
- University of Tennessee, Knoxville: *When "Thirty Boys" is Singular: Interpretation of Arabic Number* (February)
- 2011 *Two types of 'plural' in Nouns: Counting and Agreeing*, Leiden University, Netherlands [Leiden Syntax Lab] (November)

Conference presentations

- 2015 *Order! DP structure and word order*. Generative Linguistics in the Old World (GLOW 38), April 2015, Paris, France (with Ur Shlonsky)
- *Order in the DP!* Paper presented at the 2015 Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, January 2015, Portland, USA (with Ur Shlonsky)
- 2014 *All Clitics are Born Equal: A Unified Account of Clitics*. Paper presented at the 2014 VariaForMea in December 2014 at Maccolin, Switzerland (With Alina Tigau)
- *Making of Complex Numerals: How Linguistic Is It?* Poster presented at the Conférence Universitaire de Suisse Occidentale on the interaction between syntax, phonology, and discourse: topics and topicalization, in March 2014, in Ovronnaz, Switzerland.
- 2013 *Alfu Laylah wa Laylah: Composition of Additive Complex Numerals*, Paper to be presented at the International Conference of Linguistics, November 2013, Petra, Jordan
- *Composing Additive Complex Numerals in the DP*, Paper presented at the Western Conference On Linguistics, Nov. 2014, Arizona, USA

- *Re-Quantity Judgment: All Mass DPs Can Count, All Count DPs Must.* Paper presented at the Countability Workshop, September 2013, Dusseldorf, Germany
- *Lebanese Arabic Mass Plurals: Neither Mass Nor Plurals.* Poster presented at the 19th International Congress of Linguists, July 2013, Geneva, Switzerland
- *Oils and Waters: On Lebanese Arabic Mass Plurals.* Paper presented at presented at the Linguistics Society of America Annual Meeting, January 2013, Boston, USA.
- 2012 *Plural Marking as a Count Morpheme in Lebanese Arabic.* Paper presented at the Illinois Symposium on Semitic Linguistics. University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, November 2012, US
- *Malayalam -kaL is Plural, English 'Plural Marking' is Not.* Paper presented at the Formal Approaches to South Asian Languages (FASAL), Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA [w/ M. Menon]
- *Plural Projection Without Plural Marking: Evidence from Agreement.* Paper to be presented at the third Annual Tampa Workshop on Syntax, Semantics, and Phonology (TAW), University of South Florida, Tampa, USA
- *Usual Plural, Unusual Plural.* Paper presented at the California University Semantics and Pragmatics IV. University of Southern California, USA
- 2011 *Where Plurality Is: Agreement and DP Structure.* Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS 42), University of Toronto, Canada
- Cardinals, Agreement, and Plurality in Lebanese Arabic.* Paper presented at Sinn und Bedeutung (SuB 16), Utrecht University, Netherlands
- 2010 *Count vs. Cardinal plural in Arabic,* Paper presented at the Brill Annual on Afro-Asiatic Languages and Linguistics (BAALL), Université Paris Diderot, France [w/ H Borer]
- *A Perfect Triangle: Perfective, Imperfective, and Epistemic Modality.* California University Semantics and Pragmatics III. Stanford University, USA

- *Men and their Apples: Count plural and Cardinal plural in Arabic.* Paper presented at the Generative Linguistics in the Old World in Asia (GLOW Asia 8), Beijing, China [w/ H Borer]
- *Predicate Approach to Constructs: Evidence from Arabic,* Paper presented at the Georgetown University Round Table (GURT 2010), "Arabic Language and Linguistics", Georgetown, Washington DC, USA
- *Contrast Preservation in dialects of North Levantine Arabic.* Poster presented at the 2010 Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Baltimore, Maryland, USA
- 2009 *Construct State Nominals: For a Predicate Approach.* California University Semantics and Pragmatics II. University of California, Santa Cruz, USA
- *'akala l-waladu tuffaHata akheehi' Semitic Construct States: A Relational Analysis.* Paper presented at the Australian Workshop on Afro-Asiatic Linguistics (AWAAL), Brisbane, Australia
- *Men and their Apples: Comments on Arabic Plurals.* Paper presented at the Australian Workshop on Afro-Asiatic Linguistics (AWAAL), Brisbane, Australia [w/ H Borer]

Workshops and Department talks

- 2014 Syntax & Semantics of Numerals, Syntax and Wine, University of Geneva (September)
- 2013 Numeral containing DPs and collective interpretation, PGDG, Queen Mary University of London (January)
- 2012 The Mass-Like Behavior of Plurals of Mass LF Reading Group (LFRG), Massachusetts Institute of Technology (March)
- 2011 Cardinals, Agreement, Plurality, and the DP, Ling-Lunch, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (April)
- Cardinals without plurality, LF Reading Group (LFRG), Massachusetts Institute of Technology (April)
- 2010 What Plurals Tells us about Cardinals, Syntax+, University of Southern California (September)

- Doing away with To-Do lists: A discussion of second and third person imperatives, SemPra (Semantics and Pragmatics), University of Southern California (March)
- 2009 Men and their Apples: Comments on Arabic Plurals, Syntax+, University of Southern California. [w/ H Borer] (September)
- Semitic Construct States: A Relational Analysis, Syntax+, University of Southern California. (September)
- Semitic Construct States: Data from Lebanese Arabic, 10th Annual Linguistics Student Workshop. University of Southern California. (May)
- Semitic Construct States: Observations on Adjectives, SemPra (Semantics and Pragmatics), University of Southern California. (March)

Awards

- 2012 Dornsife College Dissertation Completion Fellowship: Fall 2012 and Spring 2013, USC
- Gold Family Fellowship: Summer 2012, USC
- North American Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information (NASSLLI 2012) Scholarship, UT Austin
- 2011 Advanced Year Merit Fellowship, Dornsife College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences, USC
- Summer Language Study Award, Middle East Studies Program, USC
- Funding to attend the ESSLLI summer school, Linguistics Department, USC
- 2009 National Conference Travel Award, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, USC
- 2009 International Students Academic Achievement Award, USC
- Graduate Merit Fellowship, USC College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences, USC
- Department Scholarship to attend the LSA summer institute, Linguistics Department USC
- 2007 Margaret Eldridge Endowed Fellowship, USC College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences

Teaching

Fall 2014	32C1120	Grammar of a specific language: Lebanese Arabic Co-taught with Ur Shlonsky, University of Geneva
April 2014	Workshop	Introduction to Semantics Tutorial (2 x 2 hours) Given to the Computational Linguistics & Computational Learning group, University of Geneva
Spring 2012	MDES 152	Arabic II (Instructor of record), University of Southern California
October 2010	Workshop	Transfer and English as a Second Language Professional Development Day, RSOE language academy University of Southern California
October 2010	Workshop	USIL Language Workshop University of Southern California
Fall 2010	LING 222	Arabic III (Instructor of record), University of Southern California
Sum. 2010	ENGL 228	Phonetics (Instructor of record) American University of Beirut
Spring 2010	LING 152	Arabic II (Instructor of record), University of Southern California
Fall 2009	LING 122	Arabic I (Instructor of record) University of Southern California
Fall 2008	LING 122	Arabic I (Instructor of record) University of Southern California
2004-2005	EECE 230	Introduction to Programming (Lab Teaching Assistant), American University of Beirut

Guest lectures

2011	<i>Psycholinguistics</i> (on: <i>Language Innateness</i>), LING 406 - Psycholinguistics, University of Southern California. [Instructor: Michael Shepherd]
2010	<i>Morphology</i> (on: <i>Compounds</i>), LING 466 - Word and Phrase Origins, USC. [Instructor: Michael Shepherd]

- *Semantics (on: Modification)*, LING 534 - Logic and Theory of Meaning, USC. [Instructor: Elena Guerzoni]
- *Semantics (on: Imperatives)*, LING 636 - Seminar in Semantics, USC. [Instructor: Elena Guerzoni]
- 2009 *Syntax (on: Arabic and the Mass-Count distinction)*, LING 537 - Advanced Syntax, USC. [Instructor: Jean-Roger Vergnaud]

Service

Served as reviewer for:

- Natural Language and Linguistic Theory (2013 impact factor 1.224)
 - Linguistic Inquiry (2013 impact factor: 1.381)
 - Lingua (5-year impact factor: 0.917)
 - Brill Annual on Afro-Asiatic Languages and Linguistics
 - Studia Linguistica
 - Generative Linguistics in the Old World (GLOW 37), 2014
 - Generative Linguistics in the Old World (GLOW 38), 2015
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- 2014-2015 Organizer of *Syntax & Wine*, an informal biweekly meeting to discuss ongoing research of department members working in the areas of syntax and semantics.
 - 2013-2015 Webmaster for the Computational Linguistics and Computational Learning research Group website
 - 2012 Organizer of the California University Semantics and Pragmatics Meeting, which took place at the University of Southern California
 - 2012 Founder, The Nominal Group at USC (Research group)
Organizer, California University Semantics and Pragmatics Workshop
 - 2011 *Co-editor*, WCCFL 28 online proceedings
 - 2010 I have served on the abstract selection committee for the West Coast Conference in Formal Linguistics 28, USC (12.5% acceptance rate)
 - 2009-2011 *Webmaster/maintenance*, The SCROLL, Syntax+, SemPra
 - 2009-2011 *Co-director of publications*, Graduate Students in Linguistics, USC
 - Fall 2010 *GSIL-Faculty liaison*, USC Linguistics department
 - 2008-2010 *Coordinator*, USC Arabic Conversation Table
 - 2009-2010 *Webmaster*, West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics 28

- 2008-2009 *Co-President, USC Graduate Students in Linguistics*
- 2008-2010 *Organizing committee, USC Linguistics Student Workshop*

Professional Memberships

- 2013-Present Computational Linguistics and Computational Learning: Research Group at the University of Geneva
- 2006-Present Linguistics Society of America
- 2011-2012 The Nominal Research Group, University of Southern California

Languages

- Native Lebanese Arabic
- Near-Native Standard Arabic
- English
- French
- Intermediate Spanish
- Basic German
- Research Hebrew and the different varieties of Arabic

Summer Schools

- 2014 European Summer School in Language Logic and Information
University of Tübingen
- 2012 North American Summer School in Language Logic and Information
University of Texas, Austin
- 2010 European Summer School in Language Logic and Information
University of Ljubljana
- 2009 LSA Summer Institute
University of California, Berkeley