

Dr. Brandon Prickett

bprickett@umass.edu

EDUCATION

| | |
|------------------|---|
| <i>2015-2021</i> | PhD Linguistics University of Massachusetts Amherst |
| <i>2014-2015</i> | MA Linguistics University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill |
| <i>2010-2014</i> | BA (Honors) Linguistics University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill |
| <i>2010-2014</i> | BA (Honors) Archaeology University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill |

EMPLOYMENT

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <i>January 2023-Present</i> | Lecturer , University of Massachusetts Amherst |
| <i>August 2020-Present</i> | Instructor , The Potter's School |
| <i>August 2021-August 2022</i> | Research Fellow , University of Massachusetts Amherst Grant PI: Joe Pater |
| <i>June 2019-August 2019</i> | Research Intern , BBN Technologies Supervisors: Matthew Snover, William Hartmann |

TEACHING (UNIVERSITY COURSES)

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <i>January 2026-Present</i> | Primary Instructor Programming with AI for the Humanities |
| <i>August-December 2025</i> | Co-Instructor The Structure of English for Language Teaching Taught with: Joe Pater |
| <i>January-May 2025</i> | Primary Instructor Data Science for Linguistics |
| <i>August-December 2024</i> | Primary Instructor Data Science for Linguistics |
| <i>January-May 2024</i> | Primary Instructor The Structure of English for Language Teaching |
| <i>January-May 2024</i> | Co-Instructor Introduction to Phonology Taught with: Michael Becker |
| <i>August-December 2023</i> | Co-Instructor Introduction to Phonology Taught with: Michael Becker |
| <i>August-December 2023</i> | Co-Instructor Writing for Linguists Taught with: Magda Oiry |
| <i>January-May 2023</i> | Primary Instructor Introduction to Computational Linguistics |
| <i>January-May 2019</i> | Primary Instructor How Language Works |

TEACHING (HIGH SCHOOL COURSES)

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| <i>August 2023-Present</i> | Primary Instructor AP Computer Science A (Advanced Programming in Java) |
| <i>August 2022-Present</i> | Primary Instructor AP Computer Science Principles |
| <i>August 2022-Present</i> | Primary Instructor Computer Programming in Java |
| <i>August 2020-Present</i> | Primary Instructor Web Site Design and Customization: HTML and CSS |

JOURNAL PAPERS

| | |
|------|--|
| 2025 | Prickett, Brandon and Pater, Joe. “Learning and generalizing stress patterns with a sequence-to-sequence neural network”. <i>Linguistics Vanguard</i> . |
| 2025 | Jarosz, Gaja, Cerys Hughes, Andrew Lamont, Brandon Prickett , Maggie Baird, Seoyoung Kim, and Max Nelson. Type and token frequency jointly drive learning of morphology. <i>Journal of Memory and Language</i> 144. |
| 2023 | Prickett, Brandon . Probabilistic Feature Attention as an alternative to variables in phonotactic learning. <i>Linguistic Inquiry</i> 54 (2): 219–249. |
| 2022 | Prickett, Brandon , Aaron Traylor, & Joe Pater. Learning reduplication with a neural network that lacks explicit variables. <i>Journal of Language Modelling</i> , 10(1). |
| 2021 | Prickett, Brandon . Modeling a Subregular Bias in Phonological Learning with Recurrent Neural Networks. <i>Journal of Language Modelling</i> , 9(1). |
| 2019 | Prickett, Brandon . Learning biases in opaque interactions. <i>Phonology</i> 36, no. 4: 627-653. |
| 2017 | Moreton, Elliott, Jennifer L. Smith, Katya Pertsova, Rachel Broad, and Brandon Prickett . Emergent positional faithfulness in novel English blends. <i>Language</i> 93(2), 347-380. |
| 2014 | Vin Steponaitis and Brandon Prickett . The Natchez Fort at Sicily Island, Louisiana. Dennis Jones [ed.], <i>Louisiana Archaeology</i> , No. 41. |

CONFERENCE PROCEEDING PAPERS

| | |
|------|--|
| 2026 | Partridge, Virginia, Joe Pater, Parth Bhangla, Ali Nirheche, and Brandon Prickett . Automated phonetic transcription for varieties of English: wav2vec 2.0 fine-tuned on the Buckeye Corpus. <i>Proceedings of the Annual Meetings on Phonology</i> , 2(1). |
| 2025 | Pertsova, Katya, Elliott Moreton, Josh Fennell, and Brandon Prickett . Base Rate Neglect in Linguistic Category Learning. <i>Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society</i> , 47. |
| 2025 | Prickett, Brandon . Explaining differences between phonotactic learning biases in the lab and typological trends using Probabilistic Feature Attention. <i>Proceedings of the 2025 meeting of Society for Computation in Linguistics</i> . |

- 2025 **Prickett, Brandon**, Tianyi Niu, and Katya Pertsova. Probing Neural Network Generalization using Default Patterns. *Proceedings of the 22nd SIGMORPHON workshop*.
- 2025 Pertsova, Katya, **Brandon Prickett**, and Esther Chen. Effects of Frequency and Distribution on Learning Minority Defaults. *Proceedings of the 2023 and 2024 Annual Meetings on Phonology*.
- 2025 **Prickett, Brandon**. Explaining Sour Grapes Harmony's Unattestedness with Agent-Based Modeling. *Proceedings of the 41st West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*.
- 2023 **Prickett, Brandon**. Is Sour Grapes Learnable? A Computational and Experimental Approach. *Proceedings of the 2022 Annual Meeting on Phonology*.
- 2022 Pater, Joe and **Brandon Prickett**. Typological gaps in iambic nonfinality correlate with learning difficulty. *Proceedings of the 2021 Annual Meeting on Phonology*.
- 2022 **Prickett, Brandon** and Joe Pater. Learning Stress Patterns with a Sequence-to-Sequence Neural Network. *Proceedings of the 2022 meeting of Society for Computation in Linguistics*.
- 2021 Nelson, Max, **Brandon Prickett**, and Joe Pater. Capturing phonotactic learning biases with a simple RNN. *Proceedings for the 2021 Workshop on Cognitive Modeling and Computational Linguistics*.
- 2021 **Prickett, Brandon** and Gaja Jarosz. Modeling the acquisition of phonological interactions: biases and generalization. *Proceedings of the 2020 Annual Meeting on Phonology*.
- 2021 **Prickett, Brandon**, Elliott Moreton, Katya Pertsova, Joshua Fennell, Joe Pater, and Lisa Sanders. Learning reduplication, but not syllable reversal. *Proceedings of the 2020 Annual Meeting on Phonology*.
- 2020 Nelson, Max, Hossep Dolatian, Jonathan Rawski, and **Brandon Prickett**. Probing RNN encoder-decoder generalization of subregular functions using reduplication. *Proceedings of the 2020 meeting of the Society for Computation in Linguistics*.
- 2020 **Prickett, Brandon**, Kaden Holladay, Shay Hucklebridge, Max Nelson, Rajesh Bhatt, Gaja Jarosz, Kyle Johnson, Aleksei Nazarov and Joe Pater. Learning syntactic parameters without triggers by assigning credit and blame. *Proceedings of the 55th annual meeting of the Chicago Linguistics Society*.
- 2019 Hughto, Coral, Andrew Lamont, **Brandon Prickett**, and Gaja Jarosz. Learning exceptionality and variation with lexically scaled MaxEnt. *Proceedings of the 2019 meeting of the Society for Computation in Linguistics*.
- 2018 **Prickett, Brandon**, Aaron Traylor, and Joe Pater. Seq2Seq Models with Dropout can Learn Generalizable Reduplication. *Proceedings of the 15th Meeting of SIGMORPHON*.
- 2018 **Prickett, Brandon**. Complexity and naturalness biases in phonotactics: Hayes and White (2013) revisited. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting on Phonology 2017*.

- 2017 **Prickett, Brandon.** Post-nasal devoicing as opacity: a problem for natural constraints. *Proceedings of the 35th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics.*
- 2015 Broad, Rachel, **Brandon Prickett**, Elliott Moreton, Katya Pertsova, and Jennifer L. Smith. Emergent faithfulness to proper nouns in novel English blends. *Proceedings of the 33rd West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics.*

INVITED TALKS AND LECTURES

- December 2025 **Modelling a Subregular Bias in Phonological Learning**
Talk for FLaNN (Formal Language and Neural Networks) Seminar
- March 2023 **Using Stress Patterns as a Benchmark for Phonological Learning**
Talk for *Computational Linguistics Brown Bag Seminar*
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- October 2022 **Testing Poverty of the Stimulus Arguments with Neural Networks**
Lecture for *Introduction to Computational Linguistics*
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- July 2022 **Testing Poverty of the Stimulus Arguments in Phonology**
Talk for *Language and Cognition Labs*
Stanford University

EDITED VOLUMES

- 2023 Hunter, Tim and **Brandon Prickett**, eds. *Proceedings of the 2023 meeting of the Society for Computation in Linguistics.*
- 2022 Ettinger, Allyson, Tim Hunter, and **Brandon Prickett**, eds. *Proceedings of the 2022 meeting of the Society for Computation in Linguistics.*
- 2021 Ettinger, Allyson, Ellie Pavlick, and **Brandon Prickett**, eds. *Proceedings of the 2021 meeting of the Society for Computation in Linguistics.*
- 2016 Hammerly, Christopher and **Brandon Prickett**, eds. *Proceedings of the Forty-Sixth Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society.*

SERVICE

- 2025 **Panel Member**
“Careers for Linguistics Majors” Panel Event
- 2023 **Co-Chair and Program Committee**
Society for Computation in Linguistics, 2023 Meeting
- 2022 **Co-Chair and Program Committee**
Society for Computation in Linguistics, 2022 Meeting
- 2021 **Program Committee**
Society for Computation in Linguistics, 2021 Meeting