

Chadi Ben Youssef

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER · CORPUS & COMPUTATIONAL LINGUISTICS

University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland

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Education

University of California, Santa Barbara

PH.D., LINGUISTICS

- Advisor: Stefan Th. Gries

Santa Barbara, CA, USA

2018 - 2024

University Paris 8, Vincennes – Saint-Denis

M.A., LINGUISTICS

- Advisor: Dylan Glynn

Saint-Denis, France

2015 - 2018

University Paris 8, Vincennes – Saint-Denis

B.A., ENGLISH PHILOLOGY (LLCE)

- Minor in Media and Cultural Studies

Saint-Denis, France

2012 - 2015

Professional Experience

Postdoctoral Researcher

DEPT. OF ENGLISH | UNIVERSITY OF NEUCHÂTEL

- Creating a model network of constructions from the COHA.
- Creating constructional profiles for lexical items.
- Data analysis.
- Publications.
- Advising PhD students.

Neuchâtel, Switzerland

2024-2028

Teaching Associate

DEPT. OF LINGUISTICS & DEPT. FRENCH | UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

- Designed teaching and assessment material.
- Lectured and/or conducted discussions.
- Designed activities and assignments using GitHub and GitHub classroom.
- Managed Teaching Assistants.

Santa Barbara, CA, USA

2021-2023

Graduate Student Researcher

COMPUTATIONAL PSYCHOLINGUISTICS OF LISTENING AND SPEAKING LAB (CPLS)

- Collected, managed, and curated data.
- Developed software.
- Conducted experiments.

Santa Barbara, CA, USA

2021-2022

Teaching Assistant

DEPT. OF LINGUISTICS & DEPT. OF FRENCH | UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

- Conducted discussion sections and labs.
- Held office hours.
- Graded assessment activities.

Santa Barbara, CA, USA

2019-2024

Chair's Assistant

DEPT. OF LINGUISTICS | UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

- Assisted in administrative, pedagogical, and research tasks.

Santa Barbara, CA, USA

2018-2019

Lecturer

DEPT. OF FRENCH & ITALIAN | UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

- Lectured on French language, linguistics, and literature.
- Graduate and undergraduate levels.

Santa Barbara, CA, USA

2016-2021

Research Assistant

LINGUISTIQUE EMPIRIQUE : COGNITION, SOCIÉTÉ ET LANGAGE (LECEL) | UNIVERSITY PARIS 8

- Managed, and curated data.

Saint-Denis, France

2015-2016

High School Instructor

ACADÉMIE DE CRÉTEIL

- Instructed English at high school level.

Académie de Créteil, France

2015-2016

Research Experience

Dept. of Linguistics | University of California, Santa Barbara

CA, USA

DISSERTATION WORK | SUPERVISOR: STEFAN TH. GRIES

2023-24

- Project: mMerge: a Corpus Linguistics informed Multi-Word Expression detection algorithm.
- Tasks: Algorithm development and optimization in Julia, Optimization of the corpus measures used, Research Assistants team management.
- Tools: Python, R, Julia.

Computational Psycholinguistics of Listening and Speaking Lab (CPLS)

CA, USA

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCHER (GSR) | SUPERVISOR: SIMON TODD

2021-22

- Project: language structure, attitudes, and learning from ambient exposure: Lexical and phonotactic knowledge of Spanish among non-Spanish-speaking Californians and Texans.
- Tasks: Data curation, Investigation, Methodology, Software, Writing – original draft, Writing – review & editing, Writing – additional material.
- Tools: Python, R, MTurk, HTML, JavaScript, language modeling.

Publications

PUBLISHED/ACCEPTED

Ben Youssef, C., & Gries, S. Th. (2023). Code-switching in Tunisian Arabic: a multifactorial random forest analysis. *Corpora*, 18(3). [Download here.](#)

Todd, S., **Ben Youssef, C.**, & Vasquez, A. (2023). Language structure, attitudes, and learning from ambient exposure: Lexical and phonotactic knowledge of Spanish among non-Spanish-speaking Californians and Texans. *PLoS ONE*, 18(4). [Download here.](#)

Willis, C., & **Ben Youssef, C.** (2023). Random bisexual forests: Intersections between gender, sexuality, and race in /s/ production. [Download here.](#)

IN PRESS

Ben Youssef, C., & de la Fuente, A. (in press). 'I wear combat boots on my tongue': a random forest analysis of stance taking and evaluation in the radical-right media.

SOFTWARE AND CORPORA

Ben Youssef, C. (unpublished). CorpusMetrics: Frequency, Dispersion, Association, and Entropy in text corpora with Julia [Julia Package].

Ben Youssef, C. (unpublished). The Savage Nation Conversations Corpus: a collection of semi-automatically transcribed phone conversations aired live in a radical-right radio show.

Presentations

INVITED TALKS

Ben Youssef, C. (2024). mMERGE: a corpus-driven algorithm for discovering Multiword Expressions. **Invited talk:** Linguistics department colloquium, University of California Santa Barbara, CA, USA.

Ben Youssef, C. (2024). Towards interpretable Machine Learning for linguistic analysis: the case of Code-Switching in a low resource language. **Job talk:** Statistics/Linguistics joint seminar, University of California Davis, CA, USA.

- Ben Youssef, C.** (2021). 'I wear combat boots on my tongue': a multivariate study of stance taking and evaluation in a radical-right radio show. **Invited talk:** Language Interaction and Social Organization (LISO) Colloquium, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA, USA.
- Ben Youssef, C.** (2019). Bridging the gap: discourse subtleties and quantitative study. Language, Race, and Ethnicity (class), University of California, Santa Barbara, CA, USA.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND POSTERS

- Ben Youssef, C.** & Gries, S. Th. (2023). Code-switching in Tunisian Arabic: a multifactorial random forest analysis. Oral presentation: Corpus Linguistics 23, Lancaster University, United Kingdom.
- Simon Todd, **Ben Youssef, C.**, & Alonso Vásquez-Aguilar. (2023). Attitudes moderate implicit knowledge of Spanish among non-Spanish-speaking Californians and Texans. Oral presentation: LSA 97th Annual Meeting, Denver, Co., USA.
- Chloe Willis, & **Ben Youssef, C.** (2023). Random bisexual forests: Intersections between gender, sexuality, and race in /s/ production. Oral presentation: LSA 97th Annual Meeting, Denver, Co., USA.
- Ben Youssef, C.** (2021). 'I wear combat boots on my tongue': A multivariate study of stance taking and evaluation in a radical-right radio show. Oral presentation: AILA 2021, Groningen, Netherlands.
- Ben Youssef, C.** & Gries, S. Th. (2021). Code-switching in Tunisian Arabic: a pilot study. Oral presentation: Corpus Linguistics 21, University of Limerick and Mary Immaculate College, Ireland.
- Ben Youssef, C.** (2019). Stance and Hyper-articulation: Vowel Space Expansion in Michael Savage's Stance Expression. Poster: New Ways of Analyzing Variation (NWA) 48, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR, USA.
- Ben Youssef, C.** (2019). 'I wear combat boots on my tongue': Pseudo-interaction, stance and style in the far-right media discourse. Oral presentation: LISO 25, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA, USA.
- Ben Youssef, C.** (2016). An Empirical approach to Critical Discourse Analysis: A multivariate study on the reproduction of the discourses of racism in the media. Oral presentation: AELCO 10, Madrid, Spain.

Teaching Experience

INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD

Fall 22	LING 102. Programming for Linguists , Teaching Associate	UCSB
Summer 22	LING 180. Language, Race, and Ethnicity , Teaching Associate	UCSB
Spring 22	FR 3. Elementary French , Lead TA	UCSB
Winter 22	LING 110. Foundations of Computational Linguistics , Teaching Associate	UCSB
Summer 21	FR 4. Intermediate French , Teaching Associate	UCSB

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Spring 24	LING 105. Predictive Modeling in Linguistics , Teaching Assistant	UCSB
S 20/23	LING 111. Advanced Computational Linguistics , Teaching Assistant	UCSB
W 20/23	LING 110. Foundations of Computational Linguistics , Teaching Assistant	UCSB
Fall 20/21	LING 102. Programming for Linguists , Teaching Assistant	UCSB
Spring 21	LING 120. Corpus Linguistics , Teaching Assistant	UCSB
S 20/W 24	LING 104. Statistical Methods in Linguistics , Teaching Assistant	UCSB
Summer 19	LING 180. Language, Race, and Ethnicity , Teaching Assistant	UCSB
Spring 19	LING 15. Language in Life , Teaching Assistant	UCSB

LECTURER

2018	FR 11A-B. French for Graduate Students , Lecturer	UCSB
2016-18	FR 1-6. Elementary and Intermediate French , Lecturer	UCSB

HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUCTOR

2015-16	English Second Language , Principal Teacher	France
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Awards, Fellowships, & Grants

2024	Postdoctoral Fellowship , Swiss National Science Foundation	350,000 CHF
2023	Graduate Student Association Excellence in Teaching Award , University of California UCSB	(nominated)
2022	Graduate Fellowship , Dept. of Linguistics, University of California UCSB	\$ 8,000
2021	Graduate Fellowship , Dept. of Linguistics, University of California UCSB	\$ 8,000
2020	Academic Senate Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award , University of California UCSB	(nominated)
2019	Departmental Grant , Dept. of Linguistics, University of California UCSB	\$ 1,000
2016	Exchange Fellow , University Paris 8 Vincennes – Saint-Denis	

Service & Professional Memberships

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

2025	Scientific Data , Reviewer	Nature
2024	Corpus Linguistics and Linguistic Theory , Reviewer	CLLT
2021	Department of Linguistics , Faculty Search Committee member	UCSB
2019-2020	Graduate Student Association , Department representative	UCSB
2019-2020	Department of Linguistics , Graduate students representative	UCSB
2015	Language in Contrast , Conference student assistant	Paris 8
2013-2014	Department of English , Chief editor of the dept. blog	Paris 8

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

since 2021	Computational Psycholinguistics of Listening and Speaking Lab (CPLS) , Member
since 2018	Linguistic Society of America , Member

Computer & Language Skills

COMPUTER SKILLS

Programming Languages: R, Python, Julia.

Scripting Languages: Bash, JavaScript.

Markup: HTML, XML, LaTeX, Markdown.

Educational tools: Github classroom, Moodle, Canvas.

LANGUAGES

(N)ative/(F)luent: Tunisian Arabic (N), French (N), MS Arabic (F), English (F).

Notions: German, Russian.

Mentoring

2024	Luke Dillon , Research Assistant/Collaborator, at UCSB
2024	Nana Richter , Research Assistant, at UCSB
2023	Josephine Kamavinga , Research Assistant, at UCSB
2023	Daniel Yeung , Research Assistant, at UCSB
2020-2021	Antón de la Fuente , Research Assistant/Collaborator, at UCSB
2020-2021	David Arriaza , Senior Thesis advisee, at UCSB
2018-2019	Erika Prado , Senior Thesis advisee, at UCSB