

Clara McMahon

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Address: 365 5th Avenue New York, NY 10016

Research Interests Syntax, Semantics, Pragmatics, Negation,
Slavic Linguistics, Psycholinguistics

Education **The Graduate Center, CUNY** New York, NY
Ph.D. in Linguistics 2022 – Present

Boston University Boston, MA
M.A. in Linguistics 2019 – 2022
GPA: 4.0

University of California, Los Angeles Los Angeles, CA
B.A. in French 2014 – 2018
Cum Laude GPA: 3.82

Publications **McMahon, C.** 2025. A Unified Syntactic Analysis of Double Negation in Slavic Languages. In X. Chen, S. Karakaş, & J. Shim (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 60th Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS)* (pp. 321-333, Vol. 60). Chicago Linguistic Society.

McMahon, C. 2024. Hella MUCH variation: Intensification in Northern California English, as seen through the South Bay. *Yale Working Papers in Grammatical Diversity* 6(1), 1-17.

Conference Presentations **McMahon, C.**, 2026. Factual Imperfectives in Russian: A picture-selection task. *Interdisciplinary Methodologies in Linguistic Research* (INTERMET) online seminar, the Institute of Polish Language of the Polish Academy of Sciences (IJPAN), Krakow, Poland. May 29.

Klimek-Jankowska, D., Gulowski, P., Kędzierska, H., **McMahon, C.**, Modina, V. & I. Sekerina. 2026. Negation Processing in Polish, Ukrainian, and Russian: Evidence from Eye-movements in Blank Screen Visual World Paradigm. Poster presented at *Psycholinguistics of Slavic Languages* (PsychoSlav), University of Zadar, Zadar, Croatia. May 28.

McMahon, C., Klimek-Jankowska, D. & I. Sekerina. 2026. Factual Imperfectives in Russian and Polish: A Picture Selection Task. Poster presented at *Psycholinguistics of Slavic Languages* (PsychoSlav), University of Zadar, Zadar, Croatia. May 27.

MacSwan, X.* & **McMahon, C.*** 2026. Is ‘Un’ Unlike ‘Not’, or Not? Poster presented at *Nothing But Negation Young Researchers’ Conference*, hosted by Negation in Language and Beyond (NegLaB), Frankfurt, Germany. May 7.

Modina, V.*, **McMahon, C.***, Klimek-Jankowska, D., Gulgowski, P., Kędzierska, H., & I. Sekerina. 2026. Aspect and Negation: Processing of Pragmatic Implicature in Russian and Polish. Poster presented at *Human Sentence Processing* (HSP) 39, MIT, Cambridge, MA. March 28.

McMahon, C. 2025. Negation and Predication in Slavic Languages. *Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics 34* (FASL), Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. May 16.

McMahon, C.* & Modina, V.* 2025. Interactions of Aspect and Negation in Russian and Polish: Evidence from the Visual World Paradigm. *The Workshop on Processing and Evaluating Event Representations* (PEER25), University of Rochester, Rochester, NY. April 18.

McMahon, C.* & Modina, V.* 2024. Aspect and Negation in Russian: A Visual World Paradigm experiment. Poster presented at *Psycholinguistics of Slavic Languages* (PsychoSlav), University of Wrocław, Wrocław, Poland. July 10.

McMahon, C. 2024. A Unified Syntactic Analysis of Double Negation in Slavic Languages. *60th Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society* (CLS). University of Chicago, Chicago, IL. April 27.

Kohut, A.* & **McMahon, C.*** 2023. Double Negation in Russian: Variation in the functional structure of PPs. *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 51* (NWAV), Queens College, New York, NY. October 14.

Kohut, A.* & **McMahon, C.*** 2023. Disambiguating Double and Single Negation Readings in Russian. *18th Annual Meeting of the Slavic Linguistic Society* (SLS), Bratislava, Slovakia, August 26.

Invited Talks

McMahon, C. 2025. Analyzing Predicate NCIs in Russian and Polish. CUNY Syntax Lab, New York, NY, March 5.

McMahon, C.*, Modina, V.*, Klimek-Jankowska, D. & I. Sekerina. 2024. Aspect, Negation, and the Visual World Paradigm: An investigation into Russian and Polish. Slavic Linguistics Colloquium (SlavLingColl), Humboldt University of Berlin, Berlin, Germany, December 19.

McMahon, C. 2024. Double Negation in Strict Negative Concord Languages: Analyzing constituent negation. *Yale Syntax Reading Group (Yale SynRG)*, New Haven, CT. March 29.

McMahon, C. 2023. Not Unavailable: Toward a complete analysis of double negation readings in Slavic languages. *Syntax near NYU (SynNYU)*, New York, NY. November 17.

Presentations

McMahon, C. 2023. Syntactic Variation in American English Dialects. Guest Lecture for ENGL 280-05: Structures of Modern English at Hunter College, New York, NY, November 20.

McMahon, C. & Pember, K. 2020. Much Ado About For Nothing: Challenging the Definition of Strict Negative Concord. *Boston University Linguistics Department Graduate Research Forum*, Boston, MA, November 11.

* denotes equal contribution

Teaching

Hunter College	New York, NY
Instructor of Record	Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Spring 2025,
<i>ENGL 28000: The Structure of Modern English</i>	Fall 2025, Spring 2026

Hunter College	New York, NY
Teaching Assistant	Fall 2023
<i>ENGL 28000: The Structure of Modern English</i>	
Instructor: Angela Reyes.	

Boston University	Boston, MA
Grader	Spring 2020
<i>LX 346: Language Variation and Change</i>	
Instructor: Danny Erker.	

Boston University	Boston, MA
Grader	Fall 2019
<i>LX 120: Language and Music</i>	
Instructor: Charles Chang and Danny Erker.	

Service

Reviewing

FDSL 18 (Formal Descriptions of Slavic Languages); CLS 61, 62 (Chicago Linguistic Society); SYNC 2024, 2025 (Stony Brook, Yale, NYU, and CUNY graduate student conference)

Conference Session Chairing

Syntax session at SYNC 2025 (Stony Brook, Yale, NYU, and CUNY graduate student conference)

Other Education

INTERMET Program 2025 Krakow, Poland
Interdisciplinary Methodologies in Linguistic Research. Funded through the Polish Academy of Sciences.

Eastern Generative Grammar (EGG) 2024 Braşov, Romania
Attended syntax and semantics classes.

Linguistic Society of America Summer School (LSA) 2019 Davis, CA
Hosted at UC Davis. Attended phonology, syntax, and semantics classes.

Skills

Programming
L^AT_EX, R, Python

Languages
English (native), French (fluent), German (basic), Dutch (basic),
Russian (basic), Arabic (basic)

Awards and Grants

INTERMET Travel Grant (\$1200)	2025
Doctoral Student Research Grant (DSRG) (\$950)	2024
Cairns Student Travel Award (\$200)	2023
Charles E. Townsend Memorial Award - Honorable Mention	2023
Slavic Linguistic Society Travel Grant (\$500)	2023
Phi Beta Kappa Member, UCLA Chapter	2019
UCLA Department of Music Partial Scholarship	2014-2016