

Maria Esipova

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Research interests

semantics, pragmatics, and their interfaces; truth-conditional vs. non-truth-conditional meaning; at-issue vs. not-at-issue meaning; questions et al. at the interfaces; event and situation descriptions at the interfaces; multi-channel expression of meaning; meaning and structure beyond language

Education

Degree-conferring

2014–2019 **PhD in Linguistics**, *New York University*, Department of Linguistics.

Dissertation: ‘Composition and projection in speech and gesture’

Dissertation committee: Lucas Champollion (Chair), Ailís Cournane, Kathryn Davidson, Stephanie Harves, Philippe Schlenker

2006–2011 **BA/MA (equivalent; with honors) in Linguistics and Intercultural Communication**, *Moscow State University*, Faculty of Foreign Languages and Area Studies.

Thesis: ‘Properties of reference in signed languages’ (in Russian)

Other

Summer 2017 **European Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information (ESSLLI)**, *University of Toulouse*.

Spring 2017 **Visiting student**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*, Department of Linguistics and Philosophy.

Summers 2010–2015 **The New York–St. Petersburg Institute of Linguistics, Cognition and Culture (NYI)**, *St. Petersburg State University*.

2011–2014 **PhD (equivalent; no degree conferred) in Historical, Typological and Comparative Linguistics**, *Moscow State University*, Faculty of Foreign Languages and Area Studies.

Employment

Full time

9/2022– **Postdoctoral Researcher**, *University of Konstanz*, Department of Linguistics.

9/2020–8/2022 **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow**, *University of Oslo*, Department of Linguistics and Scandinavian Studies, PI of EU project 891493 “GeMeTIC”.

9/2019–8/2020 **Postdoctoral Research Associate and Lecturer**, *Princeton University*, Program in Linguistics.

- 9/2012– **Linguist at ABBYY (linguistic software company), Moscow.**
 7/2014 I was on the ABBYY Compreno project, with a machine translator as one of the end products. I wrote natural and formal language descriptions of English and Russian technical vocabulary and performed error analysis of English–Russian machine translations.
- Part time
- 10/2018– **Graduate Assistant** to Lucas Champollion, *New York University.*
 5/2019 I was creating answer keys for the textbook ‘Formal Semantics Boot Camp’ by Coppock and Champollion and working on making linguistics materials more accessible as per the WSAG 2.0 standards.
- 9/2017– **Graduate Assistant** to Lucas Champollion, *New York University.*
 5/2018 I was the first author of the teaching materials for ‘Intro to Semantics’ and assisted Dr. Champollion in advising undergraduate students on their ‘Semantics II’ projects.
- 11/2016– **Research Assistant** to Maria Gouskova, *New York University.*
 1/2017 I assisted Dr. Gouskova in creating a database of Russian morphology.
- 8/2011– **English Language Teacher** at the Active English language school, *Moscow.*
 4/2013 I taught English as a second language to students of varied levels and backgrounds.

Papers

Journal publications

- 2022 Reprs and representations: a warm-up to a grammar of lifting. *Linguistics and Philosophy* (special issue ‘Super Linguistics’). DOI: 10.1007/s10988-022-09372-z
- 2021 On not-at-issueness in pictures. *Glossa: A Journal of General Linguistics* 6(1), 83. DOI: 10.5334/gjgl.1314
- 2019 Acceptability of at-issue co-speech gestures under contrastive focus. *Glossa: A Journal of General Linguistics* 4(1), 11. DOI: 10.5334/gjgl.635.
- 2018 QUD-addressing appositives don’t have to be clause-final. *Snippets* 33. DOI: 10.7358/snippet-2018-033-esip

Conference proceedings

- 2022 Kastner, Itamar, Hadas Kotek, Anonymous Anonymous, Rikker Dockum, Michael Dow, **Maria Esipova**, Caitlin Green, and Todd Snider. The Open Letter: Responses and Recommendations. In *Proceedings of the 96th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA)*, 7(1). DOI: 10.3765/plsa.v7i1.5257.
- 2021 Polar responses in Russian across modalities and across interfaces. *Journal of Slavic Linguistics* vol. 29, *Proceedings of Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics (FASL)* 28.
- 2021 What I will tell you about “matrix” wh-“exclamatives”! To appear in *Proceedings of West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL)* 39.
- 2020 Two types of verb fronting in Russian. In Ionin, Tania & Jonathan MacDonald (eds.), *Proceedings of Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics (FASL)* 26, pp. 75–92. Ann Arbor, MI: Michigan Slavic Publications.
- 2019 Composition and projection of co-speech gestures. In Blake, Katherine, Forrest Davis, Kaelyn Lamp & Joseph Rhyne (eds.), *Proceedings of Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT)* 29, pp. 117–137. DOI: 10.3765/salt.v29i0.4600.

- 2019 Towards a uniform super-linguistic theory of projection. In Schlöder, Julian J., Dean McHugh & Floris Roelofsen (eds.), *Proceedings of the 22nd Amsterdam Colloquium*, pp. 553–562.
- 2018 Focus on what's not at issue: Gestures, presuppositions, appositives under contrastive focus. In Sauerland, Uli & Stephanie Solt (eds.), *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 22*, pp. 385–402. Berlin: Leibniz-Centre General Linguistics.
- 2017 Contrast and distributivity in the semantics of alternation. In Lamont, Andrew & Katerina Tetzloff (eds.), *Proceedings of the 47th Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS 47)*, Vol. 1, pp. 309–322. Amherst, MA: GLSA.

Miscellaneous

- 2023 Discontinuity as prosody: meaning and form of jump cuts on YouTube. *NYI Constellations* 1. lingbuzz/007423

Manuscripts

- 2023 The silence of the slurs: inferences about prejudice under ellipsis. Ms., University of Konstanz. Under revision. lingbuzz/007109
- 2022 Composure and composition. Ms., University of Konstanz. Revised and resubmitted. lingbuzz/005003
- 2016 Cho, Kyunghyun and **Maria Esipova**. Can neural machine translation do simultaneous translation? Ms., New York University. Not intended for publication. [arXiv:1606.02012](https://arxiv.org/abs/1606.02012)

Selected publications in Russian (journals and edited volumes)

- 2014 Sintaksičeskaja model' voprositel'nyx predloženij v rossijskom žestovom jazyke [Syntactic model of questions in Russian Sign Language]. In *Vestnik Moskovskogo Universiteta 19: Lingvistika i Mežkul'turnaja Kommunikacija [Moscow University Bulletin 19: Linguistics and Intercultural Communication]* 2, pp. 148–158.
- 2013 Proišoždenije i funkcionirovanije žestovogo imeni v lingvokul'ture gluxix Rossii [Sign names in Russian Deaf culture: origin and functioning]. In *Moscow University Young Researchers Journal: Languages, Cultures and Area Studies* 1.
- 2012 Osobennosti referencii v žestovyh jazykah [Properties of reference in signed languages]. In Sergienko, P.I. (ed.), *Sbornik Trudov Molodyx Učënyx [Young Researchers' Collected Works]* 7, pp. 41–48. Faculty of Foreign Languages and Area Studies, MSU, Moscow.

Presentations

Invited talks

- 2023 Intentionality and accidentality at the interfaces. *Linguistics Department and Research Colloquium*, University of Konstanz, July 20.
- 2022 Performativity and architecture. *Buenos Aires Linguistics and Philosophy of Language Group*, April 20.
- 2022 Performative expression of meaning and the architecture of grammar. *GLiF Seminar*, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, March 10.
- 2022 Preservation of prejudice: elliptical responses to antecedents with slurs. *You're on mute ellipsis seminar*, NYU, January 28.

- 2022 The silence of the slurs: inferences about prejudice under ellipsis. *Virtual NYI (The NY-St. Petersburg Institute of Linguistics, Cognition, and Culture) 4*, January 12.
- 2021 Semantics of situations and pragmatics of prevention. *Slavic Linguistics Colloquium*, Humboldt University of Berlin, June 18.
- 2021 Facts and feelings: a cross-channel typology of affective content. *The Northern Scholars Lectures*, University of Edinburgh, Mar. 24.
- 2020 Composure and composition: towards a cross-modal typology of affective content. *New York Philosophy of Language Workshop*, NYU, Oct. 26.
- 2020 TBD. *Speech-Accompanying Gestures—Current Empirical and Theoretical Advances*, (cancelled) CreteLing summer school, July 22. Cancelled because of COVID-19.
- 2020 On iconicity, at-issueness, and composition in pictures. *NYU Semantics Group*, Apr. 17.
- 2019 Emotion and composition. *SURGE*, Rutgers University, Nov. 8.
- 2019 Projection of non-spoken content: a composition-driven approach. *Super Linguistics Research Group*, University of Oslo, Apr. 30.
- 2018 Gestures at the interfaces. *Foundational Topics in Semantics*, NYU, May 7.
- 2017 Co- and post-speech gestures: A syntax/prosody approach. *Week of Signs and Gestures*, University of Stuttgart, June 12–14.
- 2017 Contrastive Focus and (non-)at-issueness across modalities. *Meaning & Modality Laboratory*, Harvard, Mar. 7.
- 2017 Focus on what's (not) at issue: Co-speech gestures, presuppositions, and supplements under Contrastive Focus. *LFRG*, MIT, Feb. 22.
- 2013 Russian Sign Language. *Festival' jazykov [Language Festival]*, Moscow, Dec. 15. (in Russian, with RSL interpreting)
- Selected talks and posters at conferences with peer-reviewed abstracts
(presentations with published conference proceedings not duplicated)
- 2023 **Esipova, Maria** and Natasha Korotkova. To *li* or not to *li*. *Formal Description of Slavic Languages (FDSL) 16*, University of Graz, Nov. 29–Dec. 1. (upcoming)
- 2023 **Esipova, Maria** and Maribel Romero. Prejacent truth in rhetorical questions: lessons from Russian. *Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics (FASL) 32*, Indiana University, May 19–21.
- 2022 Prejudice and performativity: can slurs be used without being mentioned? *XPRAG 9 pre-conference workshop “Expressives. Theoretical and Experimental Approaches to the Expressive Content”*, University of Genoa, Sep. 20
- 2022 Lack of composure, lack of composition. *Expression, Language, and Music (ELM)*, University of Connecticut, August 20–22 (postponed from May 2020).
- 2022 Annoyance and architecture: lessons from Russian OY DA sentences. *Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics (FASL) 31*, McMaster University, June 24–26.
- 2022 Can slurs be used without being mentioned? Evidence from an inference judgement task. *Experiments in Linguistic Meaning (ELM) 2*, University of Pennsylvania, May 18–20. (poster)

- 2022 From performatives to performances. *DGfS-Workshop: Visual Communication. New Theoretical and Empirical Developments*, University of Tübingen, Feb 23–25.
- 2021 What I will tell you about Russian wh-“exclamatives”! *Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics (FASL) 30*, MIT, May 13–16.
- 2021 On abstinence and avoidance. *Agency and Intentions in Language (AIL)*, University of Göttingen, Jan. 13–15.
- 2021 Gender and T–V on pronouns as form indexicals. *The 95th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA)*, Jan. 7–10.
- 2020 Towards a uniform cross-modal typology of composition and projection. *The 94th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA)*, New Orleans, Jan. 2–5. (poster)
- 2019 Composition determines projection across modalities. *Linguistic Investigations Beyond Language: Gestures, Body Movement and Primate Linguistics*, ZAS Berlin, Mar. 11–12.
- 2018 Gestural adjuncts at the interfaces. *Linguistic Explorations Beyond Language: Music, Dance and Visual Narrative*, University of Crete, July 18. (poster)
- 2018 At-issue co-speech gestures under Contrastive Focus: Evidence from an acceptability judgement task. *The 92nd Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA)*, Salt Lake City, Jan. 4–7. (poster)
- 2017 **Esipova, Maria** and Lucas Champollion. Focus on adjuncts: A uniform event-based semantics of *only*. *The 48th Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS 48)*, University of Iceland, Oct. 27–29. (poster)

Other

- 2022 Thinking Outside the Box: An interview with Masha Esipova. *U-Lingua Magazine*.
- 2016 Alternatives matter: Contrastive focus and presupposition projection in standard triggers and co-speech gestures. *Mid-Atlantic Colloquium of Studies in Meaning (MACSIM) 6*, CUNY GC, Oct. 1. (poster)
- 2015 Alternating conjuncts: The *to... to* construction in Russian and its crosslinguistic counterparts. *Mid-Atlantic Colloquium of Studies in Meaning (MACSIM) 5*, University of Delaware, Oct. 3.

Teaching

Full-length courses

- Summer 2023 **Experiments in Linguistic Meaning (BA/MA)**, Co-taught with Maribel Romero, University of Konstanz.
- Spring 2020 **Sign Language Linguistics (BA)**, Co-taught with Noah Buchholz, Princeton University.
- Fall 2019 **Intonation: Melody in Language (BA)**, Princeton University.
- Summer 2018 **Language (BA)**, Co-taught with Yining Nie, NYU.

Summer/winter schools

- Summer 2023 **Puzzles in Semantics and Pragmatics (advanced)**, V-NYI: The New York–St. Petersburg Institute of Linguistics, Cognition and Culture.
- Winter 2023 **Puzzles in Semantics (advanced)**, V-NYI: The New York–St. Petersburg Institute of Linguistics, Cognition and Culture.

- Summer 2022 **Omni-Linguistics**, V-NYI: The New York–St. Petersburg Institute of Linguistics, Cognition and Culture.
- Summer 2022 **Super Linguistics**, LOT Summer School, University of Groningen.
- Summer 2021 **Some Issues with Not-at-issueness**, V-NYI: The New York–St. Petersburg Institute of Linguistics, Cognition and Culture.
- Winter 2021 **Meaning Across Modalities**, V-NYI: The New York–St. Petersburg Institute of Linguistics, Cognition and Culture .
- Summer 2020 **Topics in Sign Language Studies**, *Co-taught with Philippe Schlenker, Nina Feygl Semushina-Leyn, and Valeria Vinogradova*, V-NYI: The New York–St. Petersburg Institute of Linguistics, Cognition and Culture.
- Summer 2018 **Integrating Compositional Semantics and Event Semantics**, *Co-taught with Lucas Champollion*, North American Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information (NASSLLI), Carnegie Mellon University.

Other

- Winter 2022/2023 **Signed Language Linguistics**, *Guest lecture at Angela James & Maribel Romero’s BA Intro to Linguistics course*, University of Konstanz, Dec. 1.
- Spring 2021 **Semantics of situations and pragmatics of prevention**, *Guest lecture at Richard Kayne & Anna Szabolcsi’s graduate Seminar in Syntax & Semantics*, NYU, Mar. 17.
- Spring 2021 **Pictorial meaning**, *Two guest lectures at Pritty Patel-Grosz’s MA seminar in Super Linguistics*, University of Oslo, Mar. 9 & 16 .
- Spring 2019 **Semantics II (PhD)**, *Homework grader for Lucas Champollion*, NYU.
- Fall 2017 **Introduction to Semantics (BA)**, *Teaching assistant for Lucas Champollion*, NYU.
+ First author of the teaching materials and primary lecturer on presupposition and implicature
- Fall 2016 **Language and Mind (BA)**, *Teaching assistant for Ailís Cournane and Brian McElree*, NYU.
- Spring 2016 **Grammatical Analysis (BA)**, *Teaching assistant for Stephanie Harves*, NYU.
+ Primary lecturer on the syntax of wh-questions in spoken and signed languages

Advising

- Spring 2020 Advisor of Michael Yeung’s BA Junior Paper ‘Iconicity in Cantonese Ideophones’, Princeton University.
- Fall 2019 Advisor of Ali Harris’s BA Junior Paper ‘Prosodic Integration of Pro-speech Demonstrations’, Princeton University.

Service

Reviewing

- Journals Canadian Journal of Linguistics; Erkenntnis; Glossa; Journal of Pragmatics; Journal of Semantics; Linguistics and Philosophy; Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology; Semantics and Pragmatics; Snippets

- Conferences Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS); European Conference on Formal Description of Slavic Languages (FDSL); FASL; GLOW; Joint Conference on Lexical and Computational Semantics (*SEM); Beyond Language: Multimodal Semantic Representations workshop (MMSR); NASSLLI student session; NELS; SALT; Sinn und Bedeutung; Stony Brook-Yale-NYU-CUNY mini-conference (SYNC); Workshop on Turkic and languages in contact with Turkic (Tu+)
- Grants DFG (German Research Foundation)
- Conference and workshop organizing
- 2022 **Organizer** of the *PerForum: Forum on Performative Expression of Meaning* workshop, UiO.
- 2018 **Student volunteer** at *New Ways of Analyzing Variation (NWAV) 47*, NYU.
- 2015 **Co-organizer** of the *Sign Language Meaning and Cognition* workshop (with Philippe Schlenker and Jeremy Kuhn), NYU.
- 2015 **Local committee member** at *FASL 24*, NYU.
- Other
- 2018 **Co-instructor** at LANYU L^AT_EX workshop, NYU.
- 2016–2018 **Co-organizer** of NYU Semantics Group (with Adina Williams in 2016/2017 and Paloma Jeretič in 2017/2018).
- 2016 **Co-editor** of *Proceedings of FASL 24* (with Yohei Oseki, Stephanie Harves).

Awards and grants

- 2020–2022 **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowship**, *Horizon 2020, European Commission*.
Work on the GeMeTIC project at the University of Oslo (€202,158.72)
- 2019–2020 **GSAS Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship**, *New York University*.
(declined) NYU GSAS minimum stipend for 2019–2020 (at least \$28,145)
- 2014–2019 **Henry H. MacCracken Fellowship**, *New York University*.
Full funding package, including a tuition waiver, a yearly stipend adjusted for inflation (\$28,145 in 2018–2019), a research fund (\$5,000 for five years), and other benefits
- 2019 **GSAS Dean’s Student Travel Grant**, *New York University*.
\$500 to cover costs of attending *SALT 29*
- 2019 **SGA Conference Funding Award**, *New York University*.
\$600 to cover costs of attending the *Linguistic Investigations Beyond Language* workshop in Berlin
- 2017 **GSAS Dean’s Student Travel Grant**, *New York University*.
\$500 to cover costs of attending *Sinn und Bedeutung 22*
- 2017 **29th European Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information (ESSLLI) grant**, *University of Toulouse*.
Travel costs for up to €550, tuition, and accommodation

█ Languages

Russian (native), English (near-native), French (fluent, but rusty), American Sign Language (intermediate, but rusty), Russian Sign Language (intermediate, but rusty), German (basic), Norwegian (basic), Ukrainian (basic)

█ Computer skills

HTML & CSS (advanced), L^AT_EX (advanced), Praat (intermediate), Python (intermediate), R (intermediate), JavaScript (basic)