

Maria Esipova

[mə'ɪjə 'jesɪpəvə]
any pronouns

✉ masha.esipova@nyu.edu

🌐 esipova.net

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Research interests

semantics, pragmatics, syntax, prosody, and their interfaces; questions et al. at the interfaces; truth-conditional vs. non-truth-conditional meaning and at-issue vs. not-at-issue meaning at the interfaces; events and situations 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

- 10/2023– **Lecturer (tenure-track)**, *Bar-Ilan University*, Department of English Literature and Linguistics
- 9/2022–9/2023 **Postdoctoral Researcher**, *University of Konstanz*, Department of Linguistics

- 9/2020–**Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow**, *University of Oslo*, Department of Linguistics and Scandinavian Studies, PI of EU project 891493 “GeMeTIC”
8/2022
- 9/2019–**Postdoctoral Research Associate and Lecturer**, *Princeton University*, Program in Linguistics
8/2020
- 9/2012–**Linguist**, *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/snip-2018-033-esip

Conference proceedings

- 2024 The things that we can(not) exclaim! In *Proceedings of the 98th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA)*, 9(1): 5723. DOI: 10.3765/plsa.v9i1.5723.
- 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): 5257. 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

- 2024 **Esipova, Maria** and Maribel Romero. Prejacent truth in rhetorical questions. Ms., University of Konstanz. In prep.
- 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. 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 Osobnosti referencii v žestovych jazykah [Properties of reference in signed languages]. In Sergienko, P.I. (ed.), *Sbornik Trudov Molodyx Učěnyx [Young Researchers' Collected Works]* 7, pp. 41–48. Faculty of Foreign Languages and Area Studies, MSU, Moscow.

Presentations

Invited talks

- 2024 Peaking your interest. Colloquium talk, Hebrew University, June 4.
- 2024 Invited commentary on the paper ‘Iconicity, scope, and the grammar’ by Jeremy Kuhn. *Iconic Representation* workshop, NYU Abu Dhabi, Jan 22–24.
- 2023 To Q or not to Q? *Linguistics Research Seminars*, Trinity College Dublin, Oct. 10.
- 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*, Apr. 20.
- 2022 Performative expression of meaning and the architecture of grammar. *GLiF Seminar*, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Mar. 10.
- 2022 Preservation of prejudice: elliptical responses to antecedents with slurs. *You’re on mute* ellipsis seminar, NYU, Jan. 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, Jan. 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 (cancelled) TBD. *Speech-Accompanying Gestures—Current Empirical and Theoretical Advances*, 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 presentations at conferences with peer-reviewed abstracts
(presentations with published conference proceedings not duplicated)
- 2024 Prosody across sentence types. *Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT) 34*, University of Rochester, May 28–30. (poster)
- 2024 To Q or not to Q? *Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics (FASL) 33*, Dalhousie University, May 16–19.
- 2024 To Q or not to Q? *Polar Question Meaning[s] across Languages*, University of Amsterdam, Apr. 11–13.
- 2024 **Esipova, Maria** and Natasha Korotkova. To *li* or not to *li*. *Polar Question Meaning[s] across Languages*, University of Amsterdam, Apr. 11–13.
- 2024 The things that we can(not) exclaim! *The 98th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA)*, New York City, Jan. 4–7.
- 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.
- 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, Aug. 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

- 2023 **Esipova, Maria** and Maribel Romero. Two strategies for rhetorical questions. *FOR 2111 Final Workshop*, University of Konstanz, June 12.
- 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

- Sem. B 2024 **Meaning and Use**, Bar-Ilan University
- Sem. B 2024 **Not-at-issue Meaning**, Bar-Ilan University
- Sem. A 2023 **Intonation and Meaning**, Bar-Ilan University
- 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 2024 **Omni-Linguistics**, V-NYI: The New York–St. Petersburg Institute of Linguistics, Cognition and Culture

- 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 **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 PhD 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; topiCS
- Conferences Biennial of Czech Linguistics (BCL); 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 (NWAY) 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 by the recipient) 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 (ESLLI) 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), Praat (intermediate), R (intermediate), Python (basic), JavaScript (basic)