GIOIA CACCHIOLI, Ph.D.

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Department of Linguistics
Université de Genève
2 rue De-Candolle, 1211 Genève 4 (CH)

Psycholinguistics & Speech-Therapy Research Unit
Université de Genève
Chemin de Pinchat 22, 1227 Carouge (CH)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER 08-2026 - ***present***
Competitively awarded faculty-funded fellowship (ends 07/2027)
Université de Genève, Department of Linguistics

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER 06-2026 - ***present***
Swiss National Science Foundation Project 212974: "First language acquisition and foreign language learning in French-speaking children with DLD: Targeting grammar through explicit intervention" (P.I. Dr. Hélène Delage) (ends 05/2027)
Université de Genève, Psycholinguistics & Speech-Therapy Research Unit

LECTURER 03-2026 - 07/2026
Université de Genève, Department of Linguistics

TEACHING ASSISTANT 08/2021 - 02/2026
Université de Genève, Department of Linguistics

RESEARCH ASSISTANT 09/2020 - 07/2021
Université de Genève, Department of Linguistics

DEGREES

PH.D., LINGUISTICS Université de Genève 2026
Thesis: "The Syntax of Clausal Prefixes in Tigrinya" Grade: Summa Cum Laude with Congratulations of the Committee
Supervisors: Ur Shlonsky, Eric Haeberli
Committee: Ruth Kramer, Jason Overfelt, Coppe van Urk, Tabea Ihsane

SPECIALIZATION CERTIFICATE, LINGUISTICS Université de Genève 2019
Thesis: "Tigrinya Restrictive Relative Clauses" Grade: 6/6
Supervisor: Ur Shlonsky

M.A., ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE Université de Genève 2019
Thesis: "Women's Language and Female Characters: A Case Study of Gender-based Linguistic Differences in Novels" Grade: 6/6
Supervisor: Genoveva Puskás

B.A., LINGUISTICS Université de Genève 2019

B.A., ARABIC STUDIES & 2016
B.A., ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE Université de Genève

PUBLICATIONS

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- "The Syntax of Verbal Modality in Tigrinya". With Jason Overfelt. ***under review***
  Brill's Journal of Afroasiatic Languages and Linguistics (co-author)
- "Varieties of Headless Relative Clauses in Tigrinya". With Ivano Caponigro. ***to appear***
  Journal of African Languages and Linguistics. (lead author)
- "The Tigrinya *zə-* prefix: A Morphological Reflex of Successive-Cyclic Movement". **2023**
  Brill's Journal of Afroasiatic Languages and Linguistics 15(1): 232-261.
  https://doi.org/10.1163/18776930-01501004

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- "Hyperagreement and Case-licensing in Tigrinya". With Jason Overfelt. ***accepted***
  Selected Proceedings of the 55th Annual Conference on African Linguistics.
  McGill University. Montréal. Canada. (co-author)

- "A note on Verum Focus in Tigrinya". **2024**
  Language Use and Linguistic Structure: Proceedings of the Olomouc Linguistics Colloquium 2023, eds. Markéta Janebová, Michaela Čakányová, and Joseph Emonds. Olomouc: Palacký University. 24–41.
  www.doi.org/10.5507/ff.24.24465081

COLLECTIONS

- "Patterns of Subordination in Tigrinya". ***under review***
  Subordination in Ethiopian Afroasiatic Languages, eds. Ronny Meyer, Anbessa Teferra and Chris H. Reintges.

- "Topics in the Syntax of Tigrinya". With Jason Overfelt. ***accepted***
  Handbook of Afroasiatic Languages and Linguistics, eds. Karim Bensoukas, and Alireza Korangy. Springer Handbooks of Languages and Linguistics. (co-author)

- "Subjunctive Mood in Tigrinya?". **2025**
  Generative Grammar in Geneva (GG@G): Studies in Honour of Genoveva Puskás, eds. Anne-Elisabeth Donzé, Eric Haeberli, Tabea Ihsane, and Wenli Tang. Geneva: Université de Genève, 29–40.
  https://www.unige.ch/lettres/linge/syntaxe/journal/Volume12/3_Cacchioli.pdf

PH.D. THESIS

"The Syntax of Clausal Prefixes in Tigrinya". Université de Genève, Genève. **2026**
https://doi.org/10.13097/archive-ouverte/unige:191615

MANUSCRIPTS

- "The Syntax of Bipartite Negation in Tigrinya". ***in preparation***
- "Subordination as Relativization in Tigrinya". ***in preparation***
- "Itinerant Relative Clauses in Tigrinya". ***in preparation***
- "Finiteness Beyond Inflection: Morphological Realization and Auxiliary Syntax in Adolescent L2 English with and without DLD." ***in preparation***
  With Emily Stanford, Olivia Hadjadj, & Hélène Delage (lead-author)
- "Using Shape Coding to support EFL learning in French-speaking children with DLD: a pilot study". With Olivia Hadjadj, Emily Stanford, & Hélène Delage (co-author) ***in preparation***

TALKS

INVITED

Is Tigrinya Negation Really Circumfixal? 2026
Affixation in Afroasiatic Workshop (AfAf3). Princeton University. Princeton (NJ), U.S.

Varieties of Headless Relative Clauses in Tigrinya (joint work with Ivano Caponigro) 2026
Research Seminar of LLACAN (Langages, Langues et Cultures d'Afrique). CNRS Villejuif. Paris, France.

Varieties of Headless Relative Clauses in Tigrinya (joint work with Ivano Caponigro) 2026
Syntax and Semantics Babble. UC San Diego. California, U.S.. Online.

Copular Clauses in Tigrinya 2023
Structure of Ethio-Semitic Languages (Seminar). Oakland University. Michigan, U.S. Online.

The Tigrinya zə- prefix: A Morphological Reflex of Successive-Cyclic Movement 2022
Workshop on Prefixes vs Suffixes in Afroasiatic. CNRS *Structures formelles du langage* Laboratory. Paris, France.

CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

Introduction to (Ethio)-Semitic Morphosyntax 2026
Morphology, Syntax and the Semitic Languages. Université de Genève. Geneva, Switzerland.

Polar Questions in Tigrinya 2025
Séminaire de Recherche en Linguistique. Université de Genève. Geneva, Switzerland.

The Syntax of Complement Clauses in Tigrinya 2025
Language and Languages at the Crossroads of Disciplines (LLcD). Université de Lille. Lille, France.

Subordination as Relativization in Tigrinya 2025
BerlinBrnoVienna Workshop. Masaryk University. Brno, Czech Republic.

Issues in Tigrinya Syntax 2025
PhD Day of Swiss Linguistics. Université de Lausanne. Lausanne, Switzerland.

The Syntax of Sentential Negation in Tigrinya 2024
Sentential Negation Across the Globe (SNAG). Université Paris Cité. Paris, France.

The Syntax of Sentential Negation in Tigrinya 2024
BerlinBrnoVienna Workshop. Masaryk University. Brno. Czech Republic.

Hyperagreement and Case-licensing in Tigrinya with Jason Overfelt 2024
The 55th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL 55). McGill University. Montreal, Canada.

Copular Clauses in Tigrinya 2024
PhD Day of Swiss Linguistics. Universität Bern. Bern, Switzerland.

The Syntax of Modality in Tigrinya with Jason Overfelt. 2023
16th Conference on Syntax, Phonology and Language Analysis. Masaryk University. Brno, Czech Republic.

The Syntax of Modality in Tigrinya with Jason Overfelt. 2023
Séminaire de Recherche en Linguistique. Université de Genève. Geneva, Switzerland.

Verum Focus in Tigrinya 2023
The Olomouc Linguistics Colloquium. Palacký University. Czech Republic.

The Tigrinya Relative Clause with Bahareh Samimi & Ur Shlonsky 2018
2nd BRILL's Journal of Afro-Asiatic Languages and Linguistics International Conference.
Université de Nantes. Nantes, France.

The Tigrinya Relative Clause with Bahareh Samimi & Ur Shlonsky 2018
Séminaire de Recherche en Linguistique. Université de Genève. Geneva, Switzerland.

POSTERS

Subordination as relativization: Evidence from Tigrinya 2026
Rencontres Autour de la Linguistique Formelle (RALFe). Université Paris 8. Paris, France.

The morphosyntax of sentential complementation in Tigrinya: 2023
Subordination as relativization with Ur Shlonsky
48imo Incontro di Grammatica Generativa (IGG48). University of Florence. Florence, Italy.

The Tigrinya zə- prefix: A Morphological Reflex of Successive-Cyclic Movement 2022
47imo Incontro di Grammatica Generativa (IGG47). University of Catania. Catania, Italy.

TEACHING

Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology (taught in French) — Spring Semester 2026
BA Level - UNIGE; Primary Instructor: Prof. Danfeng Wu

Introduction to the Science of Language (taught in French) — Fall Semester 2025
BA Level - UNIGE; Primary Instructor: Prof. Isabelle Charnavel

Introduction to the Science of Language (taught in French) — Fall Semester 2024
BA Level - UNIGE; Primary Instructor: Prof. Isabelle Charnavel

Language and its Structure (taught in French) — Spring Semester 2024
BA Level - UNIGE; Primary Instructor: Dr. Giuseppe Samo

Introduction to the Science of Language (taught in French) — Fall Semester 2023
BA Level - UNIGE; Primary Instructor: Prof. Isabelle Charnavel

Introduction to Semantics and Pragmatics (taught in French) — Academic Year 2022-2023
BA Level - UNIGE; Primary Instructor: Prof. Isabelle Charnavel

Introduction to Semantics and Pragmatics (taught in French) — Academic Year 2021-2022
BA Level - UNIGE; Primary Instructor: Prof. Isabelle Charnavel

Syntactic Cartography (taught in French) — Spring Semester 2021
BA Level - UNIGE; Primary Instructor: Prof. Ur Shlonsky

Theoretical Syntax (taught in French) — Fall Semester 2021
BA Level - UNIGE; Primary Instructor: Prof. Ur Shlonsky

MENTORING

PH.D. THESIS READER

Tesfaldet Gebremedhin, University of Pretoria (South Africa), Faculty of Theology and Religion — 2026
Title: "Readability and Accuracy in the Tigrinya Bible Translation"

MASTER'S THESIS CO-SUPERVISION

Laureline Herz, UNIGE, Department of English Language & Literature — ***present***
Nour Abusenna, UNIGE, Department of English Language & Literature — ***present***
Svitlana Salova, UNIGE, Department of English Language & Literature — ***present***
Amélia Modupè Peters, UNIGE, Department of English Language & Literature — ***present***
Catherine Hunt-Giboin, UNIGE, Department of English Language & Literature — ***present***
Léa Fleischmann, UNIGE, Department of Psycholinguistics and Speech-Therapy — ***present***
Lara Taimi, UNIGE, Department of Psycholinguistics and Speech-Therapy — ***present***
Alicia Ericsson, UNIGE, Department of Psycholinguistics and Speech-Therapy — ***present***

MASTER'S THESIS COMMITTEE MEMBER

Cloé Pasche, UNIGE, Department of Psycholinguistics and Speech-Therapy — September 2026
Yoon Shin, UNIGE, Department of Linguistics — June 2026
Yery Mendoza, UNIGE, Department of Linguistics — June 2025
Stéphanie Pereira Gomes, UNIGE, Department of English Language & Literature — June 2024

SERVICE

REVIEWING

Natural Language and Linguistic Theory (article reviewer) — *ad hoc*
The Linguistic Review (article reviewer) — *ad hoc*
Brill's Journal of Afro-Asiatic Languages and Linguistics (article reviewer) — *ad hoc*
DM meets Nano (abstract reviewer) — 2026

DEPARTMENTAL

Assistants' & Lecturers' Representative, *Commission Mixte* 09/2022 - 06/2024
Department of Linguistics, Université de Genève

Member, Nomination Committee for a Student Assistant *(ARE)* 05/2024
Department of Linguistics, Université de Genève

Member, Nomination Committee for a Professor in Syntax 05/2023 - 10/2023
Department of Linguistics, Université de Genève

Member, Nomination Committee of Tabea Ihsane 05/2023
As Associate Professor (*Nomination par appel*)
Department of Linguistics & Department of English Language and Literature, Université de Genève

Website Manager 09/2022 - 06/2023
Department of Linguistics, Université de Genève

Research Seminar Organizer and Chair 08/2020 - 07/2022
Department of Linguistics, Université de Genève

Students' Representative, *Commission Mixte* 09/2014 - 02/2019
Department of English Language & Literature, Université de Genève

UNIVERSITY

Jury Member, *Prix Marcel Compagnon* *des langues, littératures et civilisations occidentales* 2026
(evaluation of the prize-winning Master's thesis), Université de Genève

Member, Scientific Committee of the Linguistics Doctoral Program of CUSO (*Conférences Universitaires de la Suisse Occidentale*), Switzerland 08/2023 - 02/2026

Vice-president, AELCA (*Association d'Etudiants en Langue et Civilisation Arabes*) 09/2014 - 06/2016
Université de Genève

Accounts Auditor, UniART (*Association d'Artistes à l'UNIGE*) 09/2017 - 09/2020
Université de Genève

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

Organizer, Workshop, *Morphology, Syntax and The Semitic Languages* 2026
Université de Genève

Organizer, Doctoral School, *Latex for Linguists: A Hands-On Workshop* 2025
Université de Genève

LANGUAGE CONSULTING

On Tigrinya Grammar 2023
Consultant on Tigrinya grammar and morphosyntax
Dr. Nathalie Dherbey Chapuis - Institut de Plurilinguisme, Université de Fribourg (Switzerland)

On Tigrinya Morphyo-Syntax 2021
Consultant on Tigrinya data used in:
Franck Julie & Despina Papadopoulou. (2022). "L2 French learning by Eritrean refugee speakers of Tigrinya". *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition* 25, 631–644.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Invited workshop co-leader and co-designer, *Workshop on inclusive teaching practices for English teachers* **forthcoming**
Full-day professional development workshop for English teachers, co-designed and co-led with Emily Stanford, combining a theoretical presentation with practical training activities. Organized by Anita Camenzind. Bellinzona, Switzerland.

Podcast guest, "Tigrinya and Gioia Cacchioli" 2023
Episode 14 of *A Language I love is...* hosted by Danny Bate.
Spotify: https://open.spotify.com/episode/4jzWLDtlo9ga129aOrsx7u?si=f03499ce44d24727

LANGUAGES & TECHNICAL SKILLS

SPOKEN LANGUAGES

ITALIAN (Native Speaker) | **FRENCH** (Proficiency - C2) | **ENGLISH** (Proficiency - C2)
GERMAN (Elementary - A2) | **STANDARD ARABIC** (Beginner - A1)

RESEARCH/GRAMMATICAL KNOWLEDGE

TIGRINYA (Advanced) | **STANDARD ARABIC** (Advanced) | **AMHARIC** (Beginner) | **TIGRE** (Beginner)
LATIN (High School Level)

SOFTWARE

TEX (fluent) | **R**, **SQL, PYTHON**, **HTML**, **PRAAT** (basic)

ADDITIONAL COURSEWORK

Basic Statistics (2025) | Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English (2013)

REFERENCES

Professor **Ur Shlonsky** (for research)
Département de Linguistique, Université de Genève
ur.shlonsky@unige.ch

Professor **Jason Overfelt** (for research)
Department of Linguistics, Oakland University
overfelt@oakland.edu

Professor **Isabelle Charnavel** (for teaching)
Département de Linguistique, Université de Genève
isabelle.charnavel@unige.ch

Professor **Ruth Kramer** (for research)
Department of Linguistics, Georgetown University
rtk8@georgetown.edu

Doctor **Coppe van Urk** (for research)
Lang., Ling. and Film Dept., Queen Mary University of London
c.vanurk@qmul.ac.uk