Isaac L. Bleaman

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Education

New York University
Ph.D. Linguistics, in progress (exp. 2018)
M.A. Linguistics, 2016

University of Oxford, St. Catherine's College
M.St. Yiddish Studies, 2013
Awarded with distinction

Stanford University
B.A. Linguistics and Comparative Literature, 2012
Awarded with honors and distinction

OTHER   Davis School of Russian, Middlebury College (Summer 2012)
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel (Summer & Fall 2010)
Vilnius Yiddish Institute, Vilnius University, Lithuania (Summer 2007)

Publications

Articles

IN PREP	The Gettysburg Corpus: Testing the proposition that all tense /æ/s are created equal. (Co-authored with Daniel Duncan.)
SUBMITTED	Analyzing big data in a low-resource language: Syntactic variation in Hasidic Yiddish on the web.
SUBMITTED	Predicate fronting in Yiddish and conditions on multiple copy Spell-Out.
2017	Uriel Weinreich: Contact linguist, historical linguist, and Yiddishist par excellence. *Journal of Jewish Languages* 5(2): 131–143. doi:10.1163/22134638-05021135.
2015	Verbal predicate fronting in Modern Hebrew and Yiddish. *Journal of Jewish Languages* 3(1–2): 66–78. doi:10.1163/22134638-12340041. Reprinted in: *Language Contact and the Development of Modern Hebrew* (2016), ed. Edit Doron, 63–75. Leiden: Brill. doi:10.1163/9789004310896_006.

Reviews and translations

2016   Yiddish has a word for that! Notes on the *Comprehensive English-Yiddish Dictionary* (2016). *In geveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies*.
http://ingeveb.org/blog/yiddish-has-a-word-for-that-notes-on-the-comprehensive-english-yiddish-dictionary-2016

2016   Review of *Origins of Yiddish Dialects* by Alexander Beider (Oxford University Press, 2015). *East European Jewish Affairs* 46(2): 223–226.
doi:10.1080/13501674.2016.1193682.

Presentations

Academic conferences

2018   Big data in a low-resource language: Syntactic variation in Hasidic Yiddish on the web. Talk given at the *Linguistic Society of America*, Salt Lake City. 1/6/18.

2017   Variation in Hasidic Yiddish syntax: A corpus study of language change on the internet. Talk given at the 49th *Association for Jewish Studies*, Washington, D.C. 12/19/17.

2017   Sociolinguistics and Yiddish studies fifty years after Uriel Weinreich (1926-1967). Respondent (in Yiddish) on the panel "Yiddish Language and Yiddish Linguists" at the 49th *Association for Jewish Studies*, Washington, D.C. 12/18/17.

2017   Variation in Hasidic Yiddish syntax: A corpus study of language change on the internet. Talk given at *New Ways of Analyzing Variation* (*NWAV*) *46*, Madison, WI. 11/3/17.

2017   One city, two speech communities: A sociophonetic analysis of New York Yiddish. Talk given at *Pluralism, Multilingualism, and Jewish Identities*, Harvard University. 3/21/17.

2017   Empirical approaches to language contact, variation, and change: Fifty years after Uriel Weinreich (1926-1967). Talk given at the *Linguistic Society of America / North American Association for the History of the Language Sciences*, Austin, TX. 1/7/17.

2016   "The simple believeth every word": Hasidic counterpublic discourse and the Yiddish newspaper hoax. Talk given at the 48th *Association for Jewish Studies*, San Diego. 12/19/16.

2016   The Gettysburg Corpus: Testing the proposition that all tense /æ/s are created equal. Talk given at *New Ways of Analyzing Variation* (*NWAV*) *45*, Vancouver. Co-authored with Daniel Duncan. 11/5/16.

2016   *Sholem-Aleykhems tsvishndialektishe folkshprakh: a statistisher analiz fun di monologn.* [Creating a pan-dialectal Yiddish voice: A quantitative analysis of Sholem Aleichem's *Monologn*.] Talk given at *Sholem Aleichem 1916-2016: Writing Place*, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel. 5/17/16.

2016   Predicate fronting in Yiddish and conditions on multiple Spell-Out. Poster given at the *Linguistic Society of America*, Washington, D.C. 1/8/16.

2014   'She said {that/Ø} she couldn't take a complement': Complementizer *that* omission in American English. Talk given at *New Ways of Analyzing Variation* (*NWAV*) *43*, Chicago (with Dan Duncan, Shelley Feuer, Gregory R. Guy, Zachary Jaggers, Matthew Stuck). 10/24/14.

2014   *Sabesdiker losn*: The salience of sibilant confusion as a marker of Litvish Yiddish identity. Talk given at the *Yale Conference on Baltic and Scandinavian Studies*. 3/14/14.

2014   Authenticity and vernacular style in Sholem Aleichem's monologues: A variationist approach. Talk given at *MLA Convention*, Chicago. 1/10/14. (Talks based on same research also given at *SYNC 2013* at Yale and the *Fifth Warsaw Conference for Young Jewish Studies Researchers* at the University of Warsaw, 2013.)

2011   Language contact and morphological leveling in American Yiddish. Talk given at *Southern California Undergraduate Linguistics Conference*. UCLA. 4/9/11.

Invited talks

2018   Seminar in Yiddish linguistics. Guest lecturer in Yiddish (a series of three invited talks), University of Chicago, Center for Jewish Studies. 1/16-19/18.

2017   Puzzles in Yiddish semantics: A response to Weinreich 1968. Talk (in Yiddish) given at Advanced Seminar in Yiddish Language, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, New York. 11/17/17.

2015   Predicate fronting in Yiddish and conditions on multiple Spell-Out. Talk given at the Syntax Brown Bag, NYU. 10/30/15.

2015   *A kvantitativer kuk af 'sabesdikn losn.'* [A quantitative approach to 'sibilant confusion' in Northeastern Yiddish.] Talk given at the Max Weinreich Center Yiddish Research Colloquium, YIVO, New York. 2/17/15.

2012   Invited panelist, "Yiddish Theatre, Avrom Goldfaden, *Rumenye! Rumenye!*" *2012 Romanian Film Festival at Berkeley and Stanford*. 4/28/12.

Grants and fellowships

2017   National Science Foundation, Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant

2017   Knapp Family Foundation Travel Grant (for AJS)

2017   American Academy for Jewish Research, Special Initiatives Grant (renewal of funding for New York Working Group on Jewish Orthodoxies)

2016   Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry, travel grant for AJS

2016	American Academy for Jewish Research, Special Initiatives Grant (to establish New York Working Group on Jewish Orthodoxies)
2014–2019	National Science Foundation, Graduate Research Fellowship
2013–2018	Henry M. MacCracken Fellowship, NYU
2012–2013	English-Speaking Union Scholarship ($20k to study at Oxford)
2012–2013	Random House Scholarship, St. Catherine's College, Oxford
2012–2013	Mendel Friedman Scholarship, Faculty of Modern Languages, Oxford
2012	Kathryn Davis Fellowship for Peace, Middlebury College (to study Russian)

Awards and honors

2014	*The Jewish Week*, 36 Under 36
2012	J. E. Wallace Sterling Award for Scholastic Achievement, Stanford (top 25 graduating students in Humanities and Sciences)
2012	Robert M. Golden Medal for the Humanities, Stanford (for best honors thesis in the Division of Literatures, Cultures, and Languages)
2012	Donald and Robin Kennedy Jewish Studies Undergraduate Award, Stanford
2012	Phi Beta Kappa, Stanford
2011	Finalist, Rhodes and Marshall Scholarships

Teaching

Linguistics

2016	Teaching assistant for Stephanie Harves, "Grammatical Analysis" (Fall semester), NYU
2016	Course instructor, "Language" (Summer session), NYU
2015	Teaching assistant for Lucas Champollion, "Language" (Spring semester), NYU
2014	Teaching assistant for Gregory R. Guy, "Language and Society" (Fall semester), NYU

Yiddish language instruction

2017	Instructor, Beginning Yiddish III, Workmen's Circle (Fall; taught online)
2017	Instructor, Intermediate Grammar, Uriel Weinreich Program in Yiddish Language, Literature, and Culture at YIVO (Summer)
2017	Instructor, Beginning Yiddish II, Workmen's Circle (Spring; taught online)
2016	Instructor, Beginning Yiddish I, Workmen's Circle (Fall; taught online)

2016   Instructor, Intermediate II Grammar, Uriel Weinreich Program in Yiddish Language, Literature, and Culture at YIVO (Summer)

2016   Instructor, Conversation II for Heritage Speakers, Workmen's Circle (Spring)

2015   Teaching assistant for Asya Vaisman Schulman, Steiner Summer Program, Yiddish Book Center

2014   Instructor, Yiddish Farm Summer Program (80 hours)

Service and employment

Departmental/university service

2017–2018   Member, *New Ways of Analyzing Variation* 47 organizing committee

2016–2018   Co-organizer (w/ Ayala Fader), *New York Working Group on Jewish Orthodoxies*

2015–2016   President, Linguistics Association of NYU

2015   Member, *Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics* 24 organizing committee

2014–2017   Member, Colloquium Committee, Department of Linguistics, NYU

2014   Member, *Semantics and Linguistic Theory* 24 organizing committee

Editorial work

2017   Guest co-editor (w/ Brian D. Joseph), special issue of the *Journal of Jewish Languages*, "Jewish language variation and contact: Fifty years after Uriel Weinreich (1926-1967)"

2015–   Managing Editor, *Jewish English Lexicon*

VAR.   I have served as a peer reviewer for *Glossa* (2016), *Linguistics* (2017), *Philological Encounters* (2016), and an edited volume on Jewish languages (2015).

Employment, internships, and volunteering

2015–   Staff writer (monthly columnist), *Yiddish Daily Forward*

2015   Research Assistant for Anna Szabolcsi, NYU (crowdsourcing linguistic judgments in Hungarian and English through Mechanical Turk)

2014–   Member, Editorial Board, *Afn shvel*, League for Yiddish

2014–2015   RA for Ayala Fader (Yiddish transcriber), Fordham University

2013   RA for Sarah Benor (researching and editing etymologies), *Jewish English Lexicon*

2012–   Founder & Director, *Leyenzal – A Yiddish Literacy Project*, 501(c)(3) (see "Technical portfolio" below)

2011	RA for Marisa Tice & Meghan Sumner, Stanford Phonetics Lab
2011	Program Assistant, Steiner Summer Internship, National Yiddish Book Center
2009	Steiner Summer Intern, National Yiddish Book Center

Technical portfolio

I have developed a number of web applications and freeware packages in Yiddish, including:

- *Leyenzal - A Yiddish Literacy Project*, 401(c)(3), a repository of new Yiddish-language lectures for advanced students. Online: `leyenzal.org`

- *Comprehensive English-Yiddish Dictionary*, a web app built from scratch in Ruby on Rails. Online (beta): `ibleaman.github.io/ceyd.html`

- *Hasidify*, a simple orthographic normalizer program that maps Standard Yiddish input to Hasidic Yiddish output. Online (beta): `ibleaman.github.io/hasidify`

- *Yiddish Klal*, a popular Standard Yiddish keyboard layout for Mac OS (`wp.nyu.edu/ibleaman/yiddish/typing`) and for Chrome OS (available in Chrome Web Store)

Languages and programming

English (native), Yiddish (fluent), Modern Hebrew (advanced), Russian (intermediate)

C, HTML, Java, LaTeX, Mechanical Turk, PHP, Praat, Python, Qualtrics, R, Ruby

Updated December 2017