

# ESZTER ÓTOTT-KOVÁCS

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## EDUCATION

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<b>Cornell University</b> Ph.D. Linguistics, Minor in Cognitive Science Title of dissertation: <i>Differential Subject Marking in Kazakh</i> Dissertation chair: Miloje Despić	2016-2023
<b>University of Szeged</b> Ph.D. Altaic Studies Title of dissertation: <i>The syntax of non-finite clauses in Kazakh</i>	2011-2016
<b>University of Szeged</b> M.A. Altaic Studies	2009-2011
<b>University of Szeged</b> B.A. Hungarian Literature and Linguistics	2006-2009

## EMPLOYMENT

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<b>University of Toronto</b> SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow Supervisor: Arsalan Kahnemuyipour	2024 Sep-
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## STUDY AND FIELDWORK

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Fieldwork, Astana & Taraz, Kazakhstan	Jun-Jul 2019
Summer School (London School in Bishkek), Kirgizstan	Jul-Aug 2018
Fieldwork, Bishkek, Kirgizstan	Jan 2018
Fieldwork, L.N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University, Astana, Kazakhstan	Dec 2014
Fieldwork, L.N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University, Astana, Kazakhstan	May 2014
Studies at Al-Farabi Kazakh National University	May-Jun 2013
Yunus Emre Turkish Summer Course, TÖMER of Ankara University, Ankara, Turkey	Jul-Aug 2012
Erasmus student, Hacettepe University, Turkish Lang. and Lit. Dept., Ankara, Turkey	Feb-Jun 2010

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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<b>Teaching Assistant</b> University of Toronto Mississauga	2022
<b>Teaching Assistant</b> Cornell University	2016 - 2022
<b>Assistant Lecturer (Tenure track)</b> University of Szeged, Dept. of Altaic Studies	2011 - 2016

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Peer-Reviewed Articles

<i>Specifications of D derives variations in relative clauses</i> (Co-author: Zhiyu Mia Gong) <i>Journal of East Asian Languages</i>	submitted
<i>Pluractional Motion Verbs in Turkish</i> (Co-author: Greg Key) <i>Theoretical Studies on Turkic Languages: A special issue of Languages</i> . Ed. Jaklin Kornfilt	2024

- Control and intermediate scrambling: An investigation of Kazakh relative clauses* 2024  
*Glossa: a journal of general linguistics* 9.1 (2024)
- Argument Introducing Pluractionals: An Investigation of Kyrgyz and Kazakh Assistives* 2024  
*Natural Language & Linguistic Theory* (2024): 1-65.
- Restrictions on genitive subjects in Kazakh relative clauses* 2021  
 In Palaz, B. & L. Stromdahl (eds.) In Proceedings of the Workshop on Turkic and Languages in Contact with Turkic Vol. 5, No. 1. 110-124.
- Kazakh non-finite clauses followed by -LIQ as a case in favor of the clause-internal nominalization hypothesis* 2018  
 In Kornfilt, Jaklin & Yilmaz Koylu (eds.) Papers in Turkish and Turkic Linguistics. Indiana University: Bloomington.
- On the causative-marked passive clauses in Old Turkic* 2015  
 In Deniz Zeyrek et al. (eds). Ankara Papers in Turkish and Turkic Linguistics. Wiesbaden, Harrasowitz. 604-613.

### Articles (peer reviewed by abstract)

- Variation in the subject position requires both relative clause-external and internal analyses* to appear  
 (co-author: Mia Gong)  
 In Proceedings of the 43rd West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics
- Space and Attention in the Kyrgyz Demonstrative System* 2025  
 (co-authors: Tolgonay Kubatova, Harrison Saunders, and Jonathan Washington)  
 In Proceedings of the Linguistic Society of America 10.1 (2025): 5944-5944.
- Differential Subject Marking in Kazakh* 2022  
 In Proceedings of the 45th Annual Penn Linguistics Conference, Vol 28, Iss. 1.
- Double Evidential Morphology in Turkish* 2021  
 In Proceedings of the Linguistic Society of America Vol 6, No 1. 761-768
- Nasal assimilation in Kazakh* 2019  
 In Proceedings of the 14th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics (WAFLL14). MIT Working Papers in Linguistics #90. 205-219.

### Reviews

- İbrahim Ahmet Aydemir: Konverbien im Tuwinischen. Eine Untersuchung unter Berücksichtigung des Altay-Dialekts* 2012

### Books in Hungarian

- [*Huastuanift. The Old Turkic Manichean Prayer of Confession. Transliteration, Transcription, Translation, Indexes, Annotations*] 2014  
 Co-authors Biacsi, M. & B. Danka, Altajisztikai Tankönyvtár 3. Szeged.

### Peer-Reviewed Articles in Hungarian

- [*Non-finite subordinate clauses in the Volga-Kama Sprachbund*] 2016  
 co-author Ekaterina Georgieva  
 Gécseg Zsuzsanna (ed.) LingDok 15. Nyelvészdoktoranduszok dolgozatai. Szegedi Tudományegyetem, Nyelvtud. Dok. Isk., 51-67.
- [*Classification of Kazakh non-finite clauses*] 2015  
 Gécseg Zsuzsanna (ed.) LingDok 14. Nyelvészdoktoranduszok dolgozatai. Szegedi Tudományegyetem, Nyelvtud. Dok. Isk., 145-164.
- [*Negation in the Kazakh sentences containing converb clauses*] 2014  
 Gécseg Zsuzsanna (ed.) LingDok 13. Nyelvészdoktoranduszok dolgozatai. Szegedi Tudományegyetem, Nyelvtud. Dok. Isk., 125-142.
- [*On the development of Old Turkic passive constructions marked with causative suffixes*] 2013  
 Gécseg Zsuzsanna (ed.) LingDok 12. Nyelvészdoktoranduszok dolgozatai. Szegedi Tudományegyetem, Nyelvtud. Dok. Isk., 221-238.

### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Specification of D Derives Variation in Relative Clauses* Apr. 26, 2025  
 co-author: Zhiyu Mia Gong  
 Talk at 43rd West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics, University of Washington
- Specification of D Derives Variation in Relative Clauses* March 1, 2025  
 co-author: Zhiyu Mia Gong

Talk at Tu+ 10, USC <i>Verbal Reciprocals in Turkish are Underlyingly Deponent</i>	March 2, 2025
co-author: Greg Key	
Talk at Tu+ 10, USC <i>Space and Attention in the Kyrgyz Demonstrative System</i>	Jan 10, 2025
co-authors Tolgonay Kubatova, Harrison Saunders & Jonathan Washington	
Talk at the Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA100) <i>Deriving the Coercive-Permissive Distinction from the Causee's Thematic Role</i>	March 23, 2024
Talk at the Workshop on Turkic and languages in contact with Turkic (Tu+9), Cornell <i>The Causee's Thematic Roles: Deriving the Permissive-Coercive Distinction in Affixal Causatives</i>	March 16, 2024
Talk at The 48th Penn Linguistics Conference, UPenn <i>A-bar movement feeds case assignment: Evidence from Kazakh differential subject marking</i>	March 5, 2023
Talk at the Workshop on Turkic and languages in contact with Turkic (Tu+8), Harvard <i>Postsyntactic Operations and Turkic 3PL Agreement Patterns</i>	Feb 19, 2022
Talk at the Workshop on Turkic and languages in contact with Turkic (Tu+7), UConn <i>A tale of two -mİş's: between evidential and attitudinal semantics</i>	Feb 18, 2022
co-author Lingzi Zhuang	
Talk at the Workshop on Turkic and languages in contact with Turkic (Tu+7), UConn <i>How reportatives become attitudinal: Turkish "double evidential" in diachronic and cross-linguistic view</i>	Jan 9, 2022
co-author Lingzi Zhuang	
Talk at the Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA96) <i>Argument-Introducing Pluractionals: A New Way to Introduce Arguments</i>	Jan 8, 2022
Talk at the Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA96) <i>Argument-Introducing Pluractionals: A New Way to Introduce Arguments</i>	Nov 12, 2021
Talk at MoMOT 5, University of Ottawa <i>Assistive: A New Type of Argument Introducing Head</i>	May 6, 2021
Poster at CLS 57 <i>Assistive: A New Type of Argument Introducing Head</i>	Apr 8, 2021
Talk at the 39th meeting of the West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL39) <i>Differential Subject Marking in Kazakh</i>	March 20, 2021
Talk at the 45th Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC45) <i>Genitive-Nominative Alternation in Kazakh Complement Clauses</i>	Feb 20, 2021
Flash talk at the Workshop on Turkic and languages in contact with Turkic (Tu+6) <i>Double Evidential Morphology: Dubitative or Evaluative?</i>	Jan 9, 2021
Talk at the Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA95) <i>Non-local agreement in Kazakh relative clauses?</i>	Feb 8, 2020
Poster at the Workshop on Turkic and languages in contact with Turkic (Tu+5) <i>Possessed Relatives in Turkic</i>	Jan 3, 2020
Poster at the Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA94) <i>Genitive-marked subjects in Kazakh relative clauses</i>	Sep 26, 2019
Talk at the 15th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics (WAFL15) <i>Kazakh complex predicates: Functional projections above VP</i>	Oct 26, 2018
Talk at "Combining verbs in and across languages," Charles University, Prague <i>Nasal assimilation in Kazakh and Kyrgyz</i>	Oct 21, 2018
Talk at the 14th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics (WAFL14) <i>Clause chaining in Kazakh</i>	Aug 18, 2018
Talk at the 19th International Conference on Turkish Linguistics (ICTL19) <i>Subject agreement marking in Kazakh non-finite clauses</i>	Nov 19, 2016
Poster at "Turkish, Turkic and the Languages of Turkey" (Tu+2) <i>Truncation and overt subjects: Two types of non-finite clauses in Kazakh</i>	Apr 2, 2016
Poster at "NonFinite Subjects," University of Nantes <i>On the complex sentences in the Old Turkic Huastuanift</i>	Sep 10, 2015
Talk at "The Role of Religion in Turkic Culture," Budapest <i>Syntactic similarities between Udmurt and Tatar non-finite clauses?</i>	Aug 17, 2015

co-author Ekaterina Georgieva

Poster at the XII International Congress for Finno-Ugric Studies (CIFU)

*Kazakh -(I)p-clauses: A case of underspecification*

Jun 6, 2015

Talk at the 11th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics (WAFL11)

*Are the Kazakh -GAn-headed non-finite clauses nominalised?*

Sep 5, 2014

Talk at the 17th International Conference on Turkish Linguistics (ICTL17)

*On the Use of Accusative Case in Passive Clauses*

Sep 19, 2012

co-author Éva Kincses-Nagy

Talk at the 16th International Conference on Turkish Linguistics (ICTL16)

*Syntactic Passive Structures in Old Turkic*

Sep 18, 2012

Talk at the 16th International Conference on Turkish Linguistics (ICTL16)

## INVITED TALKS

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*Towards a Syntactic Typology of Relative Clauses with Non-local Agreement*

June 26, 2026

Invited speaker at MixPAC Workshop on Mixed Projections, ELTE Research Centre for Linguistics, Budapest, Hungary

*Dissecting Relative Clauses with Genitive Subjects: A Methodology* (with Mia Gong)

Oct. 23, 2024

Talk at Seminar in Syntax: Topics in Turkic, USC

*Argument Introducing Event Pluralizers*

Apr. 18, 2024

Talk at the Syntax Workshop, UMass Amherst

*A-bar-Movement Feeds Case Assignment: Evidence from Kazakh Differential Subject Marking*

Nov. 18, 2022

Talk at Syntax Research Group, University of Toronto

*Turkic languages and Turkic Writing Systems*

May 19, 2021

Talk at the Languages of the World course, McGill University

*Subject Agreement Microvariation in Turkic languages*

Apr 2, 2021

Talk at the Introduction to Linguistics course, Cornell University

*Genitive-Nominative Case Alternation in the Nominal Domain in Kazakh*

Apr 1, 2021

Invited talk at McGill Fieldwork Lab

*Turkic languages and Turkic Writing Systems*

March 18, 2021

Talk at the Languages of the World course, McGill University

*Subject Agreement Microvariation in Turkic languages*

March 9, 2020

Talk at the Introduction to Linguistics course, Cornell University

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Teaching Assistant at the University of Toronto Mississauga

Introduction to General Linguistics: Words, Sentences, their Structure and Meaning

2022 Fall

Instructor: Michelle Troberg

### Teaching Assistant at Cornell University

Pragmatics (grader)

2022 Spring

Instructor: Sarah Murray

Introduction to Cognitive Science

2022 Spring

Instructor: Shaun Nichols

Introduction to Linguistics

2021 Spring

Instructor: Sam Tilsen

Introduction to Linguistics

2020 Spring

Instructor: Sam Tilsen

Introduction to Linguistics

2019 Fall

Instructor: Sarah Murray

Native American Languages

2019 Spring

Instructor: Sarah Murray

Introduction to Linguistics	2018 Fall
Instructor: Miloje Despić	
Introduction to Linguistics	2018 Spring
Instructor: Wayne Harbert	
Language and Society	2017 Fall
Instructor: Sally McConnell-Ginet	

### **Assistant Lecturer at the University of Szeged**

Turkish language (Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced)	2011-2016
Course instructor	
Introduction to Turkology	2011-2016
Course instructor	
Introduction to Turkic Historical Sources	2011-2016
Course instructor	
Turkic Loanwords in Hungarian	2011-2016
Course instructor	
Introduction to Turkish Syntax	2015
Course instructor	

### **SERVICE**

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Cornell GPSAFC (Finance Committee) Chair	2019-2020
Member of Cornell Graduate & Professional Student Assembly Finance Commission	2017-2020
Cornell Linguistics Circle Treasurer	2018-2019
Cornell Linguistics Circle Speaker Series coordinator	2017-2018
Cornell Linguistics Circle Junior Speaker Series coordinator	2016-2017
Cornell Linguistics Circle Junior Treasurer	2017

### **LANGUAGE SKILLS**

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<b>Native</b>	Hungarian
<b>Near-native</b>	English, Turkish
<b>Advanced</b>	German, Kazakh, Kyrgyz
<b>Intermediate</b>	Russian, Turkmen
<b>Reading</b>	Old Turkic (Runic, Uyghur, Manichean), Middle-Turkic (Chagatai, East Anatolian Turkish)