Aaron Braver

Curriculum Vitæ

Texas Tech University
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■ Academic positions

2019–present	**Associate Professor of Linguistics**, *Texas Tech University*, Lubbock, TX
	Department of English, Linguistics Program
	Director, Texas Tech Phonetics and Phonology Linguistics Laboratory
	Affiliated faculty member, Department of Philosophy
	Affiliated faculty member, Department of Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures
2022–present	**Senior Research Associate**, *Rhodes University*, Makhanda, South Africa
	Honorary appointment in the department of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies
2013–2019	**Assistant Professor of Linguistics**, *Texas Tech University*, Lubbock, TX

■ Education

2007–2013	**Ph.D. in Linguistics**, *Rutgers University*, New Brunswick, NJ
	Degrees of Incompleteness in Neutralization: Paradigm Uniformity in a Phonetics with Weighted Constraints
2003–2007	**B.A.**, *Brandeis University*, Waltham, MA
	Linguistics/Cognitive Science (with honors) and Anthropology
	Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa

■ Publications

Journal articles (peer reviewed)

1. <u>Aaron Braver</u> and Nikki Lyssy (in prep.). Making Ling 101 accessible for blind students. To be submitted to *Language* in February 2025.

2. Stefano Coretta, Joseph V. Casillas, …, <u>Aaron Braver</u>, …, and Timo B. Roettger (2023). Multidimensional signals and analytic flexibility: Estimating degrees of freedom in human speech analyses. *Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science* 6(3):1–29. doi:10.1177/25152459231162567.

3. <u>Aaron Braver</u> and Will Bennett (2020). Different speakers, different grammars: Productivity and representation of Xhosa labial palatalization. *Phonological Data and Analysis* 2(6). doi:10.3765/pda.v2art6.9.

4. Takehiro Iizuka, Kimi Nakatsukasa, and <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2020). The efficacy of gesture on second language pronunciation: An exploratory study of handclapping as a classroom instructional tool. *Language Learning* 70(4). doi:10.1111/lang.12415.

5. <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2019). Modelling incomplete neutralisation with weighted phonetic constraints. *Phonology* 36(1):1–36. doi:10.1017/S0952675719000022.

6. <u>Aaron Braver</u> and Will Bennett (2016). Phonotactic c(l)ues to Bantu noun class disambiguation. *Linguistics Vanguard* 2(1):1–11. doi:10.1515/lingvan-2016-0062.

7. Will Bennett and <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2015). The productivity of 'unnatural' labial palatalization in Xhosa. *Nordlyd* 42:33–44 (special issue on palatalization). doi:10.7557/12.3738.

8. <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2014). Imperceptible incomplete neutralization: Production, identification, and discrimination of /d/ and /t/ flaps in American English. *Lingua* 152:24–44. doi:10.1016/j.lingua.2014.09.004.

9. Shigeto Kawahara and <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2014). Durational properties of emphatic consonants in Japanese. *Journal of the International Phonetic Association* 44(3):237–260. doi:10.1017/S0025100314000085.

10. Shigeto Kawahara and <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2013). The phonetics of multiple vowel lengthening in Japanese. *Open Journal of Modern Linguistics* 3(2):141–148. doi:10.4236/ojml.2013.32019.

Book chapters

1. Will Bennett and <u>Aaron Braver</u> (in prep.). Xhosa. In Bonny Sands, Anne-Maria Fehn, Didier Demolin, and Maida Percival (eds.) *Non-pulmonic Consonants* (Studies in Phonetics and Phonology). Commissioned by Equinox.

2. <u>Aaron Braver</u> (to appear). Mergers and Neutralization. In Kuniya Nasukawa, Bridget Samuels, Geoffrey Schwartz, Miklós Törkenczy (eds.) *The Wiley Blackwell Companion to Phonology, Second Edition*. Revision of chapter by Alan C.L. Yu in the first edition.

Conference proceedings

1. <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2023). Naturalness as a heuristic for (in)complete neutralization: Xhosa's 'unnatural' labial palatalization. In *Proceedings of NELS 53*, vol. 1, pp. 119–128.

2. Peter Westfall, Andrea Arias, <u>Aaron Braver</u>, and Joshua Fredman (2020). You like day-tuh and I like daa-tuh; let's call the whole thing off! In *2020 Proceedings of the Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, & Education Conference*.

3. <u>Aaron Braver</u> and Will Bennett (2016). Phonotactics of noun class disambiguation in Xhosa. In *Proceedings of the 2015 Annual Meeting on Phonology*.

4. <u>Aaron Braver</u> and Shigeto Kawahara (2016). Incomplete neutralization in Japanese monomoraic lengthening. In *Proceedings of the 2014 Annual Meeting on Phonology*.

5. <u>Aaron Braver</u>, Natalie Dresher, and Shigeto Kawahara (2016). The phonetics of emphatic vowel lengthening in English. In *Proceedings of the 2014 Annual Meeting on Phonology*.

6. <u>Aaron Braver</u> and Shigeto Kawahara (2015). Incomplete neutralization via paradigm uniformity and weighted constraints. In *Proceedings of NELS 45*, vol. 1, pp. 115–124.

7. <u>Aaron Braver</u> and Shigeto Kawahara (2014). Incomplete vowel lengthening in Japanese: A first study. In *Proceedings of WCCFL 31*, pp. 86–95.

8. <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2013). Perception of incompletely neutralized /d/ and /t/ flaps in American English. In *Proceedings of NELS 42*, vol. 1, pp. 93–104.

9. <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2011). Incomplete neutralization in American English flapping: A production study. In *Proceedings of Penn Linguistics Colloquium 34*.

Books edited

1. Peter Staroverov, Daniel Altshuler, <u>Aaron Braver</u>, Carlos A. Fasola, and Sarah Murray (eds.; 2010). *Rutgers Working Papers in Linguistics (RuWPL) 3*. Rutgers LGSA, New Brunswick.

Invited talks

1. <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2024). Making Ling 101 accessible for blind students. Washington University in St. Louis.

2. <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2018). Pedagogical gestures in computer-mediated language learning. University of Calgary.

3. <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2018). Gesturing avatars in computer-mediated learning of vowel length contrasts. 7th Annual Conference on Applied Linguistics and Intercultural Communication in Higher Education (CALICHE). Texas Tech University.

4. <u>Aaron Braver</u> and Will Bennett (2015). Using root shape to choose among prefixes in Xhosa. Colloquium talk. Seoul National University.

5. <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2014). What does emphatic lengthening tell us about binary length distinctions? Cognitive Science Brown Bag lecture. Texas Tech University.

6. <u>Aaron Braver</u> and Shigeto Kawahara (2012). Monomoraic lengthening in Japanese as incomplete neutralization. Colloquium talk. Seoul National University.

7. <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2008). Features, markedness, and articulatory, phonetic, and phonological constraints in signed languages. Rutgers University Signed Languages Reading Group.

Conference sessions, presentations, and posters

Special sessions organized

1. Illustrating African Phonologies (with Will Bennett) (2025). 2025 Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Society of America. Philadelphia. http://www.aaronbraver.com/lsa2025.

2. Bantu and Khoisan Laboratory Phonology (with Will Bennett) (2013). Congrès International des Linguistes. Geneva.

Refereed conferences

1. Will Bennett, <u>Aaron Braver</u>, Tyler Miller, Khethani Yende, Camilla Christie (2025). Click perception experiments in Xhosa and Zulu. 2025 Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America. Philadelphia.

2. Mark de Vos, Will Bennett, Paige Cox, and <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2024). Anomalous L2 syllable count judgments. South African Microlinguistics Workshop (SAMWOP) 12. University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.

3. <u>Aaron Braver</u> and Will Bennett (2024). Acoustic and EGG examination of trilled stops in isiMpondo. Annual Conference on African Languages (ACAL) 55. Montreal.

4. <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2023). Degree of Neutralization in Xhosa's 'Unnatural' Labial Palatalization. North East Linguistic Society (NELS) 53. Göttingen, Germany.

5. <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2023). Neutralization in an unnatural process: Labial palatalization in Xhosa. 97th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA). Denver.

6. <u>Aaron Braver</u> and Shigeto Kawahara (2020). Perception of fine-grained duration distinctions: Evidence from English pragmatic emphasis. 94th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA). New Orleans.

7. Kimi Nakatsukasa, <u>Aaron Braver</u>, and Miranda Scolari (2019). Attending to a Gesturing Avatar Facilitates Perception of L2 Phonology: An Eye-Tracking Study. American Association for Applied Linguistics (AAAL) 2019. Atlanta.

8. Kimi Nakatsukasa, <u>Aaron Braver</u>, and Miranda Scolari (2019). Gestures' limited effect on L2 phonology development: an eye-tracking study. Second Language Research Forum (SLRF) 2019. Michigan State University.

9. <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2019). Neutralization in Xhosa's 'unnatural' labial palatalization. 93rd Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA). New York, New York.

10. Liang Guangsheng, Vinh T (2019). Nguyen, Kimi Nakatsukasa, <u>Aaron Braver</u>, Tommy Dang, and Miranda Scolari. Multisensory Integration of Visual and Auditory Signals during Second Language Learning. Vision Sciences Society (VSS). St. Pete Beach, Florida.

11. <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2018). Neutralization of underlying vs. derived 'unnatural' palatals in Xhosa. 176th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America (ASA). Victoria, BC, Canada.

12. Kimi Nakatsukasa, <u>Aaron Braver</u>, and Miranda Scolari (2018). Attention in computer-mediated learning: Avatars' gestures in learning vowel length contrasts. Second Language Research Forum (SLRF) 2018. Université du Québec à Montréal.

13. <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2018). Underlying vs. derived palatals in Xhosa: Neutralization of an 'unnatural' pattern. 2018 Annual Meeting on Phonology (AMP). UC San Diego.

14. <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2017). How do you whisper a click? Acoustic correlates of click voicing in whispered speech. 2017 Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA). Austin, Texas.

15. <u>Aaron Braver</u> and Seunghun J (2017). Lee. Perceiving non-native contrasts: Xitsonga's 'whistled' fricative vs. [ʃ]. 2017 Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA). Austin, Texas.

16. <u>Aaron Braver</u> and Seunghun J (2016). Lee. An anti-dispersive contrast: Xitsonga's 'whistled' fricative vs. [ʃ]. Annual Meeting on Phonology (AMP) 2016. USC.

17. Takehiro Iizuka, Kimi Nakatsukasa, <u>Aaron Braver</u>, and Andrew Farley (2016). Bridge between syllabic and moraic languages: Does gesture help pronunciation learning? Second Language Research Forum (SLRF) 35. Columbia University.

18. Aaron Braver and Will Bennett (2016). Length-based allomorphy in Xhosa noun class prefixes. 2016 Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA). Washington, DC.

19. Aaron Braver and Will Bennett (2015). Abstract morphological information cued by phonotactics: Noun class disambiguation in Xhosa. 2015 Annual Meeting on Phonology (AMP). Vancouver.

20. Danica Kreusch, Will Bennett, and Aaron Braver (2015). Disambiguating isiXhosa noun classes with phonotactic c(l)ues. 8th World Congress of African Linguistics (WOCAL). Kyoto.

21. Kelly Goldstuck, Will Bennett, and Aaron Braver (2015). Experimentally assessing length-based noun prefix alternations in isiXhosa. 8th World Congress of African Linguistics (WOCAL). Kyoto.

22. Aaron Braver and Will Bennett (2015). Phonology or morphology: inter-speaker differences in Xhosa labial palatalization. LSA Annual Meeting 2015. Portland, Oregon.

23. Will Bennett and Aaron Braver (2014). Wug-testing a case of 'unnatural' labial palatalization in Xhosa. Palatalization Conference. University of Tromsø.

24. Aaron Braver and Seunghun J (2014). Lee. Perceiving small contrasts: Xitsonga's 'whistled' fricative vs. [ʃ]. South African Microlinguistics Workshop (SAMPWOP) 3. North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus, South Africa.

25. Aaron Braver and Will Bennett (2014). Wug-testing bilabial palatalization in isiXhosa passivized verbs. South African Microlinguistics Workshop (SAMWOP) 3. North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus, South Africa.

26. Aaron Braver and Shigeto Kawahara (2014). Incomplete neutralization via paradigm uniformity and weighted constraints. North East Linguistic Society (NELS) 45. MIT.

27. Aaron Braver, Natalie Dresher, and Shigeto Kawahara (2014). The phonetics of emphatic vowel lengthening in English. Annual Meeting on Phonology (AMP) 2014. MIT.

28. Aaron Braver and Shigeto Kawahara (2014). Modeling incomplete neutralization: Paradigm uniformity and a phonetics with weighted constraints. Annual Meeting on Phonology (AMP) 2014. MIT.

29. Aaron Braver and Shigeto Kawahara (2013). Japanese monomoraic vowel lengthening as incomplete neutralization. Congrès International des Linguistes. Geneva.

30. Aaron Braver and Shigeto Kawahara (2013). Incomplete vowel lengthening: Japanese monomoraic lengthening as incomplete neutralization. WCCFL 31. Arizona State University.

31. Aaron Braver and Shigeto Kawahara (2013). Incomplete neutralization of Japanese vowel length in monomoraic nouns. LSA Annual Meeting 2013. Boston.

32. Aaron Braver (2011). The perception of incompletely neutralized /d/ and /t/ flaps in American English. NELS 42. University of Toronto.

33. Aaron Braver (2010). Is there incomplete neutralization in American English flapping? Manchester Phonology Meeting 18. University of Manchester.

34. Aaron Braver (2010). Incomplete neutralization in American English flapping. Penn Linguistics Colloquium 34. University of Pennsylvania.

35. Aaron Braver (2010). Incomplete neutralization in American English flapping. Laboratory Phonology 12. University of New Mexico.

36. <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2009). Restrictions on DP-internal ellipsis in Spanish. Hispanic Linguistics Symposium 2009. San Juan, Puerto Rico.
37. <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2007). Is N-drop NP-ellipsis? Harvard Undergraduate Linguistics Colloquium 5. Harvard University.

Non-refereed workshops (selected)

1. <u>Aaron Braver</u> and Shigeto Kawahara (2012). Monomoraic lengthening in Japanese as incomplete neutralization. Tokyo Circle of Phonologists. University of Tokyo.
2. <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2011). (Im)perceptible incomplete neutralization: Two experiments on flapping in American English. Rutgers, UMass, MIT meeting of phonologists (RUMMIT) II. Rutgers University.
3. <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2009). A task effect on incomplete neutralization? UMass/MIT Meeting of Phonologists (UMMM) 2009. UMass, Amherst.
4. <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2008). Does phonological output contain morphological structure? Evidence from consistency of exponence and fine phonetic details. Hopkins-UMD-Rutgers-UMass joint meeting (HUMDRUM) 2008. Rutgers University.

Advisees' projects

1. William Kariampuzha, Aetizaz Sameer, Olivia Chen, Hannah Kang, Aaron Flores, and <u>Aaron Braver</u> (2020). Estimating Lexicon Size Based Upon Zipf's Law: A Novel Mathematical Approach. 12th Annual Texas Tech Undergraduate Research Conference.

▪ Awards, grants, and fellowships

1. TTU Humanities Center Alumni College Fellowship (2025; $5,800)
   Language learning by osmosis: Click perception by monolingual English speakers in different cultural contexts
2. TTU Institute for Faculty Excellence (2024–2025)
3. TTU Faculty Travel Grant (Summer 2024; $1,000)
   Acoustic and articulatory analysis of isiMpondo trilled stops
4. TTU Humanities Center Alumni College Fellowship (2023; $3,000)
   Documenting Xhosa clicks
5. Impactful Faces of First-Gen Champions Award (2022)
   For making an impact on the experience of first-generation students
6. TTU Scholarship Catalyst Program Grant (2018; $3,500)
   With Kimi Nakatsukasa, Miranda Scolari, and Tommy Dang
   Computer Avatar Language Teacher: Improving Japanese and Arabic Learners' Pronunciation
7. TTU Seed Grant for Interdisciplinary Research (2017; $100,000)
   With Kimi Nakatsukasa, Miranda Scolari, and Tommy Dang
   Teaching Foreign Language Pronunciation through Educational Avatars
8. TTU Humanities Center Fellowship (2017; $5,000)
   Words and their relatives: How morphologically related forms influence pronunciation

9. Mellon Summer Research Grant (2011)
10. Mellon Small Departmental Grant (2010, 2012)
11. Rutgers University Graduate School Conference Travel Award (2009–2011)
12. Rutgers University Graduate School Fellowship (2007–2009)

◼ Teaching

A full list of courses by semester, along with syllabi and course evaluation data, is available at www.aaronbraver.com/teaching.

Courses at Texas Tech University

Graduate
- Phonetics and Phonology
- Analyzing Quantitative Data with R
- Structure of Sign Languages
- Perception, Cognition, and Language (co-taught with Alex Grzankwoski)
- Principles of Language (introductory course)

Undergraduate
- Phonetics and Phonology
- Introduction to Language
- How Language Works/Linguistic Science
- Language in a Multicultural America
- Structure of Sign Languages

Courses at Rutgers University
- Linguistics of Signed Languages
- Introduction to Linguistic Theory
- Expository Writing

Advising

PhD students—chair
1. Gobindo Deb (in progress)
   Topic: Perception of the English tense/lax distinction by non-native English speakers
2. Murshida Rahman (in progress)
   Topic: Phonological variation and language identity among Bangla-English bilinguals

3. Katie Weiss (in progress)
   Topic: Corpus analysis of 911 phone calls

4. Amnah Madkhali (in progress)
   An Examination of Utilizing X in the Context of Indefinite Article Production Among Saudi English Learners

5. Mohammed Alahmadi (2024)
   Acoustic properties of underlying and derived contrasts in Bedouin Meccan Arabic

6. Khaleel Abusal (2023)
   Perception of American English Flaps by L1 Arabic Speakers and Native Speakers of American English

PhD committees

1. Nikki Lyssy (in progress)

2. Anna Kroon (in progress)
   Text Reuse Analysis of Eighteenth-Century Chapbooks for Understanding Copyright

3. Elizabeth Hughes (in progress)
   Determiner Usage and Bare Nominals in English-Spanish Codeswitching

4. Georgianna Ravenna (2023)
   Literacy, Text Complexity and African American English

5. Anastasia Coles (2022)
   Nominal Structure in Slavic: DP, Left Branch Extraction, and Focus Movement

6. Yilan Liu (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center; 2022)
   Phonetic and Phonological Characteristics of Mandarin-Speaking Children with Repaired Cleft Palate

MA students—chair

1. Shannon Cearley (2022)

2. Tate Quinn (2019)

3. Marcus Roberts (2019)

MA committees

1. Jamal Hossain (2024)

2. Austin Gunnels (2023)

3. Mikhaela Köhlo (Rhodes University; 2016)

4. Neal Durbin (2015)

5. Amy Huff (2014)

Service

Reviewing

Journal articles and book chapters

- *South African Applied Linguistics and Language Studies* (special issue on phonetics and phonology in Bantu, 2015, 2024)
- *Language and Linguistics Compass* (2023)
- *Journal of Asian and African Studies, Supplement* (special issue on phonetic typology, 2023)
- *Journal of Phonetics* (2014, 2016, 2023, 2024)
- *Wiley Blackwell Companion to Diachronic Linguistics* (2023)
- *Phonology* (2022, 2024)
- *Laboratory Phonology* (2016, 2018 (×2), 2019, 2020)
- *Language and Speech* (2020, 2021)
- *Handbook of Click Languages* (2019)
- *Journal of Morphology* (2019)
- *Linguistics Vanguard* (2019)
- *Glossa* (2016)
- *Phonetica* (2015)
- *Lingua* (2015)
- *Prosody Matters: Essays in Honor of Elisabeth Selkirk* (2012)

Conferences
- Laboratory Phonology (2022)
- Annual Meeting on Phonology (2016, 2017, 2018, 2020, 2022)
- LSA Annual Meeting (2014)

Service to the department (TTU English)
- Director of Linguistics (2019–present)
- Director of Undergraduate Studies for Literature, Creative Writing, and Linguistics (2020–2023)
- Organizer, Associate-to-Full Writing Group (2024–present)
- Member, Undergraduate Studies Committee (2023–present)
- Member, Tenure and Promotion Procedures Committee (2024–present)
- Member, Graduate Studies Committee (2023–present)
- Secretary, Undergraduate Studies Committee (2015–2020)
- Chair, Technology Committee (2016–2018)
- Member, Technology Committee (2014–2016; 2018–present)

Service to the college and university (Arts and Sciences/TTU)
- Member, Search committee for lecturer in English at TTU Costa Rica (2024)

- Dean's Representative, dissertation of Winson Yang (Psychology; 2023)
- Dean's Representative, dissertation of Jannick Fischer (Atmospheric Sciences; 2022)
- Member, Scholarship Catalyst Grant selection committee (2018, 2021, 2022)
- Member, search committee for faculty line in CMLL (2018)
- Member, search committee for faculty line in CMLL (2016)
- Member, Arts and Sciences Committee on Academic Programs (ASCAP; 2016–2019)

Other service

- Workshop organizer, *Appealing to an international audience: Writing abstracts and articles for international journals* (2014). (With Will Bennett and Seunghun J. Lee). University of Venda, Thohoyandou, Limpopo, South Africa.
- Editorial Assistant to Editor in Chief Joan Maling, *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* (2006–2007)

Web resources

- Linguistics how-tos: www.aaronbraver.com/howtos
- Library of linguistic grammars: www.aaronbraver.com/resources/grammars
- Library of linguistics databases: www.aaronbraver.com/resources/databases
- Praat, R, LaTeX, and Psychopy resources: www.aaronbraver.com/resources/scripts
- Useful R stuff blog: abraver.github.io/usefulRstuff
- Resources for TTU students: www.aaronbraver.com/resources/students

Technical skills

- R, Praat script, SQL, Javascript, HTML, CSS, PHP
- Praat, PsychoPy, Superlab, Audacity
- LaTeX, XƎLaTeX, *nix

Professional memberships

- Linguistic Society of America
- Association for Laboratory Phonology
- Association of Contemporary African Linguistics

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