Maria Kouneli

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Employment

2023–present	**Linguistics Department, Rutgers University** Assistant Professor
2020–2023	**Institut für Linguistik, Universität Leipzig** Assistant Professor (Juniorprofessorin, W1)
2019–2020	**Institut für Linguistik, Universität Leipzig** Post-doctoral researcher

Education

2014–2019	**New York University** Ph.D., Linguistics *Dissertation*: The syntax of number and modification: An investigation of the Kipsigis DP *Committee*: Stephanie Harves & Alec Marantz (co-chairs), Richard Kayne, Ruth Kramer, Gary Thoms
2010–2014	**Yale University** B.A., Linguistics *with honors* and Economics *Senior thesis*: The syntax of silent locative prepositions in Greek *Advisors*: Bob Frank & Jim Wood

Grants

2020–2024	German Research Foundation (DFG) grant for project *Layers of morphosyntactic number in Eastern Sudanic* (project number: 439622645, award money: €424.800) Part of the Collaborative Research Unit *Cyclic Optimization* (The grant was transferred to Prof. Jochen Trommer when I moved to Rutgers)

Publications (peer-reviewed journal articles)

accepted with minor revisions	Driemel, Imke and Maria Kouneli. C-Agree is local subject-verb agreement in Kipsigis. *Natural Language & Linguistics Theory*.

2023	Asiimwe, Allen, Maria Kouneli, and Jenneke van der Wal. Determiner Spreading in Rukiga. *Linguistics* 61.5: 1285–1339.
2022	Kouneli, Maria. Inflectional classes in Kipsigis. *Glossa: a journal of general linguistics* 47(1).
2021	Kouneli, Maria and Yining Nie. Across-the-board tonal polarity in Kipsigis: Implications for the morphology-phonology interface. *Language* 97.2: e111–e138.
2021	Kouneli, Maria. Number-based noun classification: The view from Kipsigis. *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory* 39.4: 1195–1251.

Publications (peer-reviewed chapters in edited volumes)

to appear	Fenger, Paula and Maria Kouneli. Words and Features. *Cambridge Handbook of Comparative Syntax*.
2018	Kouneli, Maria. Plural marking on mass nouns: Evidence from Greek. In Myriam Dali, Eric Mathieu & Gita Zareikar [eds.], *Gender and noun classification*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
2013	Kouneli, Maria, Julien Meyer and Andrew Nevins. Whistled languages: including Greek in the continuum of endangerment situations and revitalization strategies. In Mari C. Jones & Sarah Ogilvie [eds.], *Keeping Languages Alive; Documentation, Pedagogy and Revitalization*:198–211. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Publications (conference proceedings)

to appear	Kouneli, Maria, Paula Fenger, and Jonathan Bobaljik. Syntactic Limitations on Phonological Dominance. *Proceedings of WCCFL 40*.
to appear	Driemel, Imke, and Maria Kouneli. <v,t>-type complementation in Kipsigis. In *Proceedings of WCCFL 39*.
2022	Kouneli, Maria, and Yuriy Kushnir. Failed clitic doubling of plural indirect objects in Greek. In Özge Bakay, Breanna Pratley, Eva Neu and Peyton Deal [eds.], *NELS 52: Proceedings of the Fifty-Second Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society*, Vol. 2: 159-172. Amherst: GLSA.
2022	Driemel, Imke, and Maria Kouneli. A dedicated topic position in Kipsigis. In Henrison Hsieh [ed.], *Proceedings of TripleA 8: Fieldwork Perspectives on the Semantics of Understudied Languages of Africa, Asia, Australia, and Oceania*, 1-20. Singapore: NUS ScholarBank.

2021	Kouneli, Maria. Low (in)transitivity: Evidence from Kipsigis. In Alessa Farinella & Angelica Hill [eds.], *Proceedings of the Fifty-First Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS 51)*, 53-66. Amherst: GLSA.
2019	Kouneli, Maria. Determiner spreading and modification in Kipsigis. In *Proceedings of the 54th Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society* (CLS 54).
2017	Kouneli, Maria. The morphological expression of number in Kalenjin. In Andrew Lamont & Katerina Tetzloff [eds.], *Proceedings of the 47th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society* (NELS 47), Vol.2: 167-176. Amherst: GLSA.

Invited Talks

2024	Title TBD. Keynote talk to be given at *WCCFL 42*, UC Berkeley, April 12–14.
2024	Title TBD. Colloquium talk to be given at Georgetown University, April 19.
2024	Title TBD. Invited talk to be given at the 1st Workshop on Morphology at Princeton, March 22–24.
2023	Kouneli, Maria. Movement within vP: the case of possessor raising in Kipsigis. Keynote talk at the workshop *The syntax at the vP edge in African languages* at the Goethe Universität Franfkurt, June 29–30.
2021	Kouneli, Maria. Fieldwork in generative linguistics. Keynote talk at the 69th StuTS (Studentische Tagung Sprachwissenschaft) at Universität Leipzig.
2019	Kouneli, Maria. A relative clause analysis of Determiner Spreading. Colloquium talk at Yale University, 21 October 2019.
2014	Kouneli, Maria. Methods of revitalization of the whistled language (Τρόποι διάσωσης της σφυριχτής γλώσσας). First international workshop on the whistled language, Antia, Greece, 23 August 2014.
2014	Kouneli, Maria. The whistled language of Antia: strategies for revitalization. Hellenic Studies Program Speakers Series, Yale University, 10 February 2014.

Conference presentations (peer-reviewed)

2023	Kouneli, Maria. External possession in Kipsigis. *54th Annual Conference on African Linguistics* (ACAL 54), University of Connecticut, June 12–14 2024. [oral presentation]

2022	Kouneli, Maria. Demonstratives as heads (in some languages). *Nominal Determination: form, function, and else* at Universidade Federal de Alagoas, Maceió, Brazil, Nov 3-4. [oral presentation]
2022	Barabas-Weil, Leonie, Nadja Fiebig, Armel Jolin, Maria Kouneli, Katie McCann, Robin Ortlepp and Helene Streffer. Verbal number suppletion in nominalizations. *2022 Meeting of the LAGB* at Ulster University. [oral presentation]
2022	Kouneli, Maria, Paula Fenger and Jonathan Bobaljik. Syntactic limitations on phonological dominance. *WCCFL 40* at Stanford University, May 13-15 (online) [oral presentation]
2021	Kouneli, Maria and Yuriy Kushnir. Failed clitic doubling of plural indirect objects in Greek. *NELS* 52 at Rutgers University, Oct 29-31 (online) [oral presentation]
2021	Kouneli, Maria and Yuriy Kushnir. Failed clitic doubling of plural indirect objects in Greek. *SinFonJIA* 14 at the University of Novi Sad, Sep 22-24 (online) [oral presentation]
2021	Driemel, Imke and Maria Kouneli. A dedicated topic position in Kipsigis. *TripleA 8* at the University of Singapore, Jun 23-25 (online) [oral presentation]
2021	Kouneli, Maria. Conjugation class and transitivity in Kipsigis. Workshop on *Thematic Vowels in (V)P Structure and beyond* at the University of Graz, Apr 22-23 (online) [oral presentation]
2021	Driemel, Imke and Maria Kouneli. C-Agree is local subject-verb agreement in Kipsigis. GLOW 44, Apr 15-17 (online) [flash talk]
2021	Kouneli, Maria. High vs. Low external arguments: evidence from Kipsigis. Workshop on *Syntactic Asymmetries in African Languages*, University of Potsdam, Apr 15-16 (online) [oral presentation]
2021	Driemel, Imke and Maria Kouneli. $< v, t >$-type complementation in Kipsigis. *WCCFL 39*, University of Arizona, Apr 8-11 (online) [oral presentation]
2021	Driemel, Imke and Maria Kouneli. Verb-y and noun-y complementation in Kipsigis. Workshop *On the nouniness of propositional arguments* at the 43rd Annual Conference of the German Linguistic Society (DGfS), Freiburg, Feb 24-26 (online) [oral presentation]
2020	Driemel, Imke and Maria Kouneli. 'Say'-based complementation: Insights from Kipsigis. *BCGL 13: The syntax and semantics of clausal complementation*, Dec 17-18 (online) [oral presentation].

2020   Kouneli, Maria. Low (in)transitivity: Evidence from Kipsigis. *North East Linguistic Society (NELS)* 51 at UQAM, Nov 6-8 (online) [oral presentation]

2020   Kouneli, Maria. N-to-D movement in the Kipsigis DP. *Linearising Constituents Across Domains Workshop*, Bled Institute, Slovenia, Oct 15-16 (online) [oral presentation]

2020   Kouneli, Maria. Low (in)transitivity in Kipsigis. *51st Annual Conference on African Linguistics* (ACAL 51), Rutgers University [cancelled due to COVID-19]

2019   Kouneli, Maria. The singulative of abundance: when one means a lot. *North East Linguistic Society (NELS) 50*, MIT, Oct 25-27 2019. [oral presentation]

2019   Kouneli, Maria. Countability distinctions in languages with a tripartite system of number marking. Workshop on *Countability Distinctions of the Berkeley Linguistic Society*, UC Berkeley, Feb 8-9 2019. [oral presentation]

2018   Kouneli, Maria, and Yining Nie. Paradigmatic tonal polarity in Kipsigis. *North East Linguistic Society (NELS) 49*, Cornell University, Oct 5-7 2018. [oral presentation]

2018   Kouneli, Maria. Determiner spreading and modification in Kipsigis. *Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS) 54*, University of Chicago, Apr 26-28 2018. [oral presentation]

2018   Kouneli, Maria. Adjectival modification in Kipsigis. *GLOW 41*, Budapest, Apr 10-14 2018. [poster]

2018   Kouneli, Maria, and Deniz Ozyildiz. Graded nominal tense in Kipsigis. *49th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL 49)*, Michigan State University, Mar 22-25 2018. [poster]

2018   Kouneli, Maria. Determiner spreading in Kipsigis. *49th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL 49)*, Michigan State University, Mar 22-25 2018. [poster]

2018   Kouneli, Maria. Does Kipsigis have adjectives? *44th Incontro di Grammatica Generativa (IGG)*, Universitá Roma Tre, Mar 1-3 2018. [poster]

2016   Kouneli, Maria. Acoustics of epenthetic vowels in Brazilian Portuguese. *ASA/ASJ joint meeting*, Honolulu, November 28 – Dec 2, 2016. [poster]

2016   Kouneli, Maria. The morphological expression of nominal number in Kalenjin. *North East Linguistic Society (NELS) 47*, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Oct 14-16, 2016. [poster]

2015	Kouneli, Maria. Plural marking on mass nouns: Evidence from Greek. *Gender, Class, and Determination: A Conference on the Nominal Spine*, University of Ottawa, 18 Sep 2015. [oral presentation]
2011	Kouneli, Maria, Julien Meyer & Andrew Nevins. Whistled Languages: A Continuum of Endangerment Situations and Strategies for Revitalisation. *University of Cambridge CRASSH Conference on Language Endangerment: Documentation, Pedagogy, and Revitalization*, University of Cambridge, 25 Mar 2011. [oral presentation]

Presentations (non-peer-reviewed)

2024	Title TBD. Talk to be given at the Syntax Brown Bag, NYU, 9 February 2023.
2022	Kouneli, Maria. Causative-Applicative interactions and the Mirror Principle. Talk given at UFRJ, Rio de Janeiro, 31 October 2022.
2022	Barabas-Weil, Leonie, Nadja Fiebig, Armel Jolin, Maria Kouneli, Katie McCann, Robin Ortlepp and Helene Streffer. Verbal number suppletion in nominalizations. Talk at *GGS 46* at Universität Stuttgart.
2020	Kouneli, Maria. Low (in)transitivity: Evidence from Kipsigis. Talk at RUESHel lab meeting of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, 23 November 2020.
2020	Kouneli, Maria. The causative alternation in Kipsigis. Talk at ComSyn, Leiden University, Oct 1st 2020
2020	Driemel, Imke & Maria Kouneli. "Say"-complementation and agreement in Kipsigis. Talk at the NYU Syntax Brown Bag Talk series, May 1st 2020
2020	Driemel, Imke & Maria Kouneli. "Say"-complementation and agreement in Kipsigis. Talk gat the University of Potsdam Kolloquium, April 28 2020.
2019	Kouneli, Maria. A typology of determiner spreading. Talk at the Workshop on *Iterativity in Grammar*, University of Leipzig, December 2-3 2019.
2019	Kouneli, Maria. Some remarks on Kipsigis nominalizations. Talk at RUESHel lab meeting of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, 18 November 2019.

Other Research

2013–2014	Research Assistant for Senior Lector in Modern Greek at Yale University, Maria Kaliambou. *Project*: writing of textbook of Greek as a foreign language. *Role*: review and refine vocabulary and grammar exercises.
2013	Research and online case study on the social enterprise "Honey Care Africa" in Kenya. (together with Jane Bang and Christina Wang)
2011–2012	Research Assistant for Assistant Professor of Linguistics at Yale University, Jelena Krivokapić. *Project*: linguistic rhythm and convergence. *Role*: label data in Praat.

Teaching (as main instructor)

At Rutgers University:

Fall 2023	PhD seminar, The syntax of the noun phrase

At the University of Leipzig:

Summer Semester 2023	BA course, Syntax seminar: The syntax of African languages
Summer Semester 2023	MA/PhD course, The morphosyntax of number
Winter Semester 2022–2023	MA/PhD course, Morphology
Winter Semester 2022–2023	PhD course, The Mirror Principle and the relation between syntax and morphology (co-taught with Philipp Weisser)
Summer Semester 2022	BA course, Syntax seminar: Agreement
Summer Semester 2022	MA/PhD course, Field Methods (Ngemba)
Winter Semester 2021	BA course (double credits), Structure of Kipsigis
Summer Semester 2021	BA course, Introduction to Distributed Morphology
Summer Semester 2021	PhD course, IGRA 08: Topics in the syntax of argument structure
Winter Semester 2020–2021	MA/PhD course, Morphology
Winter Semester 2020–2021	BA course, Topics in the morphosyntax of Nilo-Saharan languages
Summer Semester 2020	MA/PhD course, Topics in Morphology: The Morphosyntax of Gender

Summer Semester 2020	MA/PhD course, Field Methods (Kikuyu)
Winter Semester 2019–2020	PhD course, IGRA 02: Interacting Building Blocks in Phonology, Morphology,and Syntax II: Excitatory and Inhibitory Simultaneous Interactions (co-taught with Gereon Müller and Ezer Rasin)

At Summer Schools:

EGG 2021	Determiner Spreading

Teaching (as teaching assistant)

Spring 2018	TA for Language, with Hadas Kotek, NYU
Spring 2017	TA for Grammatical Analysis, with Chris Collins, NYU
Spring 2016	TA for Language, with Lucas Champollion, NYU
2011-2014	Official tutor of the Yale Center for Language Study for Greek and Portuguese, Yale University

Advising at Rutgers University

Qualifying paper, committee member:

in progress	Ariela Ye
in progress	Aidan Sharma
in progress	Gérard Avelino
in progress	Thuong Bui
in progress	Jiayuan Chen

Advising at the University of Leipzig

Dissertations, chair:[1]

in progress	Leonie Barabas-Weil
in progress	Sasha Belkind
in progress	Nadja Fiebig
in progress	Armel Jolin
in progress	Helene Streffer

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[1]Since my move to Rutgers in 2023, I have nominally been the external committee member of these students.

Dissertations, committee member:

2023	Madeline Bossi (UC Berkeley - external committee member, dissertation title: *Epistemic modality across syntactic categories in Kipsigis*)

MA thesis, main supervisor:

2023	Tsan Tsai Chan (*A biclausal approach to Western Austronesian voice*)
2022	Armel Jolin (*Topics in the morphophonology of tonal case in Southern Nilotic languages*)
2021	Helene Streffer (*Gender Syncretism*)

MA thesis, second reader:

2021	Nadja Fiebig (*Unmarked Gender in Animal Nouns*)

BA thesis, main supervisor:

2022	Robin Ortlepp (*On Post- and Presyntactic Impoverishment and Obliteration*)
2021	Paula Baer (*The Katcha Number and Gender System Under a Minimalist Lens*)
2021	Sinoël Dohlen (*Theoretical approaches to syncretism in marked-nominative languages*)

BA thesis, second reader:

2023	Pauline Wölflick (*Die Interpretation von relativen und absoluten Adjektiven im Griechischen*)
2022	Hendrik Pigola (*SAY-complementation*)
2022	Nora Geppert (*Linearisierung Pronominaler Possessivaffixe im Sprachvergleich*)

Awards

2014–2019	Henry H. MacCracken Fellowship, New York University
2018	GSAS Dean's Student Travel Grant, New York University ($500)
2017, 2018	The Student Senators Council (SSC) Conference Fund award, New York University (2x$1000)
2013	Yale Jackson Institute Fellowship to conduct summer research on Honey Care, Kenya ($5000)
2014	Engberg Fellowship (for top student of the incoming PhD cohort), New York University ($1000)

Service

2020–2023	Organizer of the IGRA lecture series at Universität Leipzig
2015–2022	Volunteer interviewer for undergraduate admissions to Yale College
2015–2018	Member of the Colloquium Organizing Committee, Department of Linguistics, New York University
2013	Student representative at the Organizing Committee of the Portuguese Department at Yale University
2011–2014	President and Treasurer of the Yale Hellenic Society and Treasurer of the Yale Latin American Student Organization, Yale University

Reviewing - Journals

2022	Natural Language & Linguistic Theory (x1), Phonology (x1), Glossa (x4), ACAL Proceedings (x1), Cambridge Handbook of Comparative Syntax (x1)
2021	Natural Language & Linguistic Theory (x3), Linguistic Inquiry (x1), Phonology (x1), Journal of the Language Association of East Africa (x1), Glossa (x1)
2020	Journal of Comparative Germanic Linguistics (x1), Natural Language & Linguistic Theory (x1), Acta Linguistica Academica (x1)
2019	Linguistic Inquiry (x1)

Reviewing - Abstracts

2022	LAGB, NELS 53
2021	NELS 52
2020	NELS 51
2018	Stony Brook-Yale-NYU-CUNY (SYNC) mini-conference, Tu+4 (4th workshop on Turkic and languages in contact with Turkic)

Summer Schools (as a student)

2017	**CreteLing Summer School, University of Crete**
2015	**LSA Summer Institute, University of Chicago**
2011	**Yale Summer Session in Brazil** Portuguese language and Brazilian culture courses

| 2010 | **Universidad Complutense de Madrid** |
| | Summer courses in advanced level Spanish |

| 2008 | **Harvard Extension School** |
| | Introduction to Linguistics, Introduction to Syntax |

Languages

Native	Modern Greek
Fluent	English, Spanish, (Brazilian) Portuguese
Advanced	French
Intermediate	German (European level B2)
Conversational	Kipsigis
Basic reading	Classical Greek
Elicitation	Kalenjin dialects (Kipsigis, Nandi, Endo-Marakwet, Pokot), Ewe, Didinga, Kikuyu, Ngemba

Technology

Praat, R, LaTeX