

ANDREW ABDALIAN

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Linguistics

2023

Tulane University

New Orleans, LA

Dissertation: *Tunica at dusk and dawn: Language change during obsolescence and revival*

Committee: Judith M. Maxwell (chair), Thomas A. Klingler, Marc Zender

M.A., Linguistics

2019

Tulane University

New Orleans, LA

B.A., Linguistics

2006

Swarthmore College

Swarthmore, PA

Thesis: *Why's That Funny?? An extension to the Semantic Script Theory of Humor*

Advisor: K. David Harrison

FELLOWSHIPS

- 2021–2022 Tulane Dissertation Completion Fellowship
- 2020 William E. Franklin Fellowship in Linguistics

WORK EXPERIENCE

English Linguistic Consultant – CELI Language Technologies

2018–2019

Torino, Italy

- Analyzed and tagged data for a Natural Language Understanding project

Linguist – Tunica-Biloxi Language and Culture Revitalization Program

2017–2018

Marksville, LA

- Promoted the learning and use of the Tunica language in the Tunica-Biloxi community
- Created Tunica language pedagogical materials
- Prepared Tunica language-learning curricula for both children and adults
- Taught weekly Tunica language classes
- Oversaw the online publication of the Tunica language dictionary
- Presented on the Tunica language both within and outside of the local community
- Helped write a successful grant plan for a Tunica language mentor-apprentice program
- Helped organize the Tunica-Biloxi Language and Culture Summer Camp

TEACHING

Introduction to Native America

Fall 2019

Tulane University, New Orleans, LA

- Taught inaugural introductory course for Tulane's Native American Studies minor to 22 students

GUEST LECTURES

Linguistic aspects of language obsolescence

- Language Death – ANTH 3780/7780
Tulane University

Fall 2022
New Orleans, LA

Community-engaged scholarship and the revitalization of Tunica

- Tunica Language Structures & Revitalization – LING 3559
University of Virginia

Spring 2022
Charlottesville, VA

LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION

Tunica Language and Culture Summer Program

Summers, 2016–2019; 2023

Marksville, LA

- Led a team of volunteer teachers in teaching the Tunica language (2017–2019)
- Assisted in teaching the Tunica language (2016, 2023)

Tunica Language Immersion Workshop

Winters, 2016–2019; 2023

Marksville, LA

- Co-taught Tunica language lessons to members of the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe

Tunica Language Classes

2017–2018

Marksville, LA

- Taught weekly Tunica language courses to members of the Tunica-Biloxi tribe

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

2023 (with Craig Alcantara, Patricia Anderson, John Barbry, Meg Harvey, Raina Heaton, Mary Kate Kelly, Judith M. Maxwell, Brett C. Nelson, Donna Pierite, Elisabeth Pierite, Mackenzie Walters, and Nathan Wendte). *Rowinataworu Luhchi Yoroni / Tunica Language Textbook*. Bloomington, Indiana: Indiana University Press. ISBN: 978-0-253-06632-9.

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Forthcoming. “Alleviating Authenticity Concerns in Tunica Language Reclamation”. In: *Proceedings of the 39th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*. West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Press.

VOLUMES EDITED

2019 (with Tom Lewis and Jarrette K. Allen), eds. *Language Use in Post-Colonial & Transnational Contexts*. Fleur de Ling: Tulane University Working Papers 4. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Working Papers in Linguistics.

PRESENTATIONS

2023. “Challenges and Successes in Collaborative Language Revival: A Case Study of the Tunica Language Working Group”. LIPP-Symposium 2023 (Munich, Germany).

2021. “Alleviating Authenticity Concerns in Tunica Language Reclamation”. 39th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (online).

2021 (with Elisabeth Pierite, Donna Pierite, Meg Harvey, Tyler A. Whitaker, and N.A. Wendte). “Demystifying the Reclamation of Reawakening Languages: A Case Study of Tunica”. 7th International Conference on Language Documentation and Conservation (online).

- 2020** (with Raina Heaton). “Tunica Language Evolution: From 1880 to 2020”. SSILA Winter Meeting (New Orleans, LA).
- 2019**. “When the Internet Says You’re Dead: Language Revitalization and the Digital Resurrection of Tunica”. Texas Linguistic Society XVIII (Austin, TX).
- 2018**. “From Extinct to Reawakening: Working with Online Gatekeepers of Language Status”. Society of Linguistic Anthropology Inaugural Meeting (Philadelphia, PA).
- 2018**. “The Tunica Language Working Group: Mediating a Shared Understanding of Minority Language Importance”. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting (San Jose, CA).
- 2017**. “A Construction Grammar Approach to English Double Modals”. Southeastern Conference on Linguistics 84 (Charleston, SC).
- 2016** (with Nathalie Dajko and Lisa Sprowls). “A Preliminary Look at English in Independence, Louisiana”. Southeastern Conference on Linguistics 83 (New Orleans, LA).
- 2016** (with Thomas Klingler, Aurore Denizot, Eva Hitchcock, Sarah Goolishian, Kaitlin Maheu, Natalie Schmitz, Jonathan Slaughter, Selene Smith, Mallory Wheeler, and N.A. Wendte). “French and Creole in Louisiana and Southeast Texas”. Southeastern Conference on Linguistics 83 (New Orleans, LA).

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Kuhpani Yoyani Luhchi Yoroni – Tunica Language Working Group 2016–present

- Wrote for, edited, and typeset the *Tunica Language Textbook*
- Created web applications and an iPhone demo app to practice Tunica vocabulary and phonology
- Designed Tunica-language keyboard layouts for Mac, PC, and iOS

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Proficient in R, Praat, ELAN, Python, L^AT_EX, SQL

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

English: Native **French:** Proficient **Tunica:** Intermediate