

William C. Thomas

Curriculum Vitae

Department of English Linguistics
University of Stuttgart
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Keplerstraße 17
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Germany

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Education

The Ohio State University

Ph.D. Linguistics, 2025.

M.A. Linguistics, 2022.

Advisors: Ashwini Deo (primary) and Kathryn Campbell-Kibler

Universität Konstanz

Department of Linguistics

Visiting researcher, April 2023–August 2023.

Host: Maribel Romero

University of Chicago

S.B. Mathematics, 2017. General Honors.

Minors: Linguistics, Germanic Studies.

Academic employment

Universität Stuttgart

Department of English Linguistics

Postdoctoral researcher, 2025–present.

Supervisor: Judith Tonhauser

Ohio State University

Department of Linguistics

Graduate associate, 2018–2025.

Journal articles

Thomas, William. A probabilistic, question-based approach to additivity. Accepted pending revisions at *Semantics and Pragmatics*.

Deo, Ashwini and William Thomas. 2025. Addressing the widest question: English “just” as a domain widener. *Journal of Semantics*.

Proceedings papers

- Thomas, William and Ashwini Deo. 2024. *Just* as a scale widener with maximum-standard adjectives: emphatic/precisifying effects. *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung* 28.
- Thomas, William. 2023. English does too have a [REVERSE,+] polarity particle! *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung* 27.
- Thomas, William. 2021. Toward a unified semantics for English *either*. *Proceedings of Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT)* 31, 446–465.
- Thomas, William. 2021. Social inferences from the use of *just* as an exclusive particle. *Proceedings of the Linguistic Society of America* 6(1), 746–760.
- Thomas, William and Ashwini Deo. 2020. The interaction of *just* with modified scalar predicates. *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung* 24, 354–372.

Presentations

- Thomas, William. 2025. Refutational *too* between semantics, pragmatics, and social meaning. Talk to be delivered at New Ways of Analyzing Variation (NWAV) 53 in Ann Arbor, Michigan, November 7.
- Thomas, William. 2024. *Too* builds arguments, too: A probabilistic, question-based approach to additivity. Poster presented at Sinn und Bedeutung 29 in Noto, Italy, September 17–19.
- Thomas, William. 2024. A probabilistic, question-based approach to additivity. Talk delivered virtually to Syntax and Semantics Research Group at University of Texas-Austin, April 12.
- Thomas, William and Ashwini Deo. 2023. *Just* as a scale widener with maximum-standard adjectives: emphatic/precisifying effects. Talk delivered at Sinn und Bedeutung 28 in Bochum, Germany, September 5–8.
- Thomas, William. 2023. The discourse function of English *too*. Talk delivered to Research Colloquium in Syntax, Semantics and Pragmatics at University of Stuttgart, June 6.
- Thomas, William. 2022. English does too have a [REVERSE,+] polarity particle! Poster presented at Sinn und Bedeutung 27 in Prague, Czechia, September 14–16.
- Thomas, William. 2021. Toward a unified semantics for English *either*. Virtual poster presented at Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT) 31, hosted virtually by Brown University, May 7–9.
- Thomas, William. 2021. Taking stock of theories of the imperative: Evidence from *just*. Talk delivered at the 57th Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS), hosted virtually by the University of Chicago, May 6–8.
- Thomas, William. 2020. The discourse effect of *just* in imperative and interrogative utterances. Poster presented at the Web Summer School for Logic, Language, and Information (WeSSLLI) Virtual Student Session, hosted virtually by Brandeis University, July 12.
- Thomas, William. 2019. The interaction of *just* with modified scalar predicates. Talk delivered at Sinn und Bedeutung 24 in Osnabrück, Germany, September 4–6.
- Thomas, William. 2019. The interaction of *just* with modified scalar predicates. Poster presented at the 3rd Crete Summer School for Linguistics in Rethymnon, Greece, July 25–28.

Teaching

Ohio State University

Instructor, LING 3801 (Code Making and Code Breaking): Sp 2020–Au 2020, Au 2021–Sp 2022, Sp 2023, Au 2024

Instructor, LING 2001 (Language and Formal Reasoning): Au 2022, Au 2023–Sp 2024

Teaching Assistant, LING 3801 (Code Making and Code Breaking): Au 2019

Grader, LING 4400 (Linguistic Meaning): Sp 2019

University of Chicago

Course Assistant, MATH 13100–13300 (Elementary Functions and Calculus): Au 2014–Sp 2016

Awards and Grants

Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement (DDRI) Grant. 2023. Awarded by the National Science Foundation. PI: Kathryn Campbell-Kibler.

Arts & Humanities Graduate Research Small Grant. 2022. Awarded by the Ohio State University College of Arts and Sciences.

Best Poster (one of two). 2020. Awarded by the Web Summer School for Logic, Language, and Information (WeSSLi).

Foreign Language Acquisition Grant. 2015. Awarded by the University of Chicago for travel to the Bayreuth Summer University for Intercultural German Studies.

National Merit Scholarship. 2013. Awarded by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

Service

Department of Linguistics, Ohio State University

Peer mentor, Autumn 2023–Spring 2025.

Social Committee member, Autumn 2020–Spring 2022.

President, Student Linguistic Association, Autumn 2019–Spring 2020.

Speakers Committee member, Autumn 2018–Spring 2019.

Web Committee member, Autumn 2018–Spring 2019.

Languages

English (native)

German (advanced)

Technical skills

R

Python

L^AT_EX

PennController for IBEX