Omar Agha

Assistant Professor at University of Maryland, College Park

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Employment

2024 –	**Assistant Professor, University of Maryland, College Park**
2022 – 2023	**Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Connecticut, Storrs**

Education

2017 – 2023	**Ph.D. in Linguistics, New York University** Title: *How to Ignore Counterexamples: Homogeneity Across Times and Worlds* Advisor: Lucas Champollion Committee: Sam Alxatib, Justin Bledin, Matthew Mandelkern, Philippe Schlenker
2012 – 2016	**B.A. in Mathematics and Linguistics, University of Chicago**
2015	**LSA Linguistic Summer Institute, University of Chicago** Courses: Field Methods, Verb Initiality, Topics in Austronesian Syntax
2016	**Grammar Boot Camp at Yale University**, organized by Claire Bowern, NSF: #1423711 Participants were trained in how to create reference grammars from archival materials on endangered languages and produced a sketch grammar over the course of the program

Awards and Fellowships

2017 – 2022	**MacCracken Doctoral Fellowship**

Papers

(submitted)	*Quantifying epistemic relevance.* Alex Warstadt, **Omar Agha**, and Michael Franke. Submitted to *Open Mind*.
(in prep)	*Plural reference and exception tolerance in the semantics of habituals.* Omar Agha. In prep for resubmission to *Semantics and Pragmatics*.
(in prep)	*Non-maximal conditionals in sequence.* Omar Agha.
(in prep)	*Aspectual ambiguities via verbal decomposition in Khoekhoe.* Omar Agha.
2023	*Weak necessity modals as homogeneous definite plurals.* **Omar Agha** and Paloma Jeretič. Proceedings of SALT 32.
2022	*Testing gradient measures of relevance in discourse.* Alex Warstadt and **Omar Agha**. Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 26.
2021	*NOPE: A Corpus of Naturally-Occurring Presuppositions in English.* Alicia Parrish, Sebastian Schuster, Alex Warstadt, **Omar Agha**, Soo-Hwan Lee, Zhuoye Zhao, Samuel R. Bowman, Tal Linzen. Proceedings of CONLL, 2021.

2021	*Does Putting a Linguist in the Loop Improve NLU Data Collection?* Alicia Parrish, William Huang, **Omar Agha**, Soo-Hwan Lee, Nikita Nangia, Alex Warstadt, Karmanya Aggarwal, Emily Allaway, Tal Linzen, Samuel R. Bowman. Proceedings of EMNLP, 2021.
2020	*Non-resolving responses to polar questions: A revision to the QUD theory of relevance.* **Omar Agha** and Alex Warstadt. Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 24

Presentations

2022	*Weak necessity modals as homogeneous definite plurals.* With Paloma Jeretič. Talk given at Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT) 32, COLMEX/UNAM, June 8-10.
2021	*Plural reference and exception tolerance in the semantics of habituals.* Talk given at Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT) 31, Brown University, May 7-9.
2021	*Testing gradient measures of relevance in discourse.* With Alex Warstadt. Talk given at Sinn und Bedeutung 26, University of Cologne, September 8-10.
2019	*Non-resolving responses to polar questions: A revision to the QUD theory of relevance.* With Alex Warstadt. Poster presented at Sinn und Bedeutung 24, University of Osnabruck, September 4-6.
2019	*Event Structure and Non-culmination in Khoekhoe.* Poster presented at MACSIM 8, April 6.

Teaching Experience

2024-	Teaching at UMD. *ARHU299, LING312, LING879*
2022-2023	Classes Taught at UConn:
	Semantics, Computational Linguistics, Linguistics as Science (Undergraduate Intro to Linguistic Theory), *Intro to Coding for Cognitive Science.*
2018-2022	Teaching Assistant at NYU.

Service

2022	Co-organizer for HNM1.
2021-2022	Reviewer for journal, *Linguistics and Philosophy*
2018 – 2021	NYU Semantics Group, Organizer
2018 – 2019	NYU Linguistics Graduate Student Association, Secretary
2019	MACSIM 8 – 8th Mid-Atlantic Colloquium of Studies in Meaning, Volunteer, New York University
2021	Reviewer for conferences, ESSLLI and CoNLL

Skills

Software	LaTeX, Python, R, Amazon Mechanical Turk

Language Experience

English	native
Mandarin	research, intermediate
Khoekhoe	research, documentation work
Urdu	heritage