I am interested in phonology and in its interaction with morphology, and also in language documentation. I am currently studying how phonological processes interact with syllable structure in the agglutinative morphology of Nahua.

Eric Baković, Professor  
(BA, UC Santa Cruz; PhD, Rutgers)  
My interests are in phonological theory, and my recent research is concerned with relations and interactions between phonological maps. Most of this recent work is collaborative, with grad students (Hout, Mai, McCollum, Meinhardt) and with colleagues at other institutions (Lev Blumenfeld, Carleton Univ.; Matt Goldrick, Northwestern Univ.).

Gabriela Caballero, Associate Professor  
(BA, Sonora; PhD, UC Berkeley)  
My research focuses on language description and documentation of indigenous languages of the Americas (especially Uto-Aztecan languages), phonology, morphology and their interaction. I am especially interested in developing corpora and resources that serve both academic linguists and indigenous communities. My research interests recently extend to psycholinguistic aspects of phonological and morphological processing, tone-interonation interactions and grammatical tone.

Yuan Chai, 1st-year grad  
(BA, Beijing Normal University; MA, CU Boulder)  
My research interests are in phonetics and second language acquisition. I study how people’s native language influences their perception and production of second language. My focus is on the role of the linguistic pattern as a second language. Two of my references are phonology and the interface between the two. I have worked on second language acquisition. My recent projects include the phonetic and phonological analysis of the so-called soft ‘g’ and affix ordering in Turkish.

Marc Garellek, Associate Professor  
(BA, McGill; PhD, UCLA)  
My interests are in phonetics and laboratory phonology, especially of laryngeal sounds. My work has led to detailed phonetic analyses of diverse languages including Maayalam, Mazatec, Hmong, Tongan, and Yi. I frequently collaborate with electrical engineers and speech-language pathologists, and enjoy working with those interested in applying a quantitative analysis of speech to a broad range of scientific questions.

John B. Haviland, Distinguished Professor of Anthropology  
I focus on the social life of language in everyday interaction, most particularly among Tzotzil (Mayan) speakers of Chiapas, Mexico; speakers of Guugu Yimithirr (Parram) and its close neighbors in northeastern Queensland, Australia; and a first-generation sign language from a single extended family whose hearing members speak Tzotzil.

Kati Hout, ABD  
(BA, Ohio State; MA, UC San Diego)  
My dissertation focuses on phonological exceptionality, with an aim of situating what we refer to as “exceptions” within a larger formal framework of phonology-lexicon interactions. This involves composing a database of attested exceptions, as well as investigating the formal predictions made by existing models. I have also conducted fieldwork on two African languages: Mushunguli/Somali Chizigula (Bantu) and Bari (E. Nilotic).

Yaqian Huang, 1st-year grad  
(BA, UIBE; MA, University of Delaware)  
My research interests are speech perception and voice. I’ve probed creaky voice in Mandarin tones under focus conditions and would like to investigate how phonetic cues related to voice quality figure in perceiving linguistic contrasts as well as the native language effect. I’m also trying to draw the line between phonetic realization and phonological category, especially from a neurolinguistic perspective. I wonder how is acoustic information processed in phonological systems?

Anna Mai, 3rd-year grad  
(BA, Washington University in St. Louis)  
I study the mathematical foundations of phonological formalisms and the neural encoding of speech sounds. Current projects include an ECoG study investigating the neural representation of contrast and neutralization, an algebraic characterization of harmonic grammars, a production experiment on onset contribution to syllable weight, and a corpus study of the prosodic organization of hip-hop verse.

Adam McCollum, ABD  
(BA, Presbyterian College; MA, University of Florida)  
My research aims to inform phonology through fieldwork and quantitative approaches to understudied languages. Most of my work focuses on vowel harmony, with an emphasis on Turkic. My dissertation examines subphonemic gradience in backness harmony among four Turkic languages, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Uyghur, and Uzbek. Outside of Turkic, I have ongoing projects on labial and ATR harmony in Tturugtu (Kwa). My work addresses a range of theoretical topics, including computational complexity, locality, and defining similarity between vowels.

Justin D. McIntosh, Lecturer  
(BA, Evergreen; MA, PhD, Austin)  
My research focuses on the description and documentation of indigenous languages of Mexico (Otomanguean). I work in collaboration with speakers while considering broader research agendas that include community efforts for language conservation. My interests include tone, grammatical tone and its interaction with the morphology and grammar, archiving, and the creation of digital corpora for linguists and speakers.

Eric Meinhardt, ABD  
(University of Rochester)  
My interests lie at the intersection of linguistic theory and computational cognitive science: how pressures for communication, learnability, and cultural transmission shape linguistic typology. My dissertation work examines diachronic, phonetic, and functional vs. synchronic, phonological, and (often) nativist explanations for perceptibility effects in phonotactic typology; in collaboration with others, I am also working on how learnability may explain why more computationally complex phonological processes are rarer.

Michael Obiri-Yeboah, 2nd-year grad  
(BA, MPhil, University of Ghana)  
I am interested in fieldwork, phonology and phonetics with specific interest in speech sounds and tonal properties with their interactions with linguistic theory. I am currently working on domains and directionality of vowel harmony in Guá (a Kwa language under the Tano branch of Ghana) as well as the acoustic properties of its nasal vowels. My previous work on Guá has been on tone marking for Tense, Mood and Aspect.

Amanda Ritchart-Scott, ABD  
(BA, UCLA; MA, UC San Diego)  
My dissertation is on the production and perception of breathy voice during nasal sounds. My past research has investigated tonogenesis in Punjabi, the sociophonetics of English declarative rises, and the syntax-prosody interface of the that-trace effect.

Sharon Rose, Professor  
(BA, Toronto; MA, UQAM; PhD, McGill)  
My interests are on phonology and interaction with morphology and phonetics. I work primarily on long distance processes (harmony, dissimilation) and tone in African languages, based on primary data collection. I am currently finishing a grammar of the Kordofanian language Moro. I have supervised students on a variety of topics, ranging from sign language phonology to acquisition. I particularly welcome students interested in combining fieldwork and phonological theory.

Matt Zaslansky, 2nd-year grad  
(University of Buffalo)  
I work on morphology and its interfaces, with a focus on morphological productivity and complexity. I prefer to work with understudied languages, and my current projects are centered on delineating degrees of morphological productivity in ASL, Azerbaijani, and Post-Soviet Sign Language. I am also engaged in the collaborative description and documentation of two languages, Juhuri (SW Iranian) and Koalib (Kordofanian).