

# Zahra Mirrazi

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## Research interests

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semantics, pragmatics, syntax and their interfaces

## Education

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- 2016 – Present **University of Massachusetts, Amherst** – Amherst, MA  
PhD in Linguistics  
Dissertation: Cross-linguistic variation in the Semantics and Pragmatics of Conditionals: A View from Persian Conditionals.
- Nov–Dec 2018 **Uppsala University** – Uppsala, Sweden  
Visiting Researcher  
Sponsor: Eleanor Coghill  
Project: Micro-Variation in Aspect Splits in Neo-Aramaic languages
- 2015 – 2016 **University of Tehran** – Iran  
PhD in Linguistics – Incomplete
- 2013 – 2015 **University of Tehran** – Iran  
MA in Linguistics  
Thesis: Neg-raising in Persian  
Supervisor: Ali Darzi
- 2009 – 2013 **University of Tehran** – Iran  
BA in English Language & literature

## Summer schools

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- August 2019 **DGfS Summer School 2019. Experimental Pragmatics: Theory, Methods, Interfaces** – Humboldt-University
- July 2018 **The 2nd Crete Summer School of Linguistics**, – University of Crete, Rethymnon
- July 2017 **The 1st Crete Summer School of Linguistics** – University of Crete, Rethymnon
- July 2015 **The NY-St. Petersburg Institute of Linguistics, Cognition and Culture (NYI)** – Saint Petersburg State University

## Honors and scholarships

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- 2017 **Pre-Dissertation Summer Fellowship**  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
- 2015 **1st rank/ 900 participants. Iran's Nationwide PhD Entrance Exam**, Linguistics
- 2013 **1st rank/ 3000 participants. Iran's Nationwide MA Entrance Exam**, Linguistics
- 2009 **14th rank/ 150000+ participants. Iran's Nationwide BA Entrance Exam**, Foreign Languages

## Publications

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- Under revision **Indefinites in Negated Intensional Contexts: An argument for world-skolemized choice functions.**
- 2021 **Licensing by Modification: Existential Readings of Bare Plurals in Farsi**  
In *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 25*.

- 2021 **Functional indefinites: Skolemization As Alienable Possession.**  
In *Proceedings of the 2021 ESSLI Student Session*.
- 2021 **Neg-raising without lexical excluded middle inferences: Resolving Horn Clauses and other problems.**  
with Hedde Zeijlstra. In *Proceedings of the 23rd Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar (SICOGG 23)*
- 2019 **Micro-Variation in Aspect Splits in Nominative-Accusative system**  
UMass Amherst generals paper.
- In Prep **A non-lexical approach to Neg-raising.**  
with Hedde Zeijlstra.
- In Prep **Farsi Fake Indexicals & embedded T Agreement: Predication Matters!**  
with Rodica Ivan.

## Presentations

### Invited Presentations

- February 2022 **Persian Conditionals.**  
(upcoming) *the Iranian Linguistics Research Team, University of Arizona*
- December 2021 **Persian Counterfactuals.**  
*Converging On Causal Ontology Analyses (COCOA) come-as-you-are online workshop.*
- April 2021 **A non-lexical approach to Neg-raising.** with Hedde Zeijlstra.  
*English Linguistics Oberseminar, University of Göttingen*
- March 2021 **Modal Skolemization: Indefinites in Negative Contexts.**  
*University of Tehran*
- January 2021 **Indefinites: An Argument for Skolemization with World Variables**  
*English Linguistics Oberseminar, University of Göttingen*
- June 2018 **Farsi Fake Indexicals: Reconciling Kratzer (2009) and Wurmbrand (2017).**  
with Rodica Ivan  
*University of Tehran*
- January 2018 **Structural Locations and Competition: The Case of Persian RA.**  
with Leah Chapman  
*University of Tehran*
- January 2018 **An OT analysis of Geminaes in Farsi.**  
*University of Tehran*

### Peer-reviewed Presentations

- February 2022 **Performative conditionals.**  
(upcoming) *Commitments in Grammar and Discourse (Commit22).*
- January 2022 **Functional indefinites: Skolemization as implicit possession.**  
*The 2022 Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2022).*
- January 2022 **Neg-raising without lexical excluded middle.** with Hedde Zeijlstra.  
*The 2022 Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2022).*
- December 2021 **A non-lexical approach to Neg-raising.** with Hedde Zeijlstra.  
*Syntax and Semantics Conference in Paris (CSSP 2021)*
- December 2021 **Skolemization As Implicit Alienable Possession .** (Alternate talk)  
*Syntax and Semantics Conference in Paris (CSSP 2021)*
- October 2021 **Neg-raising without lexical excluded middle inferences.** with Hedde Zeijlstra.  
*Moscow HSE Pragmatics Workshop*

- October 2021 **Functional indefinites: Skolemization as implicit possession.**  
*Moscow HSE Pragmatics Workshop*
- August 2021 **Neg-raising without lexical excluded middle inferences in English and Farsi.** with Hedde Zeijlstra.  
*The 23rd Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar (SICOGG 23)*
- August 2021 **Skolemization As Implicit Alienable Possession.**  
*the 2021 ESSLLI Student Session*
- July 2021 **A non-lexical approach to Neg-raising.** with Hedde Zeijlstra.  
*Workshop on Negation - The 28th International Conference on HPSG*
- July 2021 **A non-lexical approach to Neg-raising.** with Hedde Zeijlstra.  
*The 36th annual conference of the Israel Association for Theoretical Linguistics (IATL 36)*
- May 2021 **A non-lexical approach to Neg-raising.** with Hedde Zeijlstra.  
*12th Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science*
- September 2020 **Micro-Variation in Aspect Splits in Nominative-Accusative system.**  
*9th Cambridge Comparative Syntax conference (CamCoS 9 New)* . co-hosted virtually by the University of Cambridge, Anglia Ruskin University and Newcastle University. UK.
- September 2020 **Licensing by Modification: Existential Readings of Bare Plurals in Farsi.**  
*Sinn und Bedeutung 25.* co-hosted virtually by University College London (UCL) and Queen Mary University of London. UK.
- May 2019 **Indefinites: An argument for Skolemization with World Variables.**  
*GLOW 42.* University of Oslo, Norway.
- May 2019 **Farsi Fake Indexicals & embedded T Agreement: Predication Matters!**  
with Rodica Ivan  
*GLOW 42.* University of Oslo, Norway.
- April 2019 **Farsi Fake Indexicals & embedded T Agreement: Predication Matters!**  
with Rodica Ivan  
*Second North American Conference in Iranian Linguistics (NACIL2),* University of Arizona, United States.
- January 2019 **Farsi Fake Indexicals & embedded T Agreement: Predication Matters!**  
with Rodica Ivan  
*The 2019 Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2019).* New York, NY.
- June 2018 **Farsi Fake Indexicals: Reconciling Kratzer (2009) and Wurmbrand (2017).** with Rodica Ivan  
*The 5th Meeting of the Semantics of African, Asian, and Austronesian Languages (TripleA 5).* University of Konstanz, Germany.
- April 2017 **Neg-Raising in Persian.**  
with Ali Darzi  
*First North American Conference in Iranian Linguistics (NACIL1),* Stony Brook University, United States.
- April 2017 **Structural Locations and Competition: The Case of Persian RA.**  
with Leah Chapman  
*First North American Conference in Iranian Linguistics (NACIL1),* Stony Brook University, United States.

## Non-Refereed Presentations

- December 2017 **Neg-Raising in Persian.**  
Talk at SNEWS 2017, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, United States.

## Teaching experience

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### 4th Virtual NYI (The NY-St. Petersburg Institute of Linguistics, Cognition and Culture)

January 2022 **Missing words and missing worlds**  
with Hedde Zeijlstra

### University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Fall 2021 **Teaching Associate, LING 201: Introduction to Linguistic Theory**  
Spring 2021 **Teaching assistant, LING 401: Introduction to Syntax**  
Instructor: Kyle Johnson  
Fall 2020 **Teaching assistant, LING 510: Introduction to Semantics**  
Instructor: Vincent Homer  
Summer 2020 **Teaching assistant, LING 101: People and Their Language**  
Instructor: Magda Oiry  
Spring 2020 **Teaching assistant, LING 620: Formal Semantics**  
Instructor: Vincent Homer  
Spring 2019 **Teaching assistant, LING 201: Introduction to Linguistic Theory**  
Instructor: Kyle Johnson  
Fall 2018 **Teaching assistant, LING 510: Introduction to Semantics**  
Instructor: Vincent Homer  
Spring 2018 **Teaching assistant, LING 101: People and Their Language**  
Instructor: Rajesh Bhatt  
Fall 2017 **Teaching assistant, LING 101: People and Their Language**  
Instructor: Magda Oiry

### University of Tehran

Summer 2018 **Instructor, Introduction to Semantics**

## Service

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### Academic Service Reviewing

**Journals** GLOSSA (2019)  
**conferences** Semantics and Linguistics Theory 32 (2022), European Summer School in Logic, Language and Information (2021), Sinn und Bedeutung: The Special Session on The Semantics of Understudied Languages and Semantic Fieldwork (2020), North American Conference on Iranian Languages (2020 [proceedings of NACIL2]), Triple A (2019).

### Professional Service

2018-2019 **Committee on Equity and Inclusiveness**  
Department of Linguistics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

## Professional skills

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**Technical** L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Python, Praat, R, PsychoPy  
**Languages** English (fluent), Farsi (native), Arabic (intermediate)  
*Fieldwork*: Shaputnaya (Neo-Aramaic), Yalalag Zapotec

## References

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**Anna Arregui** Associate Professor, UMass Amherst ana@linguist.umass.edu  
**Rajesh Bhatt** Professor, UMass Amherst bhatt@linguist.umass.edu

