

# Nazila Shafiei

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## EDUCATION

- 2016- Present      Ph.D. Candidate, Linguistics, Stony Brook University, NY, USA
- 2016                M.A., Linguistics, University of Calgary, AB, Canada  
Thesis: *Persian Complex Predicates: Evidence for Verb Movement from Ellipsis and Negation* (Supervisor: Dr. Dennis Ryan Storoshenko). [[link](#)]
- 2014                B.A., English Language Teaching, Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey
- 2006                B.S.C.E., Baha'i Institute for Higher Education, Tehran, Iran

## ACADEMIC AFFILIATION

- 2019- Present      Affiliate Student, Institute for Advanced Computational Science (IACS), Stony Brook University, NY, USA

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

*General:* Theoretical and Computational Syntax, Syntax of Persian, Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing

*Specific:* Syntactic Dependencies, Islands (computational complexity), Ellipsis, Quantifier Scope, Relative Clauses, Syntax of Questions

## PUBLICATIONS

### *Journal Papers:*

under review    Rasekhi Vahideh and Nazila Shafiei. Object ellipsis in Persian.

### *Paper-reviewed Proceedings:*

- 2020                Shafiei, Nazila and Thomas Graf. The Subregular Complexity of Syntactic Islands. In *Proceedings of the Society for Computation in Linguistics, vol. 3, article 27*. [[paper](#)]
- 2019                Vu, Mai Ha, Nazila Shafiei and Thomas Graf. Case assignment in TSL syntax: A case study. In *Proceedings of the Society for Computation in Linguistics, vol. 2, pp. 267-276*. [[paper](#)]
- 2019                Graf, Thomas and Nazila Shafiei. C-command dependencies as TSL string constraints. In *Proceedings of the Society for Computation in Linguistics, vol. 2, pp. 205-215*. [[paper](#)]

### *Abstract-reviewed Proceedings:*

- 2017                Shafiei, Nazila and Dennis Ryan Storoshenko. Scope as a Diagnostic for the Position of Negation in Persian. *University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics*, 23(1). [[paper](#)]
- 2015                Shafiei, Nazila. Ellipsis in Persian Complex Predicates: VVPE or Something Else?. In *Proceedings of the 2015 Canadian Linguistic Association*. [[paper](#)]

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2020                Shafiei, Nazila and Thomas Graf. The Subregular Complexity of Syntactic Islands. The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting of Society for Computation in Linguistics, January 2<sup>nd</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup>, New Orleans, USA [poster]
- 2019                Shafiei, Nazila. *An OT-based Analysis of Quantifier Scope in Persian*. The 2<sup>nd</sup> North American Conference in Iranian Linguistics. April 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, Tuscon, AZ, USA [talk]

- 2019 De Santo, Aniello, and Nazila Shafiei. *On the Structure of Relative Clauses in Persian: Evidence from Computational Modeling and Processing Effects*. The 2<sup>nd</sup> North American Conference in Iranian Linguistics. April 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, Tuscon, AZ, USA [talk]
- 2019 Shafiei, Nazila, and Aniello De Santo. *What processing and computational modeling can tell us about syntax: the case of Persian relative clauses*. 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, March 29<sup>th</sup>- 31<sup>st</sup>, Boulder, CO, USA [poster]
- 2019 Vu, Mai Ha, Nazila Shafiei and Thomas Graf. *Case assignment in TSL syntax: A case study*. The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting of Society for Computation in Linguistics, January 3<sup>rd</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> , New York City, USA [poster]
- 2019 Graf, Thomas and Nazila Shafiei. *C-command dependencies as TSL string constraints*. The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting of Society for Computation in Linguistics, January 3<sup>rd</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> , New York City, USA [poster]
- 2018 Rasekhi, Vahideh and Nazila Shafiei. *Object ellipsis in Persian*. The 92<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting of Linguistic Society of America, January 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>, Salt Lake City, USA [poster]
- 2017 Rasekhi, Vahideh and Nazila Shafiei. *Ellipsis in Persian: verb phrase ellipsis or argument ellipsis?*. The 1<sup>st</sup> North American Conference in Iranian Linguistics, April 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>, Stony Brook University, USA [talk]
- 2016 Shafiei, Nazila and Dennis Ryan Storoshenko. *Scope as a Diagnostic for the Position of Negation in Persian*. The 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Penn Linguistic Conference, March 18<sup>th</sup>- 20<sup>th</sup>, University of Pennsylvania, USA [poster]
- 2015 Shafiei, Nazila. *Ellipsis in Persian Complex Predicates: VVPE or Something Else?* The Annual Meeting of the Canadian Linguistic Association, May 30<sup>th</sup>- June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 [talk]
- 2015 Shafiei, Nazila. *Ellipsis in Persian: VVPE or Something Else?*, The 31<sup>th</sup> North West Linguistic Conference, April 25<sup>th</sup>- 26<sup>th</sup>, University of Victoria, Canada [talk]
- 2013 Shafiei, Nazila. *A Comparative Retrospective Miscue Analysis (RMA) between Turkish and Persian Advanced learners of English*, The Second International Symposium on Language and Communication: Exploring Novelties, June 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, Izmir University, Turkey [talk]
- 2013 Shafiei, Nazila, Hilal Yildirim and Dursun Altinok. *Icelandic floating quantifiers: A deeper look at the different approaches to them and their case assignment*, The Third International Student Conference, ISC, 2013, May 14<sup>th</sup>, Baskent University, Ankara, Turkey [talk]

## COMPUTER SKILLS

OS: Macintosh, Windows  
 Programming: Python  
 Editing: LaTeX, Markdown, Microsoft Office

## PROJECTS

- Ongoing **A c-command Decoder** (term project): Creating a parser that encodes c-command relation directly from strings using nltk tools on Penn Treebank parsed trees, and training the model using Gated Recurrent Units [[link](#)].
- Spring 2019 **Sentiment Analysis** (term project): Using Python scikit-learn machine learning package, we did a sentiment analysis of Amazon reviews on Kindle e-books [[link](#)].

## GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2019 University of Arizona Conference Travel Grant (\$600)
- 2019 Stony Brook University Graduate Student Organization Travel Grant (\$500)

2019	Stony Brook University Department of Linguistics Travel Award (\$300)
2018	Stony Brook University Graduate Student Organization Travel Grant (\$440)
2018	Stony Brook University Department of Linguistics Travel Award (\$365)
2016	University of Calgary Graduate Research Scholarship (\$4492)
2015	University of Calgary URGC Graduate Conference Travel Grant (\$750)
2015	University of Calgary Graduate Student Association's Personal Development Grant (\$500)
2015	University of Calgary Graduate Research Scholarship (\$4487)
2014	University of Calgary Graduate Research Scholarship (\$3995)
2013/14	Success Scholarship, Turkish Government (\$1,750)
2013/14	Tuition fee exemption for two academic years because of good academic standing, Middle East Technical University (\$1600)

### AWARDS

2014	<i>Top Ranking Student Award</i> , Department of Foreign Language Education, Middle East Technical University, Turkey
2010/14	<i>High Honor Student Award</i> , Middle East Technical University, Turkey

### TEACHING POSITIONS

#### *Instructor of Record*

Winter 2020	The Anatomy of English Words (LIN 110), Stony Brook University (online)
Winter 2019	The Anatomy of English Words (LIN 110), Stony Brook University (online)
Fall 2018	The Anatomy of English Words (LIN 110), Stony Brook University (online)
Summer 2018	Second Language Acquisition (LIN 426/532), Stony Brook University
Spring 2018	Curriculum Design and Development (LIN 571/578), Stony Brook University
Fall 2016	High Intermediate Writing Academic English (WAE 192), Stony Brook University
2012/13	English as a Foreign Language Instructor, ACTIVE English; Ankara, Turkey
2009/10	English as a Foreign Language Instructor, Chitsazan Language Institute; Tabriz, Iran

#### *Teaching Assistant*

Spring 2020	Language and Technology (LIN 220), Stony Brook University
Summer 2019	IACS Computes! High School Summer Camp, Stony Brook University
Spring 2019	Curriculum Design and Development (LIN 571/578), Stony Brook University
Fall 2017	Syntax (LIN 311), Stony Brook University
Spring 2017	Literacy Development (LIN 344), Stony Brook University
Winter 2016	Language and Advertising (LING 223), University of Calgary Syntactic Analysis (LING 401), University of Calgary
Fall 2015	Introduction to Linguistics (LING 201), University of Calgary
Winter 2015	Syntactic Analysis (LING 401), University of Calgary Introduction to Linguistics (LING 201), University of Calgary

Fall 2014 Introduction to Linguistics (LING 201), University of Calgary

## STUDENT POSITIONS

### **Research Assistant**

Summer 2019 *Research on computational complexity (subregularity) of syntax* (for Dr. Thomas Graf, Stony Brook University, USA)

2018/19 *The Impact on Speech Production after Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation (tDCS) examined with fMRI in Individuals Diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease* (for Dr. Renee Fabus and Dr. Hoi-Chung Leung, Stony Brook University, USA)

Summer 2015 *Scope and the Position of Negation in Persian* (for Dr. Dennis Ryan Storoshenko, University of Calgary, Canada)

### **Graduate Assistant**

Spring 2019 Middle Eastern Languages Summer Institute (MELSI) (for Dr. Lori Repetti, Stony Brook University, USA)

### **Language Consultant**

Spring 2017 Structure of an Uncommonly Taught Language (Azeri) (LIN 431), Stony Brook University

## SERVICE

### **Workshops**

North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad (NACLO) 2019 Practice Session Instructor

North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad (NACLO) 2018 Practice Session Instructor

### **Student Volunteer (Room Monitor)**

The 92<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America held in Salt Lake City, 2018

### **Conference Organizer**

SYNC (Stony Brook University, Yale, NYU, CUNY) 2018, Stony Brook University

1<sup>st</sup> North American Conference in Iranian Linguistics, Stony Brook University

### **Conference Reviewer**

SYNC (Stony Brook University, Yale, NYU, CUNY) 2017, Yale

SYNC (Stony Brook University, Yale, NYU, CUNY) 2016, CUNY

### **Student Responsibilities**

2017/18 Co-founder/ Organizer of Neurolinguistics Reading Group, Stony Brook University, USA

2017/18 Graduate Student Representative, Department of Linguistics, Stony Brook University, USA

2014/16 VP Social and Event Coordinator, Department of Linguistics, University of Calgary, Canada

### **Community**

2016 Calgary Drop-in & Rehab Center- The DI, Calgary, Canada

2015 Info Table, Graduate Orientation, University of Calgary, Canada

2015 Coordinating Assistant, Heritage Day Festival, Calgary, Canada

2013/14 Study Assistance, Middle East Technical University; Ankara, Turkey

## **ASSOCIATIONS**

Linguistic Society of America (LSA)  
Canadian Linguistic Association (CLA)

## **LANGUAGES**

Native: Persian, Azeri  
Fluent: English, Turkish  
Basic: German

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

Summer 2017 Administrative Assistant, Applied Biomathematics, Stony Brook, NY, USA  
2016/17 Proctor for Computer-based Foreign Language Placement Exams, Language Learning and Research Center, Stony Brook University  
2013/14 Interpreter and Translator, United Nations High Commissioners for Refugees; Ankara, Turkey  
2013/14 Freelance Interpreter, German Embassy and Australian Embassy; Ankara, Turkey