

**DANNY LAW**  
Department of Linguistics

**EDUCATION**

Ph.D., Anthropology, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX	2011
M.A., Linguistics, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT	2006
B.A., Linguistics, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT	2004

**PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

Assistant Professor, Linguistics, The University of Texas at Austin	2013 - present
Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Anthropology, Vanderbilt University	2011 - 2013

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Books**

1. Law, D. (2014). *Language contact, inherited similarity and social difference: The story of linguistic interaction in the Maya Lowlands*. Current Issues in Linguistic Theory Series. Amsterdam: John Benjamins. x + 206 pp.
2. Robertson, J., Law, D., & Haertel, R. (2010). *Colonial Ch'olti': The seventeenth century Morán Manuscript*. Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press. xii + 364 pp.

**Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles (including Accepted and In Press)**

3. Law, D. (2017). Language mixing and genetic similarity: The case of Tojol-ab'al. *Diachronica*, 34(1), 40-78.
4. Law, D., Robertson, J., Houston, S., Zender, M., & Stuart, D. (2014). Areal shifts in Classic Mayan phonology. *Ancient Mesoamerica*, 25(2), 357-366.
5. Law, D. (2013). Inherited similarity and contact-induced change in Mayan languages. *Journal of Language Contact*, 6(2), 271-299.
6. Law, D. (2013). Mayan historical linguistics in a New Age. *Language and Linguistics Compass* 7(3), 141-156.

7. Law, D., Houston, S., Carter, N., Zender, M., & Stuart, D. (2013). Reading in context: The interpretation of personal reference in Ancient Maya hieroglyphic texts. *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology* 23(2), 23-47.
8. Law, D. (2009). Pronominal borrowing among the Maya. *Diachronica* 26(2), 214-252.
9. Robertson, J. & Law, D. (2009). From valency to aspect in the Ch'olan-Tzeltalan family of Mayan. *International Journal of American Linguistics* 75(3), 293-316.
10. Law, D. (2007). Poetic style in colonial Ch'olti' Mayan. *Latin American Indian Literatures Journal* 23(2), 142-168.
11. Law, D., Robertson, J. & Houston, S. (2006). Split ergativity in the history of the Ch'olan branch of the Mayan language family. *International Journal of American Linguistics* 72(4), 415-450.

### **Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters (including Accepted and In Press)**

12. Law, D. (2017). Language contact with(in) Mayan. In J. Aissen, N. England & R. Zavala Maldonado (Eds.), *The Mayan Languages* (112-127). London: Routledge.
13. Law, D. & Stuart, D. (2017). Classic Mayan: An overview of language in ancient hieroglyphic script. In J. Aissen, N. England & R. Zavala Maldonado (Eds.), *The Mayan Languages* (128-172). London: Routledge.
14. Law, D. (2015). Reading early Maya cities: Interpreting the role of writing in urbanization. In N. Yoffee (Ed.) *The Cambridge World History Volume III: Early Cities in Comparative Perspective, 4000 BCE - 1200 CE* (158-180). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
15. Law, D., Wang, H., Nissen, H., & Urton, G. (2015). Writing and record-keeping in early cities. In N. Yoffee (Ed.) *The Cambridge World History Volume III: Early Cities in Comparative Perspective, 4000 BCE - 1200 CE* (207-228). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
16. Law, D. (2012). Appropriating sacred speech: Aesthetics and authority in colonial Ch'olti'. In K. Hull & M. Carrasco (Eds.) *Parallel Worlds: Genre, Discourse and Poetics in Contemporary, Colonial and Classic Maya Literature* (271-282). Boulder, CO: The University Press of Colorado.
17. Law, D., Robertson, J., Houston, S. & Haertel, R. (2009). Most Maya glyphs are written in Ch'olti'an. In B. Metz, C. McNeill, & K. Hull (Eds.) *The Ch'orti' Maya Area Past and Present* (29-42). Gainesville, FL: University Press of Florida.

### **Book Reviews and Encyclopedia Entries**

18. Law, D. (2015). Review of *Translating Maya Hieroglyphs*, by Scott A.J. Johnson. *American Anthropologist* 117(2), 431-432.
19. Law, D. (2013). Floyd Lounsbury. In J. McGee & R. Warms (Eds.) *Theory in Social and Cultural Anthropology: An Encyclopedia*, 492-493. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc.

### **Linguistic Archival Material**

20. Law, D. (2017; ongoing). The Ixil Language Collection of Danny Law. 29 resources deposited to date. Approximately 10 hours total video with transcription and translation from Ixil to Spanish. <<http://islandora-aila.lib.utexas.edu/islandora/object/aila%3A244864>>

### **Submitted**

21. Epps, P. & Law, D. Semantics. Submitted to J. Darquennes, J. Salmons & W. Vandebussche (Eds.), *Handbook of Language Contact*. (de Gruyter, *Handbücher zur Sprach- und Kommunikationswissenschaft*). 6,915 words.

### **Works in Progress**

#### **Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles**

The reinvention of incompletive aspect in Eastern Ch'olan. In preparation, 80% complete. Expecting to submit to *Journal of Historical Linguistics*, Dec. 2017.

Relational nouns in Classic Mayan. In preparation, 50% complete. Expecting to submit to *International Journal of American Linguistics*, Dec. 2017

### **AWARDS AND HONORS**

Law, D. (PI). "History of Ixil Language Contact." National Science Foundation. 2016-2019. Total funding awarded: \$362,253. Includes a three-year GRA position and a three-year UGRA position.

Law, D. (PI). "Structure and Authority in Classic and Colonial Mayan Texts." Humanities Research Award, College of Liberal Arts, University of Texas at Austin. 2015-2018. Total funding awarded: \$15,000.

Law, D. (PI). "Syntactic structure and political authority in Classic Mayan texts." National Endowment for the Humanities. Summer Stipend. 2016.  
Total funding awarded: 2 months summer salary

Law, D. (PI). "Tojol-ab'al lexical history project." Summer Research Assignment, College of Liberal Arts, University of Texas at Austin, Summer 2014.  
Total funding awarded: 2 months summer salary

Jacob Javits Fellow, U.S. Department of Education. 2006-2010.

Outstanding Thesis Award, Brigham Young University. 2006.

Robertson, J. (PI), Law, D., & Haertel, R. (Researchers). "Ch'olti' translation project". Mary Lou and Ira Fulton Research Grant. Brigham Young University. 2004-2006.  
Total funding awarded: \$25,000

Foreign Language and Area Studies Summer Fellow (Welsh). U.S. Department of Education. 2005.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **Invited Talks**

Invited Keynote, Title to be determined, for the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Linguistics/TESOL Symposium at Arizona State University. Tempe, Arizona. Scheduled for Feb. 3, 2018.

"Changes to alignment in Mayan languages so far." Invited paper for special workshop 'Alignment Typology in Diachronic Perspective', organized by Eystein Dahl. International Conference on Historical Linguistics (ICHL) 23, San Antonio, Texas.- Aug. 4, 2017.

"How language documentation is changing Mayan history." Invited paper for Panel on Endangered Languages and Historical Linguistics, International Conference on Historical Linguistics (ICHL) 23, San Antonio, Texas.- Aug. 3, 2017.

"Language contact and loanwords in *el mundo Maya*." Department of World Cultures, Helsinki University. Helsinki, Finland. May 17, 2017.

"The (re)invention of incompletive aspect in Cholan." Keynote talk, the 2016 Maya Meetings. The University of Texas at Austin. Austin, Texas. Jan. 15, 2016.

"Reading Early Maya Cities: Interpreting the role of writing in urbanization." Department of Anthropology and the Middle American Research Institute. Tulane University. New Orleans, Louisiana. Mar. 13, 2015.

“Hybrid Speciation and Mayan Language History”. Keynote, The Symposium about Language and Society (SALSA) 2014. Austin, Texas. Apr. 11, 2014.

“The Archeology of Language.” Mesoamerica Center Colloquium Series, The University of Texas at Austin. Austin, Texas. Oct. 2, 2013.

“Parallel Development and the Case of Wastek.” Linguistics Colloquium Series, The University of Texas at Austin. Austin, Texas. Feb. 8, 2013.

“Contact-Induced Drift: Ergative Splits and Parallel Development in Lowland Mayan Languages.” Department of Linguistics, University of Kentucky. Lexington, Kentucky. Sept. 19, 2012.

“The Archaeology of Language: Linguistic Analysis and Human Prehistory in the Americas.” Invited Lecture, Brown Bag Lecture Series. Center for Latin American Studies, Vanderbilt University. Nashville, Tennessee. Oct. 17, 2012.

“Three ways that genetic relatedness shaped the outcome of language contact in the Maya lowlands.” Invited paper presented at the International Symposium: Contact Among Genetically Related Languages. Austin, Texas. Apr. 21, 2012.

“Authorship and Audience: Investigating genre and register in Classic Maya literature.” Invited lecture presented at the 2012 Maya Meetings Symposium in Antigua, Guatemala, Mar. 15, 2012.

“Text and Materiality in the Context of Ritual.” Invited Lecture at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee. Feb. 4, 2011.

“Defining languages: the grammatical consequences of linguistic ideology in the Maya region.” Invited lecture at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Fairbanks, Alaska. Apr. 2, 2010.

### **Conference Presentations**

“The mysterious case of the missing Classic Mayan influence.” Paper to be presented at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. Dec. 2, 2017.

(With Kerry Hull) “Discourse in the Longue Durée: A look at Mayan poetic inertia.” Paper to be presented in a special session honoring Joel Sherzer at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. Nov. 30, 2017.

“Pattern borrowing, linguistic similarity, and new categories.” Paper presented at a special workshop *Matter borrowing vs. pattern borrowing in morphology* at 50<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea, Zurich, Switzerland. Sep. 12, 2017.

(With Eric Adell). "Diverse pathways to palatalized velars in Mayan." Paper presented at the Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas. Jan. 8, 2017.

"Sustantivos relacionales derivados en el Maya Clásico Jeroglífico. [Derived relational nouns in hieroglyphic Classic Mayan]" Paper presented at *Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics (FAMLi) IV*, at the Universidad de Oriente, Valladolid, México, Nov. 17, 2016. "Putting the "Qualitative" back into "Quantitative: Computational phylogenetics, expert judgments and Mayan language history." Paper presented at the 20<sup>th</sup> annual European Maya Conference, Bonn University, Bonn, Germany. Dec. 13, 2015.

"Linguistic Similarity and Language Mixing: The case of Tojol-ab'al." Paper presented at the Workshop on Borrowing Morphology. Gothenburg University, Gothenburg, Sweden. Dec. 11, 2015.

"Inferring aspect in Classic Mayan." Paper presented at FAMLi (Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics) III, El Colegio de México, Mexico City, Mexico. Dec. 5, 2014.

"The social roots of grammatical hybridity in Mayan languages." Paper presented at the Grammatical hybridization and social conditions workshop. Max Plank Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology. Leipzig, Germany. Oct. 18, 2014.

"Fragmentary Linguistics: Inferring aspect in Maya hieroglyphics from incomplete data." Paper presented at Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Jan. 5, 2014.

"Migrating Languages: Pipil goes to El Salvador." Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois. Nov. 24, 2013.

"Filogenética computacional y la diversificación de idiomas Mayas [Computational phylogenetics and the diversification of Mayan languages]." Paper presented at the Congreso de Idiomas indígenas de Latinoamérica VI. Austin, Texas. Oct. 25, 2013.

"Inherited similarity and linguistic convergence in Mayan languages." Paper presented at the Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Jan. 8, 2011.

"Contact-induced drift in the aspectual systems of lowland Mayan languages." Invited paper presented at the Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Jan. 6, 2011.

"Enduring words: the consequences of textuality in ancient Maya ritual inscriptions." Invited paper presented at Ritual Speech and Subjectivity: A Workshop, at the University of Texas at Austin, Texas, Oct. 15, 2010.

(with David Stuart). "Testimony, Oration and Dynastic Memory in the Monuments of Copan." Paper presented at the 15th Annual European Maya Conference, Madrid, Spain, Dec. 6, 2010.

“Mixed languages and genetic relatedness: the case of Tojol-ab’al.” Presented at the Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland, Jan. 7, 2010.

“The Social Context of Linguistic Contact in the Maya Lowlands.” Presented at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Dec. 6, 2009.

“La ubicación del Tojol-ab’al dentro de la familia de idiomas Mayas [The place of Tojol-ab’al within the Mayan language family]”. Presented at Congreso de Idiomas Indigenas de Latinoamerica IV, Austin, TX, Oct. 31, 2009.

“Appropriating Sacred Speech: Aesthetics and Authority in Colonial Ch’olti’.” Presented at the 107th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. San Francisco, California. Nov. 21, 2008.

“En búsqueda de cognados: el caso de -oom en los escritos jeroglíficos mayas. [In search of cognates: The case of -oom in Maya hieroglyphic texts].” Presented at Congreso de Idiomas Indigenas de Latinoamerica III. Austin, Texas. Oct. 28, 2007.

(With John Robertson, Stephen Houston, and Robbie Haertel) “Most Glyphs are Written in Ch’olti’an.” Paper presented at the 104th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Washington, D.C. Dec. 2, 2005.

(With John Robertson and Robbie Haertel) “Morán’s Ch’olti’ Liturgy and the Classic Inscriptions.” Presented at The Maya Meetings, University of Texas at Austin. Austin, Texas. Mar. 16, 2005

(With John Robertson and Robbie Haertel) “Ch’olti’ Mayan, Ethnopoetics and the Classic Maya Hieroglyphic Inscriptions.” Presented at the Deseret Language and Linguistics Society Symposium, Brigham Young University. Provo, Utah. Mar. 15, 2005.

“Understanding the -Vl morpheme of Ch’olti’ Mayan through Analogical Modeling.” Presented at the Deseret Language and Linguistics Society Symposium, Brigham Young University. Provo, Utah. Mar. 19, 2004.

“No!’ From Archaic to Classic: A diachronic study of negation in Archaic Chinese.” Presented at the Deseret Language and Linguistics Society Symposium, Brigham Young University. Provo, Utah. Mar. 18, 2004.

## **LINGUISTIC AND ETHNOGRAPHIC FIELDWORK**

July 2017	Nebaj, Guatemala, Ixil Language (1 month)
March 2017	Nebaj, Guatemala, Ixil Language (1 week)
December 2016	Nebaj, Guatemala, Ixil Language (1 week)
July 2016	Nebaj, Guatemala, Ixil Language (1 month)

March 2016	Nebaj, Guatemala, Ixil Language (1 week)
March 2015	Nebaj, Guatemala, Ixil Language (1 week)
July 2014	Chiapas, Mexico on Lacandon (1 week, Lacanja), Mocho (1 week, Motozintla)
March 2012	Nebaj, Guatemala, Ixil Language (2 weeks)
June 2009	Nebaj, Guatemala, Ixil Language (1 week)
June 2009	Tzisco, Mexico, Chuj Language (1 week)
May-June 2009	San Cristobal, Mexico, Chol (2 weeks), Tsotsil (2 weeks), Tojol-ab'al (1 week), Zoque (1 day)
June-July 2008	Tila and Sabanilla, Mexico, Chol Language (6 weeks)
May-June 2006	Jocotán, Guatemala, Ch'orti' Language (2 months)
May-July 2005	Cardiff, Wales, Welsh Language (3 months)

## **ADVISING AND STUDENT-RELATED SERVICE**

### **Dissertation Committees**

Justin Power, Linguistics, 2017-Present. (Co-chair with Richard Meier).  
 Thomas Leddy-Cecere, Middle Eastern Studies, 2016-present. (Co-chair with Kristen Brustad).  
 Eric Adell, Linguistics, 2016-Present (Co-chair with Nora England).  
 Jaime Perez Gonzalez, Linguistics, 2017-Present (Member)  
 Stephanie Watty (Strauss), Art & Art History, 2017-Present (Member).  
 Alex Rosenfeld, Linguistics, 2017-Present (Member).  
 Grace Neveu, Linguistics, 2016-Present (Member).  
 Natalia Bermudez, Linguistics, 2016-Present (Member).  
 Kate Mesh, Ph.D. in Linguistics, 2017 (Member)  
 Stokes, Phillip, Ph.D. in Middle Eastern Studies, 2017 (Member).  
 Tammi Stout, Ph.D. in Linguistics, 2017 (Member).  
 Lina Hou, Ph.D. in Linguistics, 2016. (Member).  
 Stephanie Villard, Ph.D. in Linguistics, 2015. (Member).  
 Wikaliler Daniel Smith, Ph.D. in Linguistics, 2014. (Member).

### **Qualifying Paper and Exams**

Michael Everdell, Currently advising  
 Justin Power, 2017  
 Eric Adell, 2016  
 Stephanie Strauss (Department of Art & Art History), 2016

### **Undergraduate Honors Theses**

Lydia White, Anthropology, 2017. (2<sup>nd</sup> reader).  
 Seth Coonrod, Linguistics, 2015. (Supervisor).  
 Aidan Aanestad, Linguistics, 2014. (2<sup>nd</sup> reader).



## **Research Opportunities for Undergraduates**

Undergraduate RA for NSF-funded Ixil Documentation Project: Rui Akaike (2016-Present)

Mayan Lexical Database Project 2014-Present. Undergraduate project members: Crawford Hunt, Ian Merritt, Alex Bennett, Josh Burris, Boris Boukhonine, Alan Valdmets-Harris, Melissa Gomez, Lauren Wagner.

Undergraduate RA for HRA-funded glyphic corpus project: Christina Bosley (2016-2017)

## **ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

### **Departmental Service**

Colloquium Committee, 2013-Present (2014-2016, Chair)

Executive Committee, 2014-2017

Fellowship Committee, 2015-2016

Graduate Admissions Committee, 2013-2016

### **University and Public Service**

#### *Public Workshops Conducted*

2017 2-Day *Taller de epigrafía e historia Ixil* [workshop on Ixil history and epigraphy]. Universidad Ixil. Nebaj, Guatemala. July 17-18.

2017 3-Day *Taller de epigrafía Maya* [workshop on Maya epigraphy]. Pulay, Guatemala. June 29-July 1.

2017 2-Day Beginning Maya Hieroglyphics Workshop, 41st Maya Meetings. Austin, Texas.

2016 5-Day *Taller de gramática y análisis lingüístico* [Workshop on grammar and linguistic analysis]. Nebaj, Guatemala. July 11-15.

2016 2-Day *Taller de historia de la región Ixil y el idioma Ixil* [Workshop on the history of the Ixil region and the Ixil language]. Nebaj, Guatemala. July 9-10.

2016 2-Day *Taller de epigrafía/escritura antigua* [workshop on epigraphy/ancient writing]. Nebaj, Guatemala. July 1-2.

2016 2-Day Intermediate Maya Hieroglyphics Workshop, 40th Maya Meetings, Austin, Texas.

2013 3-Day Intermediate Maya Hieroglyphics Workshop, 37th Maya Meetings, Austin, Texas.

2012 3-Day Advanced Maya Hieroglyphics Workshop, 36th Maya Meetings, Antigua, Guatemala.

2011 3-Day Advanced Maya Hieroglyphics Workshop, 35th Maya Meetings, Austin, Texas.

2010 5-Day Beginning Maya Hieroglyphics Workshop, 34th Maya Meetings, Antigua, Guatemala.

2009 5-Day Beginning Maya Hieroglyphics Workshop, 33rd Maya Meetings. Austin, Texas. (with Marc Zender)

- 2009 2-Day *Taller sobre gramática y los métodos de análisis lingüístico* [Workshop on grammar and methods of linguistic analysis]. Instituto para la Educación de Adultos, Departamento de Grupos Étnicos. Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas, Mexico. June 9-10.
- 2009 5-Day *Taller sobre gramática y escritura de lenguas Mayas contemporáneas y antiguas* [Workshop on grammar and writing in contemporary and ancient Mayan languages]. Universidad Nacional Intercultural Chiapas (UNICH). Sponsored by the Instituto Nacional Autónoma de Lenguas Indígenas. San Cristobal, Chiapas, Mexico. May 25-29. (with Juan Vázquez Álvarez)

### **Other Talks and Lectures**

Workshop on Bayesian phylogenetics in historical linguistics (with Todd Krause, Linguistics Research Center, UT Austin). The University of Texas at Austin. Austin, Texas. April 8, 2016.

*Presentation on Maya Glyphs and Writing to 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Art Students at Summitt Elementary*, Austin Independent School District, Austin, Texas. June 2, 2015.

Training lecture for the Division of Housing and Food Service (*with Anthony Woodbury*) Introduction to Language and Culture Series. Diversity Education, The University of Texas at Austin. Austin, Texas. May 12, 2015.

“The reinvention of incompletive aspect in Eastern Cholan.” Invited Talk, Historical Linguistics Circle. The University of Texas at Austin. Austin, TX. Sept. 30, 2013.

### **Professional Service**

Editorial board member for *Diachronica*, 2016 - Present

Scientific committee, International Conference on Historical Linguistics, 2016-Present

Local Organizing Committee Member, International Conference on Historical Linguistics 23 (July 31-Aug. 4, 2017),

Co-organizer (with Patience Epps and Na’ama Pat-El), Invited Panel: “Endangered Languages and Historical Linguistics”. Panel composed of invited plenary speakers, and invited graduate student presenters, organized for the International Conference on Historical Linguistics 23, San Antonio, Texas, July 31-Aug. 4, 2017.

Co-organizer (with Patience Epps and Na’ama Pat-El), Conference Session: “Cross-linguistic Variability in Processes of Language Change”. Session organized for the 2017 Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas, Jan. 8, 2017.

Co-organizer (with Patience Epps and Na’ama Pat-El), International Conference *Historical Linguistics and Typology: Assessing a Partnership*. Sept. 12-13, 2015. The University of Texas at Austin.

**Peer-Reviewer (ad hoc since 2011)**

National Science Foundation, Endangered Language Documentation Programme, The University Press of Colorado, Oklahoma University Press, Wiley Blackwell Press, *Diachronica*, *Linguistic Discovery*, *Morphology*, *Antiquity*, *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*, *Language and Linguistics Compass*, *Ancient Mesoamerica*, *Journal of Language Contact*, *Journal of Historical Linguistics*, *American Ethnologist*, *World Archaeology*, *Estudios de Cultura Maya*, *Journal des Américanistes*, *Revista Eutopía*, *Revista Pueblos y Fronteras*.

**Professional Memberships**

Societas Linguistica Europea, 2017-Present  
Society for Linguistic Anthropology, 2010-present  
Linguistic Society of America, 2009-present  
American Anthropological Association, 2008-present

**Languages**

English (Native), Spanish (Fluent), French (Reading), Welsh (Intermediate), Chinese (Beginner)  
Ancient Greek (Beginner), Mayan Languages, particularly Tojol-ab'al, Ixil, Ch'olti', Ch'orti', Chol and Classic Mayan. (Research Languages)