

Riley J. VanMeter

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EDUCATION

M.A. in Romance Languages – Spanish & Italian **2021-2023**

The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

Concentration: Linguistics

Program Advisors: Erin O'Rourke PhD & Bryan Koronkiewicz PhD

B.A. in International Studies & Spanish **2019-2022**

The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

Honors: *Summa Cum Laude* (4.0 GPA)

Minors: Italian Language & Literature

Concentrations: International Business & Latin America

Intensive Italian Courses (B2-C1) **Summer 2022**

Scuola Leonardo da Vinci, Florence, Italy

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Morphosyntactic change and variation, sociolinguistics, comparative Romance linguistics/grammars, grammaticalization, historical (socio-)linguistics, languages in contact.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Assistant – Spanish 102 **Fall 2022**

Department of Modern Languages and Classics, Tuscaloosa, AL

- Instructor of record for two sections of introductory Spanish.
- Responsible for all daily course instruction, planning all lessons and assignments, grading all tests, projects, and presentations.

Guest Lecturer **Summer 2022**

I.E.S. Miguel Sánchez López, Torre del Campo, Spain

- Talked to secondary-school students, outlining United States sports culture, swimming, training, and healthy sleep/dietary habits.

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant – Spanish 102 **Spring 2022**

Department of Modern Languages and Classics, Tuscaloosa, AL

- Responsible for assisting in all daily course instruction, planning lessons and assignments, grading tests, projects, and presentations

Lead ESL Instructor**2019-Present***Los Estudiantes de Alabama sin Fronteras, Tuscaloosa, AL*

- Planned and instructed basic to intermediate-level lessons of English grammar, vocabulary, and pragmatics to native speakers of Spanish.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

VanMeter, Riley. (2022). “Sociolinguistic Variation of Se Lo(s) in Mexican Spanish: A Corpus-based Approach to *Selosismo* in Flux.” Arizona Linguistics Circle 16 (ALC16), The University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.

VanMeter, Riley, O’Rourke, E., Cipria, A., Azuaje, R. (2022). “El paisaje lingüístico de Alabama: A preview of a changing linguistic landscape in Tuscaloosa.” The 89th Southeastern Conference on Linguistics (SECOL), Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA.

VanMeter, Riley. (2022). “La inversión del discurso alrededor del “encarcelamiento” en El Abencerraje y La Hermosa Jarifa: Jarifa como carcelera y libertadora simultánea de Abindarráez.” The University of Alabama Languages Conference, Tuscaloosa, AL.

AWARDS AND HONORS

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| Summa Cum Laude- <i>The University of Alabama</i> | 2022 |
| Outstanding Service to The Italian Department - <i>The University of Alabama</i> | 2022 |
| President’s List- All Semesters- <i>The University of Alabama</i> | 2019-2022 |
| John Ramsey Award Nominee | 2021 |
| CSCAA Scholar All-American | 2021 |
| Outstanding Italian Minor- <i>The University of Alabama</i> | 2021 |
| University of Alabama Presidential Scholarship | 2019-2023 |
| University of Alabama Athletic Scholarship | 2019-2023 |
| Southeastern Conference (SEC) Academic Honor Roll | 2019-2023 |

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

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| Conference and Research Funding- <i>The University of Alabama Graduate School</i> | 2022 |
| Graduate Teaching Assistantship- <i>The University of Alabama</i> | 2022-2023 |
| Hank Leonard Levitetz Grant | 2021 |
| Alabama Division of Student Life Grant | 2021 |
| LEASF Conference Grant | 2020 |

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

President

2021-2022

Italian Club- University of Alabama

- Engaged actively in Italian language, culture, and heritage to research and honor the impact Italian Americans have had on the State of Alabama and the South.
- Coordinated educational and social events such as guest speakers, conversation practice, cultural events, and game nights while working with the University of Alabama Italian Department and Department of Modern Languages and Classics.

President

2020-2022

Los Estudiantes de Alabama sin Fronteras Spanish Club, Tuscaloosa, AL

- Coordinated multiple weekly educational and social events such as Spanish conversation practice, cultural events, and game nights while working with the University of Alabama Department of Modern Languages and Classics.
- Coordinated weekly instruction of English as a Second Language Classes as well as homework help sessions for migrant children.
- Teaching, lesson planning, social media/communication management, and providing Translation Services.

Translator

2020-2021

Birmingham Free Store, Birmingham, AL

- Translated and communicated to aid in the distribution of essential goods such as groceries, clothes, contraceptive needs, and books.

Linguist

2021-2022

Ted Translators, TED Conferences LLC

- Translated and transcribed Ted Talks to and from the target language. Primary focus on Spanish & English.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Legal Intern

Summer 2021

Migrant Legal Aid, Grand Rapids, MI

- Communicated with migrant farm workers around West Michigan to ensure adequate working and living conditions were upheld.
- Managed communication and social media, outreach organization, and event planning.
- Filed visas and work authorizations for migrant workers.

Division 1 Student-Athlete**2019-Present***Men's Swim Team, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL,*

- Managed a full-time academic course load through undergrad and graduate school while meeting the demands of a highly competitive conference.
- Part of 2020 and 2021 SEC Championship Team.

Customer Service Representative**March-August 2020***Shipt, Grand Rapids, MI,*

- Fulfilled orders for customers in the vulnerable population during the coronavirus pandemic.

Lifeguard & Swim Instructor**2016-2019***Holland Township & Holland Community Aquatic Center, Holland, MI,*

- Taught swimming techniques, swimming strokes, and water safety rules to students with varying swimming abilities oftentimes in a bilingual setting.
- Observing and organizing the activities of swimmers, enforcing applicable pool policies and regulations, rescuing swimmers in distress, and providing emergency care.

LANGUAGES

- English— Native
- Spanish— Near-native
- Italian— Advanced C1

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Goldvarb—Statistics software for variable rule analysis, specifically designed for sociolinguistic use within a quantitative, variationist framework.
- Jamovi— Statistics software for variable rule analysis.
- PRAAT—Software for acoustic speech recording, analysis, and spectrogram graphics.
- Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- LengUA Lab 2021-Present
- La Última Letra (Graduate Student Association) 2021- Present
- Kappa Gamma Alpha National Italian Honor Society 2021- Present
- Alabama Language, Literature, and Linguistics Student Organization 2021- Present

REFERENCES

Erin O'Rourke PhD.

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The University of Alabama
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Margo Geer

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