

James M. Law

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF FRENCH

3137 JFSB · Brigham Young University · Provo, UT 84602
☎ (801) 422-2782 | ✉ jimlaw@byu.edu | 🏠 jimlaw.org

Education

Ph.D. in French Linguistics

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Dissertation: *Diachronic dynamics of metonymy in French semantic frames*, Dr. Cinzia Russi, advisor

Portfolio in Romance Linguistics (capstone: *Iconic and indexical semantic change in Romance body-part terms*)

May 2020

Austin, TX

M.A. in French Linguistics

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Dec. 2017

Austin, TX

B.A. in French Studies

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

Minor: Linguistics

April 2015

Provo, UT

Academic appointments

Assistant Professor

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH AND ITALIAN

2020-present

Provo, UT

Graduate Assistant Instructor

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN, DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH AND ITALIAN

2017-2019

Austin, TX

Graduate Teaching Assistant

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN, DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH AND ITALIAN

2016-2017

Austin, TX

Student Instructor

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH AND ITALIAN

2012-2015

Provo, UT

Teaching Assistant

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH AND ITALIAN

2014

Provo, UT

Grader

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH AND ITALIAN

2012

Provo, UT

Research areas

Cognitive linguistics Historical semantics, lexical change, Frame Semantics, Construction Grammar

Applied linguistics Corpus linguistics, L2 pedagogy, instructional pragmatics

Writing systems Orthographic variation, computer-mediated communication, medieval paleography

Publications

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

1. Law, J. (2023). Constructional change and frame element selection: Insights from the French Spending frame. *Constructions and Frames* 15(1), 120-145
2. Law, J. (2023). Regularity of semantic change in Romance anatomical terms. *Journal of Historical Linguistics* 13(2), 295-325
3. Law, J. (2022). Reflections of the French nasal vowel shift in orthography on Twitter. *Journal of French Language Studies* 32(2), 197-215
4. Law, J. (2022). Metonymy and argument alternations in French communication frames. *Cognitive Linguistics* 33(2), 387-413
5. Law, J., D. Barny & R. Poulin (2020). Patterns of peer interaction in multimodal L2 digital social reading. *Language Learning and Technology* 24(2), 70-85

6. Law, J. (2019). Diachronic frame analysis: The Purpose frame in French. *Constructions and Frames* 11(1), 42-77
7. Law, J. (2018). Conceptualizations of time in French *depuis* 'since, for' constructions. *Cognitive Linguistics* 29(2), 163-195

REFEREED BOOK CHAPTERS

1. Law, J., D. Barny & R. Poulin (in press). Addressing text difficulty in novice L2 digital social reading. In J. J. Thoms & K. Michelson (eds.) *Second Language Digital Social Reading: Multiliteracies & Sociocultural Perspectives*. John Benjamins.
2. Law, J. (2022). Frame-based metonymy in teaching L2 vocabulary. In H. C. Boas (ed.) *Directions for Pedagogical Construction Grammar: Learning and Teaching (with) Constructions*. Berlin: De Gruyter, 305-332

BOOK REVIEWS

1. Law, J. (2024). Avanzi, Mathieu, Cécile Barbet, Julie Glikman, and André Thibault. *Français de nos régions* by Mathieu Avanzi et al. *The French Review* 97(3), 151-152.

WORK IN PREPARATION

1. Law, J. & Y. Le Bras (under contract). *Frequency Dictionary of French, second edition*. Routledge.

Refereed conference and workshop presentations

1. Law, J., M. Orton, & D. Paul. Adapting OER: *Grammaire Ouverte* and *Italiano Avanzato*. 4th Language OER Conference, University of Kansas (online), February 17, 2024.
2. Law, J. & A. F. McBride. *Introduction à la linguistique française*: OER for L2 content courses. 4th Language OER Conference, University of Kansas (online), February 17, 2024.
3. Law, J. Metaphor and pragmaticalization of Romance motion verbs. 16th International Cognitive Linguistics Conference, Heinrich Heine University, Düsseldorf, Germany. August 7-11, 2023.
4. Law, J. & A. F. McBride. Variable articulations of the fricative /ʒ/ in the Poitevin-Saintongeais language of France. 53rd Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages, Paris, France. June 26-30, 2023.
5. Law, J. Text genre and participant role alternations in the French Spending frame. 7th International Conference on Grammar & Text, Universidade NOVA (online). November 18-20, 2021.
6. Law, J. A lexicogrammatical approach to participant role alternations in the French Spending frame. *Corpus Approaches to Lexicogrammar*, Edge Hill University (online). July 3, 2021.
7. Law, J. Revealing the Secret of a French valency pattern alternation. 94th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, New Orleans, LA. January 2-5, 2020.
8. Law, J. Iconic and indexical semantic change in Romance body-part terms. 24th International Conference on Historical Linguistics, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia. July 1-5, 2019.
9. Brozovsky, E., L. Hinrichs, B. Kaufman, J. Law, L. Orjuela, M. Wahl, & J. Wolfgang. How *whom* retreated against the advice of prescriptive grammarians: A multivariate analysis of written English corpus data since 1800. 93rd Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, New York, NY, January 3-6, 2019.
10. Law, J. Diachronic frame analysis: The Purpose frame in French. 10th International Conference on Construction Grammar, Université Paris 3: Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris, France, July 16-20, 2018.
11. Law, J. The frames approach to metonymic change: The Purpose frame in French. 48th Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages, York University, Toronto, ON, April 25-28, 2018.
12. Law, J. Frame-based metonymy in teaching L2 vocabulary. *Constructionist Approaches to Language Pedagogy* 3, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX, February 15-17, 2018.
13. Law, J. *Les jons fon skil veulent*: Reflections of the French nasal vowel shift in variant orthography. *New Ways of Analyzing Variation* 46, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, November 2-5, 2017.
14. Law, J. A corpus-based analysis of the semantic change *chercher* 'look for' > 'provoke' in French. Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association, Pasadena, CA, November 11-13, 2016.

Teaching

COURSES TAUGHT

2024	Intro to French Linguistics (FREN 330)	BYU Provo
2021-23	History of French (FREN 432)	BYU Provo
2020-24	Foundations: Meaning (LING 603)	BYU Provo
2020-23	Advanced French, Part 1 (FREN 321)	BYU Provo
2023	Advanced French, Part 2 (FREN 322)	BYU Provo
2019	Intermediate French (FR 611C)	UT Austin
2018	Beginning French (FR 601C)	UT Austin
2017	Introductory French 2 Online (FR 407)	UT Austin
2013-15	Accelerated First-Year French (FREN 101/102)	BYU Provo
2014	Intermediate French, Part 1 (FREN 201)	BYU Provo
2013	First-Year French, Part 2 (FREN 102)	BYU Provo
2012	First-Year French, Part 1 (FREN 101)	BYU Provo

COURSE SUPERVISION, DEVELOPMENT, AND ASSISTANTSHIP

2022-24	Intermediate French, Part 1 (FREN 201) Supervision of student instructors	BYU Provo
2019	Intermediate French (FR 611C) Development of online and in-class digital social reading materials	UT Austin
2018	Beginning French (FR 601C) Development of online and in-class digital social reading materials	UT Austin
2017	Introductory French 2 Online (FR 407) Testing and revision of online activities, grading and assistance in the course pilot	UT Austin
2016	Introductory French 1 Online (FR 406) Testing and revision of online activities, grading and assistance in the course pilot	UT Austin
2014	Introduction to French Language Teaching (FREN 377) Grading, substitute teaching, developing assessments	BYU Provo
2014	Intermediate French, Part 2 (FREN 202) Development of online learning activities and assessment	BYU Provo
2012	Advanced French, Part 1 (FREN 321) Grading	BYU Provo

PUBLISHED PEDAGOGICAL MATERIALS

1. McBride, A. F. & J. Law (2023). *Introduction à la linguistique française*. BYU Open Learning Network. <https://open.byu.edu/linguistique>
2. Law, J. (2022). *Grammaire Ouverte*. BYU Open Learning Network. https://open.byu.edu/grammaire_ouverte
3. Law, J. (2019). Un journal intime. *Foreign Languages and the Literary in the Everyday (FLLITE)*. www.fllite.org/category/french/
4. Law, J. (2018). La syntaxe. *French Linguistics Sandbox Course* (ed. Barbara Bullock). Canvas Commons. <https://lor.instructure.com/resources/5ee496be7bd847afa3097ced0b163c1a?shared>
5. Law, J. (2018). La linguistique historique. *French Linguistics Sandbox Course* (ed. Barbara Bullock). Canvas Commons. <https://lor.instructure.com/resources/5ee496be7bd847afa3097ced0b163c1a?shared>
6. Law, J. (2018). Giving and responding to invitations in French. *Second and Foreign Language Pragmatics Wiki*. Center for Advanced Research in Language Acquisition (CARLA). www.wlpragmatics.pbworks.com

Academic guest lectures and departmental presentations

1. Romance paleography and the Old French Bible project. Two guest lectures in BYU graduate course on Romance Philology, April 5-8, 2024.
2. Two perspectives on lexical semantic change. Guest presentation for BYU Linguistics Student Society, February 29, 2024.
3. Metaphor and pragmaticalization of Romance motion verbs. Guest presentation for BYU French Lecture Series, September 26, 2023.
4. Time management in a graduate program. Guest presentation for UT Austin French and Italian Graduate Student Organization, November 2, 2020.
5. Teaching with digital social reading. Guest lecture in UT Austin graduate course on Supervised Teaching in French, May 7, 2019.
6. Interaction and affordance in L2 multimodal digital social reading. Guest lecture in UT Austin graduate course on Multiliteracies, April 11, 2019.
7. Iconic and indexical semantic change in Romance body-part terms. UT Austin French and Italian Graduate Student Organization Working Papers Series, March 29, 2019.
8. The frames approach to metonymic change: The Purpose frame in French. UT Austin French and Italian Graduate Student Organization Working Papers Series, March 23, 2018.
9. A Corpus-based analysis of the semantic change *chercher* 'look for' > 'provoke' in French. UT Austin French and Italian Graduate Student Organization Working Papers Series, October 26, 2016.

Awards & fellowships

2024	Interdisciplinary Research discretionary grant (\$20,000) , University Research Council, "Increasing Access to Marginalized African Languages through Historical Dictionaries" with Daren Ray and Earl Brown	<i>BYU Provo</i>
2019-20	Walther Fellowship , Department of French & Italian	<i>UT Austin</i>
2019	Summer Dissertation Writing Fellowship , Graduate School	<i>UT Austin</i>
2019	Walther Excellence Scholarship in French Linguistics , Department of French & Italian	<i>UT Austin</i>
2019	Outstanding Assistant Instructor Award , Department of French & Italian	<i>UT Austin</i>
2018	Walther Summer Research Award , Department of French & Italian	<i>UT Austin</i>
2017	Walther Summer Research Award , Department of French & Italian	<i>UT Austin</i>
2015-16	Walther Fellowship , Department of French & Italian	<i>UT Austin</i>
2011-15	National Merit Scholarship , Brigham Young University	<i>BYU Provo</i>

Academic service

2024	Committee member , Annual Review, Department of French & Italian	BYU Provo
2024	Conference organizing committee member , LSRL 54	BYU Provo
2023	Ad-hoc referee , Constructions and Frames	John Benjamins
2020-24	Faculty advisor , French Student Association	BYU Provo
2020-24	French program coordinator , Master of Arts in professional language	BYU Provo
2022-2024	Course supervisor , French 201, Intermediate French Part 1	BYU Provo
2022-2024	Coordinator , Employee Giving, Department of French & Italian	BYU Provo
2020-24	Committee member , Student Instructors, Department of French & Italian	BYU Provo
2020-23	Faculty advisor , Italian Student Association	BYU Provo
2019	Assistant Course Supervisor , Intermediate French	UT Austin
2018-19	Explore UT coordinator , French & Italian Graduate Student Organization	UT Austin
2018	Conference volunteer , Constructionist Approaches to Language Pedagogy 3	Austin, TX
2017-18	Working Papers Series coordinator , French & Italian Graduate Student Organization	UT Austin
2016-17	French Play director , French & Italian Graduate Student Organization	UT Austin
2016-18	Le café français facilitator , Department of French & Italian	UT Austin
2012-14	President , French Student Association	BYU Provo
2014	Program director , French Camp	BYU Provo
2013	Counselor , French Camp	BYU Provo
2011-12	Vice President , French Student Association	BYU Provo

M.A. thesis advisement

1. (Chair) Rebecca Brenkman, 2023, *Afrikaans Taboo Words: Offensiveness Ranking and Reflections in Usage* (BYU)
2. (Chair) Kelly Woods, 2022, *War, Love, and Journeys: A Comparative Analysis of Conceptual Metaphors in Political Speeches* (BYU)
3. (Committee member) Richard B. Bevan, 2021, *Trademarks and Genericide: A Corpus and Experimental Approach to Understanding the Semantic Status of Trademarks* (BYU)

Skills

LANGUAGES

English	native
French	near-native
Spanish	intermediate
Old French	reading ability
Italian	reading ability
Latin	reading ability

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming	Python, Visual Basic, SQL
Web design	HTML, CSS, SASS
Publishing	LaTeX
Data analysis	R, SPSS
Linguistics	Praat, AntConc, LF Aligner, SketchEngine