Appendix A

Robert A. Leonard, Ph.D., Linguist

Forensic Expert Witness in Linguistics and Language
Hofstra University Professor of Linguistics
Director, Institute for Forensic Linguistics, Threat Assessment and Strategic Analysis
and Forensic Linguistics Justice Project (formerly the "Forensic Linguistics Capital Case Innocence Project")
Director, Graduate Program in Linguistics: Forensic Linguistics
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MA in Linguistics | Forensic Linguistics | Hofstra University

February 2026

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EXPERT WITNESS IN LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGE

- Qualified as an Expert in Linguistics, under Frye and under Daubert over 30 times in 15 States and 11 Federal Districts: in State Courts in Arkansas, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Montana, New Jersey, New York, Nevada, Oregon, Pennsylvania, and South Carolina, and in U.S. District Courts in Newark, NJ (twice), Austin, TX, Miami, FL, New York, NY, San Jose, CA, Tampa, FL, Denver, CO, New Orleans, LA, Savannah, GA, Wilmington, DE, and Los Angeles, CA.

- Testified as a linguistic expert before World Bank ICSID Tribunals in Washington, DC, and Paris.

EDUCATION

Columbia University, New York, NY
Columbia Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
(Faculty Fellow, Fulbright Fellow) — Ph.D. 1982 (Linguistics)
M. Phil. 1973 (Linguistics)
M.A. 1973 (Linguistics)
Columbia College — B.A. 1970 *with honors* (Sociology)

University of Nairobi, Kenya (during Fulbright Fellowship tenure)
Institute of African Studies — Research Associate 1974-75

LINGUISTIC CONSULTING CLIENTS include

- FBI Behavioral Analysis Unit-1 (BAU-1, Counterterrorism and Threat Assessment)
- Prime Minister of Canada
- Office of the Director of National Intelligence – Senior Consultant, IARPA "Linguistic Fingerprint" project (IARPA, "Intelligence Advanced Research Projects, invests in high-risk, high-reward research to achieve an overwhelming intelligence advantage for the Nation. Drives groundbreaking research and development in support of our future strategies, enhances innovation across the breadth of

Intelligence Community (IC) activities, and allows the IC to take advantage of cutting-edge technology, resulting in critical advances that propel the IC forward."

- United States Attorney's Offices: Eastern District of NY
  Southern District of California
  District of Montana
  District of Minnesota
  Eastern District of Missouri
  Western District of Texas
- NYPD Hate Crimes Task Force
- US Air Force
- Led award-winning forensic linguistic investigative team – Connecticut State Police Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection "Unit Citation" to recognize exceptional collective efforts in the investigation of a crime. The "investigative efforts…represent the highest tradition of the Connecticut State Police"; the perpetrator was identified and charged with manslaughter in the 1st degree.
- Scientific advisor to Turnitin, the world's predominant plagiarism detection company
- New Jersey Office of Attorney General, Criminal Prosecution
- New York State Police Protective Services Unit, Intelligence Section
- Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Investigation Assessment Unit
- ABC-TV News Investigative Division
- Apple, Inc.
- Member, Capital Case Oversight Committee Jury Instruction Workgroup for the State of Arizona
- Facebook, Inc.
- State Court System of New Jersey
- In US, UK, Canada, and Europe, many other agencies and firms, including:
  - Criminal profiling, intelligence, and counterterrorism units
  - Municipal and national police forces, private sector intelligence agencies
  - Prosecutors, defense counsels, civil law firms

ACADEMIC FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, AWARDS (and see Academic Experience, below)

Graduate:	Fulbright Fellowship for Ph.D. Research 1973-74
	Faculty Fellow of Columbia University 1970-73
	National Defense Foreign Language Fellowship 1970-73
Undergraduate:	B.A. with honors
	Phi Beta Kappa 1970
	Gutmann Prize for Excellence in Humanities 1967

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Speak and Read:	Swahili (several varieties), French, Spanish
Reading Knowledge:	Italian
Structural Knowledge:	Giriama, Kamba, Rabai, Pokomo (Kenya); Shona (Zimbabwe); Thai, Arabic

OTHER LINGUISTIC TRAINING

Linguistic Society Institutes:
University of Hawaii, Honolulu — Advanced Linguistic Training — Summer 1977
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor — Summer 1973
American University Alumni Association — Thai Language
Bangkok, Thailand — Summer 1976

PHD THESIS ADVISING

- Columbia University Computer Science Department

- Aston University (UK) Linguistics Department
- University of California, San Diego Linguistics Department

MEDIA

Interviews on issues of linguistics and forensic linguistics include:

New York Times
The New Yorker Magazine
Wall Street Journal
Smithsonian Magazine
ABC *Nightline*
WABC-TV news
Newsday
New York Daily News
Associated Press
WCBS and WINS Newsradios
USA Today
Washington Times
Danmarks Radio
Freakonomics' Tell Me Something I Don't Know
Profil Newsmagazine, Austria
Washington Post

Interviews have additionally appeared in *Dallas Morning News, Mainichi Daily News* (Japan), *New York Law Journal, NBC, MSNBC, CNN, Insider,* and many others

The *New Yorker* article is at Words on Trial | The New Yorker

Wikipedia bio is at Robert A. Leonard - Wikipedia

Other news articles include:

- The *New Yorker* article is at Words on Trial | The New Yorker
- *Wikipedia* bio is at Robert A. Leonard - Wikipedia

Other news articles include:

- The *New York Times* - New York Today: Hold the Ziti
- *Smithsonian Magazine* How Did Computers Uncover J.K. Rowling's Pseudonym?
  (Note: Dr. Juola and I have joined forces on cases, as well as on a National Science Foundation grant proposal)
- "Forensic Linguistics Makes Web Less Anonymous" - Language detectives make the web less anonymous - CBS News
- "Holmes & Watson Amid the Apostrophes" Chronicle of Higher Education, By Lucy Ferriss
  - https://www.chronicle.com/blogs/linguafranca/holmes-watson-amid-the-apostrophes
- For some comic relief: In 2012 TIME deemed me the second smartest rock star in history, behind Brian May, guitarist of *Queen*, who is an Astrophysicist. Humor aside, this is actually of note because how I worked my way through Columbia often comes out—always positively—at trial
  - School of Rock: 10 Supersmart Musicians

Television Shows:

- Featured prominently in *A Tight Leash*, an episode of *Forensic Files/Medical Detectives*, and *Investigation Discovery's Solved*, about the Hummert murder case tried in 2006;
  A Tight Leash full episode: Forensic Files Season 11, Episode 30 - A Tight Leash - Full Episode
- "Facebook Murders" case: *Too Pretty to Live: The Catfishing Murders of East Tennessee* on Investigation Discovery 2016. Full show:
  - https://www.vudu.com/content/movies/details/Too-Pretty-to-Live-Too-Pretty-to-Live/752285

Short clips:

- Solved- Wife's Murder is a 4:24 video clip discussing forensic linguistics for Investigation Discovery Channel
- https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1771560176438099 is a 2:06 clip from MTV's 2016 series *Uncovering the Truth*: Byron Case and Michael Politte exoneration cases.
- MA in Linguistics | Forensic Linguistics | Hofstra University is a 4:14 clip discussing the graduate program and forensic linguistics in general

2019 interview:

- Not so anonymous - Subtitle - Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Linguistic Society of America

Other Podcasts:

2024 BBC Radio 4 - Stalked, featured in episodes 3 and 4
2022 Helping Solve an Infamous Pennsylvania Murder as a Forensic Linguist
2021 Behavioral Grooves | Rob Leonard's Love of Language

Sample Presentations:

- "The Groundbreaking Science of Forensic Linguistics: Solving Crimes by Analyzing Language" At the Third Annual World Polyglot Conference, New York City, October 2015. (48:49) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-01uO3uTrgk&t=1225s

- "MetroLex II: Lexicography, Language, and the Law"
  - "Rob Leonard's Ph.D in semantics and sociolinguistics from Columbia University included lexicography, taught by Allen Walker Read, one of his favorite professors, but with whom he clashed, for example, on the socio-cultural import of dictionaries' treatment of taboo terms. He continued to collaborate on projects with Read for years afterwards. As a forensic linguist, Rob has had many opportunities to put into practice the principles and techniques taught to him by Read."
  - Held at the New York City offices of Oxford University Press, and organized by the Dictionary Society of North America (DSNA) in partnership with other organizations in the NYC area.
  - (28:59) MetroLex II, Part 1: Robert A. Leonard (April 11, 2016)

"Forensic linguistics in the cause of justice: The Forensic Linguistics Capital Case Innocence Project" Keynote (1 hour) Presented to the Forum on Language and the Law: Non-Native Speakers of English in the Legal System – a dialog between linguistics experts and stakeholders, Department of Linguistics, **University of Utah**, April 2018. https://linguistics.utah.edu/languageandlaw/;

- Clips at https://www.kaltura.com/index.php/extwidget/preview/partner_id/670542/uiconf_id/36005582/embed/auto?&flashvars%5bstreamerType%5d=auto&flashvars%5bplaylistAPI.kpl0Id%5d=0_5t3qoj86

Sample interview:
Vanderbilt Law School blog: 46 Robert Leonard — Excited Utterance

Sample Article:
FORENSIC LINGUISTICS: APPLYING THE SCIENCE OF LINGUISTICS TO ISSUES OF THE LAW

Regarding performing at Woodstock:
Woodstock at 50: Hendrix's anthem, Sly and the Family Stone, and why Sha Na Na was there

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

2023 LSA Summer Institute, **University of Massachusetts, Amherst**. Visiting Professor
2017 LSA Summer Institute, **University of Kentucky, Lexington**. Visiting Professor
1990-present **Hofstra University, Hempstead, New York**

- Professor of Linguistics and Director of Linguistics Programs (1996-present)
- Co-Director of Joint MA-JD with Hofstra Law School (2018-present)
- Linguistic Society of America Institute Language as Evidence: Forensic Linguistics (2017)
- Distinguished Faculty Lecturer Award (2013)
- Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award (2009)
- Director, Graduate Program in Forensic Linguistics (2010-present)
- Director, Institute for Forensic Linguistics, Threat Assessment and Strategic Analysis (2010-present)

- Director, Forensic Linguistics Capital Case Innocence Project (2014-present); in 2024 renamed Forensic Linguistics Justice Project
- Chair, Department of Comparative Literature, Languages, and Linguistics (2005-2012). Department included Comparative Literature, Linguistics, Asian Studies, the English Language Program, Arabic, Chinese, German, Modern Greek, Ancient Greek, Hebrew, Japanese, Latin, Persian, Punjabi, Russian, and Swahili
- Director, Forensic Linguistics Project (2004-2010)
- Chair, Africana Studies (2002-2003)
- Associate Professor of Linguistics (1990-1996)

1988-1994 **Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program, United States Information Agency**
Chair, Regional Interview Committee (LI and Southern NY State)
- Organized and oversaw interviews by college and university faculty members expert in international matters of high school teachers applying for Fulbrights

1985-1990 **Friends World College—FWC** (A small, Quaker-founded, nonsectarian liberal arts college that specialized in undergraduate field work and experiential education at eight international centers. Now called Global College)
Vice-President for Administration, Headquarters, Huntington, NY
- Supervised Center Directors of FWC campuses and centers worldwide: New York, Costa Rica, Israel, Kenya, England, India, Japan, and Hong Kong.
- Taught linguistics seminars and supervised linguistics independent research; conducted cross-cultural training.

1981-85 **Director, FWC East African Centre, Machakos, Kenya**
- Designed, supervised and taught comprehensive academic program integrating
- intensive language training with the humanities, the social sciences, cross-cultural training and field work methodology to give American undergraduates a thorough preparation for independent field study and internships in East Africa.
- Taught African literature (in English); Swahili literature and lyric poetry (in Swahili).

1982 The Semantic System of Deixis in Standard Swahili. Columbia University
- Ph.D. Dissertation.
- Ann Arbor: University Microfilms Intl. [Analyzes the underpinnings of deictic demonstratives by speakers and writers in structuring the information flow of language using data from the grammatically complex East African language Swahili.]

1979-81 **Columbia University, New York, NY**
Preceptor of Linguistics
- Taught introductory and intermediate Swahili.

1977-79 **Lehman College, City University of New York**
Lecturer
- Taught linguistics and sociolinguistics.

EDITORSHIPS

2009-2023 **Member, Editorial Board. Oxford University Press** series *Language and Law*.

1999 **Co-Editor, *The Asian Pacific American Heritage**: A Companion to Literature and Arts*. New York: Routledge.
[Selected as "**one of the Outstanding Academic Books of the Year**" by the American Library Association's journal, *Choice*]

1998 **Co-Editor, *The Italian American Heritage**: A Companion to Literature and Arts.* 1998. New York: Routledge.

For the 1998 and 1999 ***Heritage*** series, Section Editor for Linguistics, and Food/Semiotics of Food

PROFESSIONAL EVALUATION PANELS

2021-present	**Reviewer, Linguistics books, Cambridge University Press**
2014-present	**Reviewer, Linguistics books, Oxford University Press**
2007-present	**Reviewer, Professional Staff Congress, City University of New York Research Award Program**
2018-present	**Reviewer, Linguistics and Law, Routledge**
2017-present	**Referee, City University of New York**
2017	**Referee, Lancaster University, United Kingdom**
2014	**Referee, Georgetown University**
2013	**Reviewer, Psychology Books, Wiley-Blackwell**
2012	**Reviewer, Journal of Forensic Sciences**
2012	**Referee, Journal of Empirical Legal Studies**
2010	**Reviewer, Routledge Encyclopedia of Applied Linguistics**

PUBLICATIONS – LINGUISTICS and SEMIOTICS

2018. "Communicating linguistic theory and analyses to judge and jury in the highly adversarial US justice system: theatrical cross examinations vs. the facts" in *Frameworks for Discursive Actions and Practices of the Law*, Tessuto, Girolamo, Vijay K. Bhatia, and Jan Engberg, eds., Centre for Research in Language and Law, Naples, Italy, pp. 219-247. Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

2017. "Forensic Linguistics" in *Handbook of Behavioral Criminology: Contemporary Strategies and Issues.* Van Hasselt, Vincent, and Michael Bourke, eds. Springer.

2017. "Forensic Linguistics: Applying the science of linguistics to issues of the law." Co-authors Juliane Ford and Tanya Karoli Christensen. 45 *Hofstra Law Review* 881.

2012. "Retslingvistik. Sprogforskeren som efterforsker og ekspertvidne" ["Forensic linguistics: the linguist as investigator and expert witness"] (translated into Danish by Nicoline Munck Vinther). *Mål og Mæle* ("new knowledge about language and linguistics") 35.3. 11-17.

2011. "The Swahili City-States" in *Food Cultures of the World Encyclopedia* [4 volumes]. Albala, Ken, ed. Westport, Conn: Greenwood Press [This article, through a sociological, linguistic, and semiotic study of food behavior, explores history, culture, religion and social meaning in a group of ancient Indian Ocean city-states loosely federated by language and religion.]

2011. "Kenya" in *Food Cultures of the World Encyclopedia* [4 volumes]. Albala, Ken, ed. Westport, Conn: Greenwood Press [This article, through a sociological, linguistic, and semiotic study of food behavior, explores history, culture, religion and social meaning in a post-colonial nation-state.]

2008. Review of Roger W. Shuy, *Creating Language Crimes: How law enforcement uses (and misuses) language. Language*, volume 84, number 4.

2006. "Meaning in nonlinguistic systems." In *Advances in Functional Linguistics: Columbia School Beyond its Origins*, Gorup, Davis and Stern, eds. Amsterdam: John Benjamins. [This article seeks to extend the boundaries of linguistic semantic theory and sociolinguistic variation theory to *non*-linguistic non-random systematized arbitrary expressions of meaning, specifically behaviors dealing with food, architectural space, private space, and construction of social and gender identity, using data author collected primarily from ancient city-states in East Africa, and from the U.S. and SE Asia as well.]

2006. "Semantic Analysis of Swahili Applicative Verbal Extension *li."* co-author Wendy Saliba. In *Advances in Functional Linguistics: Columbia School Beyond its Origins*, Gorup, Davis and Stern, eds. Amsterdam: John Benjamins. [A new analysis of a thorny problem in theoretical semantics (how context-sensitive can grammatical meaning be?) using data from a widely examined issue in Swahili semantics (the applicative extension *li*).]

2006 Review of "Language in the American Courtroom." in Sociolinguistics, Discourse Analysis, and Language Policy section of *Language and Linguistics Compass*, Blackwell electronic journal.

2006 "Forensic linguistics: applying the scientific principles of language analysis to issues of the law." *International Journal of the Humanities*, Volume 3, Issue 7, pp.65-70. Melbourne: Common Ground Publishing Pty. Ltd.

2005 "Police interrogation needs videotape." *Newsday*, April 28, 2005. [Op-Ed article on the necessity of electronically recording interrogations and confessions: how it protects the rights of suspects, protects the police from accusations of wrongdoing, and saves money for taxpayers as well.]

2004 "Forensic linguistics." In Glenn Yeffeth, ed., *An Eclectic Look at NYPD Blue.* Dallas: BenBella Books. [The cooperative principle, schemas, pragmatics, inference, dialect and idiolect, the sociolinguistics of language as identity, code-switching, and linguistic accommodation as tools for analyzing courtroom procedure, police interrogation, and how memories can be shaped by questioning.]

2003b "Linguistics and the Law." *Washington, D.C. Legal Times.* June 16, 2003. [Explains the background, theory and application of Forensic Linguistics in a special Litigation edition of this law journal.]

2003a "Black English equals any other language." *Newsday,* January 22, 2003.
[Op-Ed article on the sociolinguistic role of language and ethnic identification drawing on 25 years of research on dialect and secret language.]

1999a "Dialect, standard, and slang: Sociolinguistics and ethnic American literature"
In George Leonard et al., eds., *The Asian Pacific American Heritage: A Companion to Literature and Arts*. New York: Routledge. [**Winner of American Library Association's *Outstanding Academic Book* award**.]

1999b "Food and ethnic identity: Theory." Co-author Wendy Saliba.
In George Leonard et al., eds., *The Asian Pacific American Heritage: A Companion to Literature and Arts*. New York: Routledge. [Winner of American Library Association's *Outstanding Academic Book* award.]

1999c "Southeast Asian Food: the Durian and beyond." Co-author Wendy Saliba.
In George Leonard et al., eds., *The Asian Pacific American Heritage: A Companion to Literature and Arts*. New York: Routledge. [Winner of American Library Association's *Outstanding Academic Book* award.]

1995 "Notes on *uki*, East African Honey Wine" [A sociological linguistic-semiotic study of an African traditional beverage which I was taught to brew and use ceremonially when I sat on the elders' council of the Akamba]. In Harland Walker, ed., *Oxford Symposium 1994*. London: Prospect Books.

1995 "Deixis in Swahili: attention meanings and pragmatic function." In Ellen Contini-Morava and Barbara Goldberg, eds., *Meaning as Explanation: Advances in Sign-Based Linguistics*. Berlin: Mouton De Gruyter. [This article, using data from the grammatically complex East African language Swahili, analyzes the use of deictics such as demonstratives by speakers and writers in structuring the information flow of language.]

1994 "Money and language." In John DiGaetani, ed., *Money: Lure, Lore and Literature*.
Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press. pp 3-13. [Analyzes the common theoretical semantic underpinnings of linguistic and true monetary systems—arbitrariness; lexicographic and historical linguistic analysis of lexical semantics of money terms; sociolinguistics of some closed codes regarding money.]

1992 "Food, drink, and Swahili public space." In Harlan Walker, ed., *Oxford Symposium 1991*. Co-author Wendy Saliba. London: Prospect Books. [Presents the problem and theoretical underpinnings of the analysis of

non-linguistic non-random systematized arbitrary expressions of meaning, specifically behaviors dealing with food, architectural space, private space, and construction of social and gender identity, using data primarily from ancient city-states in East Africa, and from the U.S. and Asia as well.]

1988 *Swahili Phrasebook*. Victoria, Australia and Berkeley, California: Lonely Planet Publications.

1987 Response to Wilt, "Discourse distances and the Swahili demonstratives." *Studies in African Linguistics* 18:97-105.

1985 "Swahili demonstratives: Evaluating the validity of competing semantic hypotheses." *Studies in African Linguistics* 16:281-293. [Explores the requirements of theoretical adequacy in the construction of explanatory hypotheses.]

1980 "Swahili e, ka, and nge as signals of meanings." *Studies in African Linguistics* 11:209-226.

INVITED AND REFEREED PRESENTATIONS – LINGUISTICS AND SEMIOTICS include:

2024 Accuracy and reliability in earwitness testimony: a case study." Robert Leonard, Marlon Hurt, and Katherine Dickenson. **The International Association for Forensic Phonetics and Acoustics (IAFPA)** hosted by L'Université du Québec à Montréal and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Montreal Canada, August 2024.

2024 "Creative Uses of Forensic Linguistics in Capital Defense." Legal Defense Fund's 42nd Annual Capital Airlie Conference, Airlie, VA, July 2024.

2024 "Forensic linguistics helped stay the execution of Melissa Lucio." **International Association of Forensic and Legal Linguistics**, Aston University, Birmingham, UK, June 2024.

2024 "How Hofstra's Justice Project is assisting Arizona to make capital jury instructions intelligible to all." Plenary to **International Linguistic Association**, BMCC, NYC, April 2024.

2024 Guest Lecture. Language and Law course, **Florida International University**, Florida, April 2024

2024 "Melissa Lucio Case". Language and Law course, **Rutgers University**, New Brunswick, New Jersey, Co-presented with Rachel Seo, March 2024

2023 "Applications of the Science of Forensic Linguistics." Keynote address to 2023 **National Administrative Law Judiciary** Annual Conference: The Administrative Law Judiciary and the Pursuit of Fairness, Due Process and the Protection of Fundamental Rights, Fordham University School of Law, NYC, October 2023

2023 Guest Lecture. Forensic Science Seminar course, Forensic Science Program, **Hofstra University**, Hempstead, New York, September 2023

2023 "Forensic Linguistics in the cause of justice: criminal investigations, threat assessment, counterterrorism, and the Forensic Linguistics Capital Case Innocence Project." The Annual Barbara Gordon Memorial Lecture, **Florida International University**, Miami, Florida April 2023.

2023 "The Intersection of Language and Crime" **Indiana University**, April 2023

2023 "Melissa Lucio Case". Language and Law course, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, Co-presented with Rachel Seo, February 2023

2023 "Forensic Linguistics Applications to Intelligence, Law Enforcement, Counterterrorism and Threat Assessment, and the one-week FBI intensive training courses now taught at Hofstra University." **Tüsatbitig, the Turkish Webinars Platform, and Türk Dili Derneği, the Turkish Language Association**, Ismir, Türkiye, February 2023

2023 "Forensic Linguistics: theory, demographic profiling, authorship and counterterrorism." Workshop on Forensic Linguistics, International School of Dravidian Linguistics, **Dravidian Linguistic Association of India**, Thiruvananthapuram (fmr. Trivandrum), Kerala, India, January 2023

2022 "Social Justice: Forensic Linguistics theory and practice at work". Presented to **The Culturally Responsive Court: Regional Justice System Training Series** "Cultural Competency/Stop Violence Against Women Project for Judges, Law Enforcement Officers, Prosecutors, Interpreters, Domestic Violence Program staff, and Adult Protective Services" A series of six presentations, presented in Pittsburgh, State College, Lancaster, Philadelphia, Bethlehem, Scranton, November 2022.

2022 "Forensic Linguistic Intelligence in Corporate Security, Counterterrorism, and Threat Assessment." Presented to **ISC East (International Security Conference & Exposition,** Javits Center, NYC, November 2022.

2022 "Hofstra University's Forensic Linguistics Innocence Project." Presented (virtually) to Expanding the Boundaries of Habeas Litigation. **Capital Habeas Unit, Office of the Federal Public Defender**, Northern District of Ohio, Cleveland, Ohio, September 2022.

2022 "Forensic Linguistic Intelligence in Corporate Security: A tool in corporate investigations, counterterrorism, and forensic linguistically-enhanced threat assessment" Presented (virtually) to **ASIS NYC Chapter and the ASIS CSO Center**, New York, NY, May 2022.

2021 "Forensic Linguistics with the FBI and the Hofstra Innocence Project" Webinar. **Hofstra University**, New York, December 2021

2021 Guest Lecture Q & A Session. Germanic Society for Forensic Linguistics, September 2021

2021 ATAP Joint Threat Assessment Training "New advances in forensic linguistically-enhanced threat assessment," Presented (virtually) to the **Association of Threat Assessment Professionals**, Philadelphia, June 2021
2021 Guest Lecture on Authorship Analysis. Introduction to Forensic Linguistics course, **Hofstra University**, New York, April 2021

2020 Guest Lecture to Academic Integrity Group of **Central Queensland University**, Australia, October 2020

2020 "Forensic linguistic applications to authorship, linguistic demographic profiling, counterterrorism, law enforcement and forensic linguistically-enhanced threat assessment." Presented (virtually) to the **Association of Threat Assessment Professionals**, Florida, September 2020.

2020 Guest Lecture at **The New School**, New York, August 2020

2020 "Intensive weeklong training course in forensic linguistics for Supervisory Special Agents of the FBI Behavioral Analysis Unit." Presented (virtually) to **FBI Behavioral Analysis Unit, National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime, Critical Incident Response Group,** Quantico, VA. June 2020

2020 Guest Lecture. **Brandeis University**, Waltham, Massachusetts, May 2020.

2019 "Forensic Linguistics: The application of linguistic theory to cases of profiling, authorship & counterterrorism." Presented to the **University Seminars of Columbia University: Language and Cognition,** New York, NY, November 2019

2019 Guest Lecture. **Stony Brook University**, Stony Brook, New York, April 2019.

2019 "Forensic linguistics: using language evidence in criminal, threat, and intelligence cases, with special reference to homicides." Presented to the **NYPD Detective Bureau Homicide Investigators Course**, New York Police Department, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, New York, NY, Jan 2019

2018 "Forensic linguistics" in the cause of justice: The Forensic Linguistics Capital Case Innocence Project" Keynote Presented to the Forum on Language and the Law: Non-Native Speakers of English in the Legal System – a

dialog between linguistics experts and stakeholders, Department of Linguistics, **University of Utah**, April 2018. https://linguistics.utah.edu/languageandlaw/

2018 "Forensic linguistics" CLE Webinar. **National Association of Public Defenders**. June 2018.

2018 Guest Lecture. **Brandeis University**, Waltham, Massachusetts, May 2020.

2018 "Forensic Linguistics: investigating deception, misrepresentation, and disinformation in civil, criminal, and intelligence cases." Presented to the Workshop on Lying, Deception, Pretense and Noncooperative Communication, **Computer Science Department, Columbia University**, NYC, March 2018.

2017 Guest Lecture. Social & Behavioral Sciences Department, **Stony Brook University**, November 2017.

2017 "The Groundbreaking Science of Forensic Linguistics." Keynote address to 2017 **National Administrative Law Judiciary** Annual Conference: The Administrative Law Judiciary and the Pursuit of Fairness, Due Process and the Protection of Fundamental Rights, Fordham University School of Law, NYC, October 2017

2017 "Forensic Linguistics Investigations." Presented to **The Institute Library**, New Haven, CT. September 2017

2017 "Forensic Linguistics and Fraud Investigations." Keynote address to 17th Annual Emerging Trends in Fraud Investigation & Prevention Conference hosted by Central Ohio Chapter of **Association of Certified Fraud Examiners**, Columbus, OH, May 2017.

2017 "Master Class: Advanced techniques in criminal investigations using Forensic Linguistics." Presented to faculty and students in **Department of Scandinavian Studies and Linguistics and the Law School, Copenhagen University**, Copenhagen, Denmark, March 2017.

2016 "Authorship of texting evidence in a murder case in Waco, Texas." Presented at **Nordic Forensic Linguistics Symposium**, University of Copenhagen, Denmark, December 2016.

2016 "Forensic Linguistics in civil, criminal, and intelligence cases." 4th. Edición de las Jornadas (In)formativas de Lingüística Forense, **Universidad Autónoma de Madrid,** Oct 2016.

2016 "Using Linguistic Theory in Forensic Linguistics Investigations: running the gamut from entertainment star fluff cases to civil wrangling among mega-corporations to counter-terrorism, murder—and our Innocence Project." **Stony Brook Linguistics Club**, Oct 2016.

2016 "Authorship Analysis Advanced Workshop." Featured speaker at Student Day, Roundtable in Forensic Linguistics 2016, **Germanic Society for Forensic Linguistics**, Mainz, Germany, August 2016.

2016 "Forensic Linguistics in a Danish context." Presented at the **Danish National Police College**, Copenhagen, Denmark. Co-presented with Tanya Karoli Christensen, January 2016.

2016 "Forensic Linguistics, Threat Assessment, and Strategic Analysis." Lead presenter at multiday training for **Behavioral Sciences Unit, Calgary Police Service**, Calgary, Canada, June 2016.

2016 "Mind the gap. Communicating linguistic theory to police and triers of fact." Presented at **Law, Language and Communication: negotiating cultural, jurisdictional and disciplinary boundaries** 4th International Conference, Caserta, Italy, May 2016. Co-presented with Tanya Karoli Christensen.

2016 "Forensic Linguistics' cutting-edge techniques in Intelligence, Civil, and Criminal Investigations." Public lecture, and Master Class on Authorship, at **Lausanne University**, Lausanne, Switzerland, May 2016.

2016 "Semantics and Saussure's Arbitrariness of the Sign in Non-Linguistic Meaning Systems." Plenary address to the 61st Annual Conference of the **International Linguistics Association**, Hofstra University, March 2016.

2016 "Application of Lexicography to Criminal and Civil Cases."
MetroLex II: **Lexicography, Language, and the Law Dictionary Society of NorthAmerica, Oxford University Press,** New York City, April 2016. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N4en5cpTBF4

2016 "Forensic Linguistics in a Danish context." Presented at the **Danish National Police College**, Copenhagen, Denmark. Co-presented with Tanya Karoli Christensen, January 2016.

2015 "Forensic Linguistics Applications to Domestic and Foreign Counter-Terrorism, Civil, Criminal, and Intelligence Cases, and the Innovative Hofstra Forensic Linguistics Capital Case Innocence Project
–An exploration of the cutting-edge forensic science of forensic linguistics through the recent cases of one of its foremost practitioners, Professor Robert Leonard, PhD, of Hofstra University." CLE program presented at **Administrative Judicial Institute** at the Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings, New York City, December 2015.

2015 "Forensic Linguistics and legal cases." CLE program for Danish Attorneys, **Danske Advokater**, Copenhagen, November 2015.

2015 "The Groundbreaking Science of Forensic Linguistics: Solving Crimes by Analyzing Language." **Third Annual World Polyglot Conference**, New York City, October 2015.

2015 "Working as a Forensic Linguistics Expert in the US with Law Enforcement Institutions, Defense Teams, Death Penalty Mitigation Institutions, Civil Lawsuit Attorneys, and Protective Services, and
Advanced Academic and Professional Training in the US: The Challenges and Opportunities"
and
"The Hofstra Forensic Linguistics Capital Case Innocence Project: Words on Trial, Revisited"
Featured speaker at Roundtable in Forensic Linguistics 2015, the **Germanic Society for Forensic Linguistics**, Mainz, Germany, September 2015.

(Named "**Outstanding Forensic Linguist of the Year –**for contributions to the theory, research, and education of Forensic Linguistics/Phonetics" by the **Germanic Society for Forensic Linguistics)**

2015 "Forensic Linguistic Intelligence Gathering – Corporate, criminal and civil intelligence gathering through advanced forensic linguistic techniques." Featured speaker at the **Annual Threat Assessment Management Conference, Association of Threat Assessment Professionals Worldwide**, Anaheim, CA, August 2015.

2015 "Forensic Linguistics: Applications to Intelligence, Law Enforcement, Counterterrorism and Threat Assessment." Presented at Danish National Police, **Danish Police College, Institute for Criminal Investigation, Intelligence and Analysis**, June 2015.

2015 "Applying variationist sociolinguistic theory to forensic analyses." Presented at **Copenhagen University**, Copenhagen, Denmark, June 2015.

2015 "Theoretical aspects of forensic linguistic investigations in Criminal, Civil and Intelligence Cases." Presented at the **University of Virginia**, Charlottesville. Feb 2015.

2014 "The theoretical underpinnings of teaching Forensic Linguistics." Featured speaker at The **Columbia School Linguistic Society's Seventh Institute for the Study of Form, Meaning, and Human Behavior in Language**, Brooklyn, NY, August 2014.

2014 "Forensic Linguistics: the analysis of legal evidence that is language. Linguistique légale: l'analyse du langage comme prevue juridique. " Plenary address to the 59th Annual Conference of the **International Linguistics Association**, Université Panthéon-Assas, Paris II, France, May 2014.

2013 "Words on Trial—A New Approach to Investigations, Interrogations and Confessions: Forensic Linguistics." CLE program for **Nassau County Bar Association** and the **Nassau County Criminal Courts Bar Association**, November 2013.

2013 "Language as Evidence: Scientific Linguistic Analysis in Criminal, Civil and Intelligence Cases." **44th Hofstra University Distinguished Faculty Lecture**, October 2013.

2013 "Threat assessment intelligence analysis: maximizing intelligence yield from threat letters, texts, emails, and intercepted communications." Presented at **Terrorist Information New York-London Group**, New York, September, 2013.

2013 "Linguistics and Analysis of Language Evidence." **Multi-state CLE** video session (good for CLE credits to attorneys in Arkansas, Arizona, Alaska, California, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, North Dakota, New Jersey, and New York), July, 2013.

2013 "Language as Evidence: Words on trial." 31st Annual lecture, **The Yale Sherlock Holmes Society,** Yale University, June, 2013.

2013 "Linguistics and Language Evidence in Criminal, Civil, and Intelligence Cases." CLE program presented at **Touro Law School**, April, 2013

2013 "How to Solve Crimes with Words: Techniques (and Careers) in Forensic Linguistics," Presented to **Yale Graduate School** linguistics and language faculty and students, Yale University, April, 2013

2013 "Forensic Linguistics: Analyzing Written and Oral Language Evidence." CLE program presented at **Administrative Judicial Institute** at the Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings, New York City, March, 2013

2012 "Linguistic analysis of a covert recording to assist a judge in determining whether a defendant was in the room when the judicial bribery was discussed: dialect variation, semantics of pronominals, framing content, introduction and support of conversational topics." Presented at **Centre for Forensic Linguistics**, Aston University, Birmingham, UK, November, 2012.

2012 Convened ***Language as Evidence Conference***, and presented "Linguistics and Language Evidence in Criminal, Civil, and Intelligence Cases." Hofstra University, October, 2012.

2012 "Linguistic expert witness testimony aiding the trier of fact: does the language data support the inference that the defendant was or was not at the scene of a conspiracy to bribe a judge." Presented at 11th International **Columbia School Conference**, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, October 2012.

2012 "Forensic Linguistics Applications to Law Enforcement, Counterterrorism and Threat Assessment." Presented to **Merseyside-Liverpool and Manchester Police** at St. Helens University, St Helens, UK, July 2012.

2012 "Linguistics and Forensic Linguistics." Presented at **Copenhagen University**, Copenhagen, Denmark, June 2012.

2012 "Master Class in Forensic Linguistics." Presented at LANCHART PhD Group, **Copenhagen University**, Copenhagen, Denmark, June, 2012.

2012 "Linguistic theory and its forensic applications to authorship, linguistic profiling, counterterrorism, law enforcement and FL-enhanced threat assessment." Presented in three daylong sessions by invitation of **Ontario Provincial Police, Criminal Behaviour Analysis Unit, Threat Assessment and Criminal Profiling Unit**, Ontario, Canada, June 2012.

2012 "Advanced techniques in criminally oriented Authorship Analysis." Presented at **Centre for Forensic Linguistics**, Aston University, Birmingham, UK, February, 2012.

2011 "Advanced techniques in forensic linguistics approaches to security, counterterrorism, law enforcement and FL-enhanced threat assessment." Week-long presentation for **UK government**, London, November, 2011.

2011 "Forensic linguistic techniques and procedures to interdict and prosecute international and domestic counterterrorism" Presented at **Terrorist Information New York Group** (TINYg- linking the USA and UK), London, October, 2011.

2011 "Forensic Linguistics Applications to Law Enforcement, Counterterrorism and Threat Assessment" Presented at **Canadian Association of Threat Assessment Professionals**, Banff, Alberta, Canada, September, 2011.

2011 "International and domestic counterterrorism: forensic linguistics and threat assessment techniques; how the UK and US must work in tandem" Presented at **Terrorist Information New York Group** (TINYg- linking the USA and UK), New York, April, 2011.

2011 "Forensic linguistics approaches to security, counterterrorism, law enforcement and FL-enhanced threat assessment." Presented in four sessions by invitation of **UK government**, London, January 24, 2011.

2010 "Slang! What is it good for?! – The utility, motivation and poetry of slang in pulp fiction and other popular literary genres." [Slang and other lexical choice as marker of genre and group]. Presented at the **Hofstra University Library Symposium** Kapow! From Pulp Fiction to Google Books , Hempstead, NY, October 22, 2010.

2010 "Linguistic meaning, pragmatics and context: Semantic analysis of evidence in a double homicide trial." Presented at 10th International **Columbia School Conference** on the Interaction of Linguistic Form and Meaning with Human Behavior: Grammatical analysis and the discovery of meaning, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, October 9-11, 2010.

2010 "Using Forensic linguistics to protect: techniques for investigation, interdiction, and prosecution." Presented at The **Association of Threat Assessment Professionals**, Northeast Chapter Meeting, New York, New York, September 27, 2010.

2010 "Testifying on meaning"; "Sociolinguistic profiling in investigative contexts"; and "Coerced and other invalid confessions." Presented at International Summer School in Forensic Linguistic Analysis 10th Edition, **Centre for Forensic Linguistics**, Aston University, Birmingham, UK., 28 June – 3 July 2010

2010 "A new approach to interrogations and confessions: forensic linguistics." Presented at **joint CLE/APACE session** of psychologists, psychiatrists and Legal Aid attorneys, Forensic Psychiatry, Kings County Hospital Center, Brooklyn, New York, May 22, 2010.

2010 "Five types of false and invalid confessions, including two previously undescribed categories." Presented at **Criminal Appeals Bureau**, Legal Aid Society, New York, New York, January 25, 2010.

2009 "Forensic linguistics in investigation and prosecution, with specific reference to threat and stalking cases." Featured speaker at the 19th Annual Threat Assessment Management Conference, **Association of Threat Assessment Professionals Worldwide**, Anaheim, CA, August 11-14, 2009.

2009 "Forensic applications of discourse marker analysis." Presented at the **International Association of Forensic Linguists** 9th Biennial Conference, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, July 9 2009.

2009 "Communication, litigation, and forensic linguistics." Co-presenter Jesse Graham, Esq. **Continuing Legal Education, Rivkin Radler LLP**, Uniondale, NY, June 30, 2009.

2009 "Speech Acts, Schemata and the Cooperative Principle: three useful concepts in understanding a false confession: Linguistics theoretical issues in forensic linguistics cases." Presented to the **Linguistics Dept., Georgetown University**, Washington, DC. March 31, 2009.

2009 "Testing linguistic theory: systems of identity, honor and power: food behavior in a Swahili city-state, and a Federal extortion case in a Texas court." Presented at the **Institute for Social and Economic Research & Policy (ISERP), Columbia University**, NY, February 23, 2009.

2009 "Forensic linguistics for investigative practitioners: threat assessment, counter-terrorism, linguistic profiling and authorial attribution." Presented at the **Center for Modern Forensic Practice & Department of English, John Jay College of Criminal Justice** of the City University of New York, NY, NY, February 20, 2009.

2007 "Linguistic variation and schema analysis in forensic linguistic cases: looking beneath the surface at language evidence." Featured speaker at the 17th Annual Threat Assessment Management Conference, **Association of Threat Assessment Professionals Worldwide**, Anaheim, CA, August 14-16, 2007.

2007 "Sociolinguistics as forensic science." Presented at Forensic Linguistics Workshop for Law Enforcement Practitioners, Behavioral Analysis Unit-1 (Counter-terrorism and Threat Assessment) , National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime, Critical Incident Response Group, **Federal Bureau of Investigation**, Quantico, VA, July 23-27, 2007.

2007 "Utilizing Shuy's approaches to speech act, schema, cooperative principle and context in an espionage case." Presented at Special Plenary Panel Honoring Roger Shuy, **International Association of Forensic Linguists**/Language and Law Eighth Biennial Conference, Seattle, Washington, July 12-15, 2007.

2007 "Linguistic evidence of promises, threats, and power in an FBI interrogation of a suspected spy." Presented at the **Ninth International Columbia School Conference** on the Interaction of Linguistic Form and Meaning with Human Behavior, The City College of New York, February 18-19, 2007.

2006 "Forensic linguistic applications to investigative and threat assessment techniques." Presented at The **Association of Threat Assessment Professionals**, Northeast Chapter Meeting, New York, New York, November 6, 2006.

2006 "Unlocking forensic language evidence in investigations and prosecutions." Plenary address at **Ohio Attorney General's Conference on Law Enforcement**, Columbus, Ohio, October 27, 2006.

2006 "The world of forensic linguistics." Presented at **Nassau Academy of Law Continuing Legal Education**, Mineola, NY, October 16, 2006

2006 "Forensic linguistic and Sociolinguistic applications to law enforcement and threat assessment." Presented to representatives of Secret Service, NYPD, New Jersey State Park Police, New Jersey State Troopers, FBI-NYFO, ATF, Security from Empire State building, Rockefeller Center, United Nations, NY Stock Exchange, **U.S. Park Police, National Park Service,** Ellis Island, August 3, 2006.

2006 "Sociolinguistic applications to a law enforcement model." Presented at Forensic Linguistics Workshop for Law Enforcement Practitioners, Behavioral Analysis Unit-1 (Counter-terrorism and Threat Assessment) , National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime, Critical Incident Response Group, **Federal Bureau of Investigation**, Quantico, VA, May 8-12, 2006.

2006 "Overview of forensic linguistics in civil and criminal litigation: author identification, statutes, contracts, copyrights, trademarks, and crimes of language such as perjury, solicitation, bribery and conspiracy." Presented at Seminar on Current FBI and Academic Techniques in Forensic Linguistics, **Hofstra University**, April 19, 2006 .

2005 "Simple Words: the art and science of forensic linguistics." Presented at **North Shore Medical Center-LIJ** Internal Medicine Group Annual Meeting, November 9, 2005.

2005 "Forensic linguistics: applying the scientific principles of language analysis to issues of the law." Presented at The Third International Conference on **New Directions in the Humanities, Cambridge University**, UK, August 5, 2005.

2005 **International Linguistic Association** lecture: "The law is language, the law is data: forensic linguistics, *NYPD Blue* and the importance of schemas." Presented at New York University, February 12, 2005.

2004 "Keynote address: language and culture on the streets of New York." Presented at Education, Language, Culture, Development, **City College**, New York City, June 17-19, 2004.

2004 "Keynote address: Youth movements, music, world language and culture." Presented at the Fifteenth Annual Academic Conference of Smithtown High School and the **SUNY Stony Brook Center for Excellence and Innovation in Education**, "Youth movements as a force in History," Smithtown High School, New York, May 27, 2004

2004 "Semantic analysis of tape recorded conversations: meaning as explanation of a discourse strategy exploiting the "mitigation of claim" of 'non-standard' *like.*" Co-author. Presented at the Eighth International **Columbia School Conference** on the Interaction of Linguistic Form and Meaning with Human Behavior. City College, New York City, February 14-15, 2004.

2003 *"Virginia v. Black* and the Supreme Court: scientifically establishing the meaning of a symbol [cross-burning]." Presented at the **Law and Society Association of the United States and Canada** annual meeting, Pittsburgh, PA, June 2003.

2002 "Food and drink and the transformation of meaning." Presented at the 28th Annual conference of the **Southern Comparative Literature Association**, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, October 10-12, 2002.

2002 "The language scientist as expert on legal 'Ordinary' Meaning." Presented at the **Law and Society Association of the United States and Canada** annual meeting, Vancouver, Canada, May 2002.

1994 "Notes on *Uki*, East African honey wine." (A semiotic study of an African traditional beverage which I was taught to brew and use ceremonially when I sat on the elders' council of the Katheka Kai Akamba ethnic group in Eastern Province of Kenya). Presented (in absentia) at **Oxford Food Symposium, St. Antony's College, Oxford University**, Sept 1994.

1993 "Non-linguistic systematic meaning." Presented at Third International **Conference of the Columbia School of Linguistics**, Rutgers University, October, 1993. Co-author: Wendy Saliba.

1992 "Language change, language equality, and cross-cultural constructions of reality." Presented at 15th Annual Conference of the Organization for the Study of Communication, Language and Gender, **Hofstra University**, Hempstead, NY, October 1992.

1991 "The language of money." Presented at Money: Lure, Lore and Liquidity Conference, **Hofstra University**, Hempstead, NY, November 1991.

1991 "Grammatical meanings and thematic organization." Presented at Second International **Conference of the Columbia School of Linguistics**, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, October 1991.

1991 "Food, drink, and Swahili public space." Presented at **Oxford Food Symposium, St. Antony's College, Oxford University**, Sept 1991. Co-authored with Wendy Saliba.

1989 "Mid-deixis in Swahili and its exploitation in structuring text." Presented at First International **Conference of the Columbia School of Linguistics**, Columbia University, New York, August 1989.

1986 "The Swahili system of deixis and its utilization in the structuring of discourse." Presented at Seventeenth Annual **Conference on African Linguistics**, University of Indiana, Bloomington, April 1986.

1979 "The semantic constants of Standard Swahili e, ka, and nge." Presented at Tenth Annual **Conference on African Linguistics**, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, April 1979.

1977 "Entering the speech community–with special emphasis on Mombasa (Kenya) street criminals." Presented at Professor William Labov's **Sociolinguistics Seminar, University of Pennsylvania**, October, 1977.

PRESENTATIONS – COMMUNICATION ACROSS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATE CULTURES

1991 "Cross-cultural aspects of international business negotiations." Series of seminars given to Soviet executive management groups, Hempstead, NY and New York, NY.

1990 "Doing business in Africa: cross-cultural considerations." Presented at 100 Black Men of Nassau/Suffolk Import-Export Seminar, Hempstead, NY, May 1990.

1990 "American cultural behavior." Presented to delegation from the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Turkey, Central Islip, May 1990.

1989 "National culture and corporate culture." Presented to the delegation from the State Agro-chemical Association (formerly the Ministry of Agrochemical Industries) of the Soviet Union, Lloyd Harbor, NY, December 1989.

1985 "The Western businessman in the Islamic world: Intercultural considerations." Presented at the Conference of the Mediterranean Basin, Long Island University, Greenvale, NY, November 1985.

PRESENTATIONS – INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

1993 "Intercultural linguistics: the value of fieldwork." Presented at the Interdisciplinary Symposium on Teaching, Hofstra University, March, 1993.

1989 "Medical and safety issues in international educational programs." Presented at the Regional meeting of the Association of International Educators (formerly NAFSA), Albany, NY, November 1989.

1989 "How to establish an education center overseas." Presented at the City University of New York Conference on Developing a Study Abroad Program on Your Campus, New York, NY, May 1989.

1988 "Role of academics abroad: Internationalizing the curriculum and the university." Presented at National Association for Foreign Student Affairs Regions IX and X Conference–Section on U.S. students abroad, Philadelphia, PA, November 1988. Voted "best session of the conference." Repeated at National Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, June 1989.

1988 "Education for a new world order." Presented at Scientists-Educators-Government Officials' Roundtable, Bangalore, India, September 1988.

1985 "Choosing the most effective study-abroad models." (Developing experiential assignments to match academic and career path objectives.) Presented at Key Educational Systems Symposium of the National Association for Foreign Student Affairs, Princeton, NJ, November 1985.

1985 "Crisis handling in the developing world." (Ensuring expatriate student and staff safety during political strife or medical emergency.) Presented at 38th Annual Conference of the Council on International Educational Exchange, New York, NY, November 1985.

1982 "Current opportunities for undergraduate field work in Kenya." (e.g., market studies, scientific research, agronomy, socio-economics, language.) Presented at Africa-Asia-the Americas: Conference on Teaching and Research, State University of New York, October 1982. Co-authored with Lawrence Weiss.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Member: International Association of Forensic and Legal Linguists
Columbia School Linguistics Society
Linguistic Society of America
International Language and Law Association

BUSINESS-RELATED EXPERIENCE

1986-1990 **Chair, Internship Program**
National Institute for World Trade, Huntington, NY

1986-1990 **Member, Education Committee**
World Trade Club, Long Island Association

1969-70 **Leader, Lead Singer, and Business Manager, Sha-Na-Na**
While undergraduate at Columbia. (Sha-Na-Na developed its own syndicated TV show and performed in the movie *Grease*.) Supervision of group members and employees, conducting rehearsals, scheduling, etc., dealing with agents, managers, lawyer, record company, promoters, press, etc., and performing as lead singer. Performances include the *Tonight Show* and the *Woodstock Festival*, and many others.

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES DEVELOPED AT HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY

Introduction to Linguistics
General overview of linguistics, "the scientific study of language." Human language vs. animal systems of communication. Language as a code system. Development of writing. Language and the brain. Sign language. "Good" English controversy and educational policy. Bilingual education. Language history and change. Phonetics and phonology. Semantics, pragmatics, discourse analysis. Language, society and culture. Sapir-Whorf "hypothesis." First and second language acquisition. Propaganda and euphemisms. Non-verbal communication.

Sociolinguistics
The relation of language and society. Language as an indicator of societal identity, group, and status. Case studies of language situations in countries around the world. Diglossia. Language attitudes, change and maintenance. Nonverbal communication.

Students form small teams and replicate a seminal sociolinguistic field experiment demonstrating the interconnectedness of language and social class.

Experiments in Sociolinguistics
A field-based approach to sociolinguistics. Students conduct a series of investigations of sociolinguistic behavior through student-designed independent fieldwork. A bibliographic-based research paper is also required. Current field projects are:

1. Social Groupings in the Student Community.
2. Gender Variation in Verbal Response to Nonverbal Communication.
3. Structure of Vernacular Narratives.
4. Social Class and Language Variation.

Senior Honors Seminar: Culture, Language and Voice (Co-developed and taught with Dr. Lisa Merrill)
Cultural perspectives and some of the problems of cross-cultural communication and negative valuation, studied through symbolization and performance linguistically, behaviorally, and through narrative. Linguistic and other communicative behavior of groups and genders is both different and differentially valued. Subordinates in a hierarchy, such as women and ethnic minorities, are set apart by their language use. Cultures discussed are from different parts of the world, such as the Swahili, the Japanese and the Colombians; cultures that exist within a single country, such as the United States' Cajuns, Hutterites, and the racial cultures of Black and White. Throughout, we examine gender differences and similarities and the social construction of gender identities. Perceptual filters; Point of view and narrative voice; Multiple points of view; Case study; Gender, voice and values; Language and social value; Messages of inclusion and exclusion: deep-structure interpretation of the food code; Negotiation simulation; Applications.

Kenya in Contemporary Africa
Focus on four important forces of change directly affecting modern Kenyans. Urbanization is the headlong flight of rural populations into the cities. Monetarization is the integration into the cash economy and the larger world economy and the continuation of Kenya's centuries-long underdevelopment vis-à-vis foreign trade partners.

Detribalization and Europeanization are the loss of traditional "village" value systems and languages and the influence of urban societies, Western education and religion, and the secular values of the global consumer economy. Degradation of the environment includes overpopulation, erosion, deforestation, desertification, and competition for land between humans and wildlife.

Elementary and Intermediate Swahili: Swahili 1, 2, 3, 4
Fundamentals of conversation, grammar, reading and writing in the most widely spoken language of East Africa. Elements of culture of the Swahili and other East African ethnic groups.

Cross-Cultural Linguistics
Language as joiner and divider. Linguistic aspects of cross-cultural communication themes: perception, value systems, ethnocentricity and cultural relativity, paralinguistic behavior, time/space, foodways, social interaction. Linguistic reinforcement of class, ethnic, religious and national divisions. Sapir-Whorf hypothesis. Barriers to effective translation.

Power of Words
Societal divisions and power differentials caused and maintained by language. Propaganda, advertising, and political manipulation of news. Social, geographical and ethnic dialect divisions: dialects vs. the standard language, and ethnic and racial linguistic prejudice. Language, sex, and gender roles. Linguistic acculturation of the sexes. Doctor and lawyer talk.

Language and Culture
Examination of language, the most powerful and complex communicative instrument available to humans. Language as a sign-system unique to the species, as a reflection of cultural values, and as an artistic instrument in both day-to-day speech and, especially, in literature. Analysis of sections of literary works in Swahili, a Bantu language of East Africa, and English.

Language and Society in Africa, Asia and Latin America (Multicultural Core Course)Examination of the relation between language and society with emphasis on Africa, Asia and Latin America. Conflict between nationalist languages and former colonial world languages. Language as a cognitive system. Language as an indicator of societal identity, group, and status. Diglossia. Language planning in government, industry and education. Language attitudes, change and maintenance. Case studies of language situations in countries around the world.

University Honors Program Senior Honors Seminar: Meaning, Language, and Communication Across Cultures
Semiotic (meaning) systems such as language, clothing, architecture and food and how they create a culture's "reality." Semiotic systems as self contained systems ("tout se tient.") Centrality of arbitrariness and systematicity. Processes and problems of intercultural communication. Ethnocentricity and evolutionary forces on ethnocentrism. Language as joiner and divider. Communicative vs. mere grammatical competency. Linguistic aspects of inter-cultural communication themes: perception, value systems, ethnocentricity vs. cultural relativity, paralinguistic behavior, time/space, foodways, social interaction. Students complete a field trip to an unfamiliar "ethnic" neighborhood; a book report on a inter-cultural aspect of one's own major or planned career; a class presentation on the book; various interviewing assignments and analyses; and a 15-page structured term paper.

Language and Law
This course applies linguistic theory to the analysis of language data in legal settings. Much legal evidence and data are linguistic in nature, yet the use of scientific techniques to help explicate them is a relatively recent phenomenon. Just as medical evidence is profitably commented on by medical experts, language evidence, it is becoming increasingly seen, is advantageously examined by linguistic experts. Ordinary versus Plain meaning, the language of contracts, confession events, disputed authorships, the nature of questions, code-switching, examination and cross examination, cross-cultural aspects of jurisprudence.

Linguistic Field Methods
Natural data collection using Labovian field interview techniques. Semantic analysis of recorded speech and written texts, and the differences in coherent context. Conversational and narrative structure.

Forensic Linguistics Internships
Interns work with HCLAS professors and/or Law clinic students and faculty on language-related legal cases such as authorship, false confessions, or consensual searches.

GRADUATE COURSES DEVELOPED AT HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY

Forensic Linguistics for Law Enforcement
Graduate-level course designed specifically for FBI Supervisory Special Agents of Behavioral Analysis Units, Critical Incident Response Group, National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime.

Introduction to Linguistics
Introduction to theory and methods of linguistics at the graduate level: universal properties of human language; phonetic, phonological, morphological, syntactic, and semantic structures and analysis; characteristics and form of grammar.

Morphology and Syntax
Descriptive analysis of morphological and syntactic structures in natural languages; emphasis on insight into nature of such structures rather than linguistics formalization.

Semantics and Pragmatics
Survey of most important theoretical and descriptive claims about the nature of meaning .

Sociolinguistics
Study of patterned relationships between language and society; social dialects and social styles in language; dynamics of multilingual societies.

Dialectology
Scope and applications of dialect study; history of English dialects; standard versus non-standard varieties; development of dialect study; non-standard dialect and literature.

Forensic Linguistics: Applications
A case-based approach to solving legal and law enforcement problems through linguistic analysis. This course augments legal analysis by applying rigorous, scientifically accepted principles of linguistic analysis to legal evidence such as letters, confessions, contracts, and recorded speech. Topics include linguistic theory, the structure of meaning systems and their arbitrary nature, sociolinguistic analysis of variation in dialect and language, the apparent "sub-dialects" of American males and females, gestures, inter-cultural communication, language and social organization, and the role of standard dialects, non-standard varieties, and slang in delineating social groups. We examine schema, background knowledge, the indeterminacy of meaning, indirect speech, the role of context and inference, discourse analysis, the confession as speech event, conversational analysis, speech acts, the structure of narratives, and how these specifically relate to legal cases.

Linguistic Field Methods
How to collect and analyze language data. This entails (1) understanding the theoretical underpinnings of what constitutes "data" for competing theoretical schools, (2) executing the appropriate collection techniques, and (3) mastering and applying the appropriate theoretical analytical tools to the data collected.

The Language of the Criminal Justice System
This course examines issues arising from the language-law interface, including: speaker/author identification; interpretation and transcription of police interrogations, witness statements, trial discourse; written legal language.

Forensic Linguistic Procedures
Introduction to the analysis and deployment of linguistic evidence in criminal and other legal investigations.

Language Crimes and Discourse Strategies in Undercover Operations

Exploration of the linguistics of bribery, threatening, extortion, perjury and other crimes committed by uttering words, and the undercover recordings usually used in their investigation and prosecution.
Exploration of the language used in undercover operations, when cooperating witnesses (CWs) and police agents wear hidden microphones and covertly tape-record their targets. Focus is on correct uses and misuses of discourse strategies in undercover recordings.

Trademark Disputes
This course examines the linguistics of trademarks against the backdrop of the law of trademarks and unfair competition.

Master's Essay
Development of a substantial thesis based upon original research and theoretical conceptualization. The student will work under the supervision of an appropriate member of the faculty. Open only to students in the Graduate Linguistics program.

Internship in Forensic Linguistics
Supervised practical exposure to the area of forensic linguistics via placement in an appropriate non-profit, public sector, or private sector organizational setting. Weekly classroom meetings for students in internships will be utilized to discuss substantive, professional, and logistical issues associated with their individual experiences.

Forensic Linguistics Capital Case Justice Project Internship
Supervised case analysis of language evidence in capital case crimes. Coordination with Hofstra Law School students supervised by Professor of Constitutional Law, to review applicability and legal issues. Preparation of report drafts.

Forensic Linguistics Internship with Institute for Forensic Linguistics, Threat Assessment and Strategic Analysis
Supervised case analysis of language evidence in ongoing and cold case criminal investigations. Preparation of report drafts.

Language and the Law: Linguistic Casebook/Language as Evidence (Approved for Juris Doctor Credit at Hofstra Law School)
Forensic linguistics—the application of linguistic theory, research and procedures to issues of the law—augments legal analysis by applying rigorous, scientifically accepted principles of language analysis to evidence such as letters, confessions, contracts, and recorded speech. In the same way that biology and physics can play crucial roles in the interpretation of medical and ballistic evidence, the science of linguistics enables a deeper understanding of legal language phenomena.

This course provides detailed examination of cases—criminal and civil—in which language itself was crucial evidence: we explore the principles of linguistics that were applied to analyze that language evidence, and the procedures and considerations through which judges evaluated the admissibility of expertise and testimony on the evidence. These cases—all ones on which the instructor consulted—involve: the language of interrogations and investigative interviews, conspiracy to commit murder, death threat and suicide letters, the concepts of generic, descriptive, and suggestive in trademark cases, valid and false confessions, authorship investigations, the meaning of contracts, the language of undercover operations, and language crimes—crimes committed by uttering language—such as bribery, extortion, perjury, and solicitation to murder.

Forensic Linguistics Internships
Interns work with HCLAS professors and/or Law clinic students and faculty on language-related legal cases such as authorship, false confessions, or consensual searches.

Expert Witness
This course pairs graduate linguistics students with students from law school. Law students are grouped into firms representing the plaintiff and defendant in a civil case. Linguistics students are assigned to each firm to act as expert witnesses.

One of the key objectives is to provide experience in the realities one may face as working forensic linguistic professionals. This is, therefore, a rigorous course that requires linguistics students to work with their law firms outside of class on tight schedules, analyze the relevant data and produce well-thought-out and well-researched reports with legal guidance from the law firm, be able to explain crucial linguistic topics to the law students in one's firm, and be subjected to intense cross-examinations both at lengthy depositions and at trial.

CASES

As of February 2026

QUALIFIED AS EXPERT IN U.S. FEDERAL DISTRICT COURTS

2025 Delta Air Lines, Inc., v. Marriott International, Inc., Defendant and Counterclaim, Plaintiff, and Marriott Worldwide Corporation, Counterclaim Plaintiff.
C. A. No. 1:20-CV-01125-ELR

- United States District Court, Northern District of Georgia, Atlanta Division
- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic issue: linguistic significance of trademarks

2024 Snap Inc. v. Katherine K. Vidal, et al., Case No. 2:22-cv-00085

- United States District Court, Central District of California
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: linguistic significance of trademarks
- Testified at Trial
- Court agreed with plaintiff that Snap was not generic, as claimed by USPTO

2023 GOLO, LLC v. Goli Nutrition Inc. C.A. No. 20-667-RGA-SRF

- United States District Court for the District of Delaware
- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic issue: linguistic significance of trademarks
- Testified at Trial
- Jury verdict for defendant

2023 United States of America v Ahmed Mahad Mohamed CR 19-02162-TUC-JGZ (EJM)

- United States District Court for the District of Arizona
- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic issue: Using the U.S. Gov't Interagency Language Roundtable (ILR) scale to assist judge in assessing whether defendant knew English well enough to understand Miranda warnings
- Testified at suppression hearing
- Suppression denied

2022 Guantanamera Cigars Company v. SMCI Holding, Inc., Swedish Match North America, LLC, et al. Case No. 21-cv-21714-GOODMAN [CONSENT]

- United States District Court, Southern District of Florida, Miami
- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic issue: meaning of "duo(s)" trademark in English and Spanish
- Judge allowed testimony—Daubert
- Stipulations obviated need to testify
- Defendant prevailed

2021 United States of America v. Higinio Perez-Bravo, Case No: 418-cr-274

- U.S. District Court, Savannah, Georgia
- First degree murder
- Testified at Evidentiary Hearing

- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic issue: Was the Spanish translation of Miranda comprehensible to someone of defendant's education and dialect; was the defendant adequately informed of his rights.

2021 Express Lien, Inc. v. Handle, Inc. et al. Civil Action No: 19-10156 Section: "H"

- United States District Court Eastern District of Louisiana, New Orleans
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: Did defendant copy their website from plaintiffs'—i.e., authorship analysis
- Defendant requested settlement after my testimony

2020 Estate of David Kleiman, and W&K Info Defense Research, LLC v. Craig Wright Case No. 9:18-cv-80176-BB/BR

- United States District Court, Southern District of Florida, Miami
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: authorship of writings
- Nov 2020 Judge allowed testimony in Daubert Hearing
- Defendant abandoned his claim that he did not author certain writings; jury awarded plaintiff $100M

2018 Ragbir v. United States, 17-CV-1256 (KM)

- U.S. District Court, Newark, NJ
- Testified at Evidentiary Hearing
- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic issue: Was the defendant's putative spontaneously dictated confession a verbatim instance of his attested spontaneous speech, i.e., authorship analysis
- Judge agreed the putative confession could not have been "verbatim"

2018 United States of America v. Bakhtiyor Jumaev, Criminal Action No. 12-cr-00033-JLK

- U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado
- Confession to providing support to terrorist activities; "accepted as expert witness in linguistics and language, as well as interpretation and translation"
- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic issue: Using the U.S. Gov't Interagency Language Roundtable (ILR) scale to assist judge in assessing whether defendant knew English and other languages well enough to understand his interrogation and his putative confession. Adequacy of interpretation. Linguistic pragmatics and cultural concepts such as the concept of "debt" in Islamic societies vs. "debt" in non-Islamic American societies.
- Testified at trial
- Convicted

2017 United States of America v. Bakhtiyor Jumaev, Criminal Action No. 12-cr-00033-JLK

- U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado
- Miranda/Confession to providing support to terrorist activities
- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic issue: Using the U.S. Gov't Interagency Language Roundtable (ILR) scale to assist judge in assessing whether defendant knew English and other languages well enough to understand Miranda warnings; similarly, whether the interpretation attempt in three languages was successful
- Testified at suppression hearing
- Suppression denied

2014 Pods Enterprises, Inc., v. U-Haul International, Inc., Case No. 8:12-cv-01479-T-27MAP

- U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, Tampa Division
- Linguistic issue: linguistic significance of trademark; semantics; linguistic pragmatics
- Consulted by defendant/counterclaim-plaintiff
- Admitted as expert—limited to ad initio
- Testified at trial
- Decision for plaintiff

2014 Theranos, Inc. and Elizabeth Holmes v. Fuisz Pharma, John R. Fuisz, Richard C. Fuisz, and Joseph M. Fuisz 11-CV-05236-YGR

- U.S. District Court, Northern District of California, Oakland Division
- Industrial Espionage/Patent Infringement
- Consulted by plaintiffs
- Linguistic issue: whether a patent idea was substantially the same as another's (linguistic pragmatics); was it illegally obtained and plagiaristically copied (authorship)
- Admitted as expert
- Settled during trial just before my testimony

2013 Chevron Corp. v. Donziger, 11-cv-00691

- U.S. District Court, Southern District of NY
- Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) trial
- Consulted by plaintiffs
- Linguistic issue: authorship analysis—whether a judgment was plagiaristically copied from unfiled documents
- Testified at trial
- Decision for plaintiffs; upheld on appeal

2011 National Western Life Insurance Company v. Western National Life Insurance Company and AGC Life Insurance Company Case No. A09CA711 LY

- U.S. District Court, Austin, TX
- Linguistic issue: Trademark confusion
- Consulted by defendants
- Admitted as expert
- Settled before trial

2007 United States v. Sohail Chaudhry. Criminal No. 06-771.

- U.S. District Court, Newark, NJ
- Internet sting
- Consulted by defense
- Linguistic issue: age of Instant Messaging interlocutor
- Testified at trial
- Defendant convicted

QUALIFIED AS EXPERT IN STATE COURTS

2026 American Civil Liberties Union Inc., et al., Dinh "Peter" Nguyen, Mark Joseph Reef, et al.; Case No: CACE-24-000763
Steven Wood, et al., v. Dinh "Peter" Nguyen, Mark Joseph Reef, et al.

- Consulted by Plaintiffs / Cross-Claimants
- Circuit Court of the 17th Judicial Circuit, Broward County, Florida
- Linguistic issue: Authorship of emails at dispute
- Admitted on Daubert

2026 State of Tennessee v Pablo Santos, File No. PT277758

- Miranda waiver and coerced confession
- Consulted by Defendant
- Juvenile Court for Davidson County, Tennessee
- Linguistic issue: whether the Defendant was likely to have adequately understood the delivery of Miranda rights; secondly, whether he would have likely adequately understood that he was waiving his Miranda rights
- Testified at juvenile transfer hearing

2025 Jason Goldman v Shayna Lechcier-Kimel, Case No.: 24SMRO00289

- Harassment countersuit
- Consulted by Respondent
- Family Court Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles
- Linguistic issue: Rebuttal of methodology used in opposing expert's research question
- Testified at restraining order hearing

2025 The People of the State of New York v Mohamadou Sall

- Sexual misconduct
- Criminal Court of the City of New York, County of New York
- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic issue: Linguistic pragmatic analysis of telephone call, to wit, whether defendant "confessed" during undercover recorded "controlled call"
- Testified at trial
- Acquitted

2025 State of Florida v Johnathan I. Alcegaire, Case No. 53-2016-CF000284-A000-XX

- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic issue: Reliability of Ear witness identification, procedure
- Evidentiary Hearing in 1st Degree Murder; Death Penalty
- Ongoing

2025 Richard Loren Taite v Helene Rachel Woods, Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 25STRO01350

- Consulted by Plaintiff
- Linguistic issue– Did the defendant author certain documents
- Judge found for Plaintiff

2023 State of Arkansas vs Bellot Thiam Doucoure Case ID: 2022-1443-1

- 19th Judicial, Benton County
- 3 counts Rape, Guardian Class; 3 counts Sexual Assault in the Second-Degree Class B Felony
- Testified at trial
- Consulted by prosecution
- Linguistic issue–authorship: Did the defendant author certain documents
- Jury found defendant guilty; sentenced to three consecutive life sentences

2021 O'Hara v Liberty Rural Fire District Case No. STK-CV-UOE-2018-0007115

- Superior Court California, County of San Joaquin
- Defamation
- Qualified after evidentiary hearing
- Testified at trial
- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic issue–authorship: Did the Fire Chief author two defamatory letters re O'Hara
- Jury found for the defendant–found that the Chief did not author the defamatory letters

2021 Juracan-Juracan, Oscar R Case No. 1005517697

- Hudson, NJ
- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic Issue: Whether defendant, a speaker of the native American Mayan language Kaqchikel could have knowingly, intelligently and voluntarily waived his Miranda rights and generally understood his interview conducted in Spanish
- This Court determined, citing a number of matters, that Dr. Leonard was an expert for purposes of the suppression motion –motion in linguistics and forensic linguistics. Furthermore, this Court finds Dr. Leonard to be credible based upon his testimony and conduct before the Court, as considered under the aforementioned credibility factors.

2020 Vince Leach et al. v Katie Hobbs, et al., Arizonans Fed up with Failing Healthcare (Healthcare Rising AZ) Case No. CV2020-00761

- Arizona Superior Court, Maricopa County
- Attempt to disqualify a ballot initiative
- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic Issue: linguistic pragmatic/semantic analysis of text on whether the language of the 100-word description ("Summary") of the ballot initiative is fraudulent/creates a significant danger of confusion or unfairness
- Judge "agreed" with my opinions, found my testimony "credible"

2019 The State Of South Carolina v. Robert W. McCaffrey, Jr

- Warrant No. 2014a1010900353 OCA #: CCSO 20120045598
- Obstruction of justice in a homicide investigation
- Consulted by prosecution
- Linguistic Issue: Authorship of a farewell note defendant claimed was authored by defendant's presumed-dead wife
- Convicted

2019 State of Oregon v Justin Metschan-Baertlein 18CR31560

- Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Washington County

- Internet sting
- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic issue: linguistic pragmatic/semantic analysis of text messages
- Hung jury

2017 Rosebank Road Med. Servs. Ltd. [and Dr. Geeta Murali Ganesh] v. Ramji Govindarajan, No. CGC-16-549755

- Superior Court of California, County of San Francisco
- Defamation
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue–authorship: Whether evidence indicated a set of false and disparaging online reviews of the plaintiff's medical practice were authored by the defendant
- Testified at trial

2016 Moore, Lessell Case No. 07CR366, El Paso County District Court (4th Judicial District court), Colorado Springs, Colorado

- Attempted murder conviction—hearing re competency to stand trial/ capacity to make a knowing and intelligent waiver of the right to testify at his 2008 trial
- Consulted by defense
- Linguistic issue–authorship: Whether evidence indicated a set of jail kites were authored by the subject (who was therefore competent)
- Testified at post conviction hearing
- Court agreed with my findings; on basis of other evidence denied appeal

2012 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania v. Brian D. Hummert. 6140 CA 2004

- Murder
- Consulted by prosecution
- Linguistic issue: Authorship analysis of "stalker" and "serial killer" letters
- Testified at trial (Retrial after 2006 verdict overturned)
- Convicted of 1st Degree Murder

  [*Forensic Files* "A Tight Leash" and Investigation Discovery's *Solved* feature this case and the linguistic testimony.]

2011 State of New Jersey v. Eugene Reinsalu File 09002722 Indictment 09-12-02153

- Aggravated Assault and Endangering the Welfare of a Child
- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic issue: Limited English and Miranda, linguistic pragmatic analysis of putative confession
- Testified at Miranda hearing
- Miranda upheld

2011 State of Illinois v. Christopher E. Coleman. Case No. 09-CF-50

- 1st Degree Murder
- Consulted by prosecution
- Linguistic issue: authorship analysis of threatening messages
- Testified at separate Frye Hearing – admitted
- Testified at trial
- Convicted of 1st Degree Murder, all three counts

[This case and the linguistic testimony is explored in Forensic Files II "Words Matter"]

2011 In re Jarvis Masters habeas corpus California Supreme Court S130 495
People v Masters Superior Court SC 010 467 A

- 1st Degree Murder; Death Penalty
- Consulted by defense
- Linguistic issue: authorship analysis of prison kites
- Testified at separate Frye Hearing – admitted
- Testified at Habeas Corpus hearing – admitted
- Court agreed with my findings; on basis of other evidence denied appeal

2011 State of Montana v. Justine Winter. Case No. DC-09-424 (B)

- Two counts of deliberate homicide
- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic issue: linguistic pragmatic/semantic analysis of text messages – whether pre-auto crash texts constitute a suicide note or other linguistic event
- Testified at trial
- Convicted, both counts

2010 State of Montana v. Justine Winter. Case No. DC-09-424 (B)

- Two counts of deliberate homicide
- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic issue: linguistic pragmatic/semantic analysis of text messages – whether pre-auto crash texts constitute a suicide note or other linguistic event
- Testified at Transfer Hearing (Def was 2 months over juvenile)
- Defendant remained in adult court; subsequently testified at trial

2010 State of Indiana v. Ty Evans, Marion Superior Court, Criminal Division II,
Cause No: 49G02-0505-FA-082867.

- Post-conviction relief
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: Transcript of undercover recording; linguistic pragmatic analysis of identification of assailant
- Testified at hearing

2010 Shelli Rose Dewey v. Sheryl Foster, Warden, Florence McClure Women's Correctional Center;
and Howard Skolnik, Director, Nevada Dept. of Corrections CV –HC-08-820

- Attempt to get new trial in murder case
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: linguistic pragmatic analysis of interrogations, putative confession
- Testified at hearing
- Ms. Dewey now released

2010 Paglia, Linda et al vs. Haber, RJ. Case No. 2009CV698

- District Court, Larimer County, Colorado
- Contempt of Court stemming from earlier decision
- Consulted by plaintiff

- Linguistic issue: Whether evidence indicated authorship of documents incriminating suspect
- Testified at hearing
- Guilty of some charges; not guilty of others

2010 State of Michigan v. Benjamin Thomas Hauswirth Case: 09-2918-FC

- 6 counts Solicitation of murder; 1 count of Conspiracy
- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic issue: linguistic pragmatic analysis of undercover recordings
- Testified at trial
- Convicted of some charges

2009 Lisa Lopez-Dusart v. Marriott Ownership Resorts, Inc., d/b/a Marriott Vacation Club International, and Stephen P. Weisz No. 05-24730 CA 25.

- Circuit court for the 11th Judicial Circuit, Miami-Dade, Florida
- Employee discrimination
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: linguistic pragmatic analysis of communications
- Testified at trial
- Found for defendants; on appeal

2009 State of Arizona v. Steven Lynn Rhodes CR2005-112602-001 Defendant.

- Sexual misconduct
- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic issue: linguistic pragmatic analysis of telephone call, to wit, whether defendant "confessed" during third-party undercover recorded "confrontation call"
- Testified at trial
- Acquitted

2005-2006 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania v. Brian D. Hummert. No. 6140 CA 2004.

- Murder
- Consulted by prosecution
- Linguistic issue: Authorship analysis of "stalker" and "serial killer" letters
- Testified at separate Frye Hearing
- Testified at trial
- Convicted of 1st Degree Murder
- [This case and the linguistic testimony is explored in Forensic Files "A Tight Leash" and Investigation Discovery's *Solved*]

2005-2006 People of the State of New York v. Nelson Pardo. Index No. 13/2004.

- Internet sting
- Consulted by defense
- Linguistic issue: authorship of confession; age of Instant Messaging interlocutor. Appointed Forensic Linguist Expert pursuant to County Law, Section 722-C
- Admitted to testify
- Charges reduced; no trial

OTHER STATE COURT TESTIMONY

2016 Ex Parte Rickey Donnell Cummings, Texas Case No. 2011-1513-C1-A

- Capital Murder—Death Sentence
- Consulted by defense (habeas counsel)
- Linguistic issue: Authorship analysis of text messages
- Testified in state post-conviction proceedings (evidentiary hearing)

2015 State of Washington v. Fady Sabry Yakima County Sup. Ct.13-1-01366-1; 13-1-01396-2

- Sexual misconduct
- Consulted by defendant.
- Linguistic issue: Using the U.S. Gov't Interagency Language Roundtable (ILR) scale to assist judge in assessing whether defendant knew English well enough to understand Miranda warnings
- Testified at Miranda Hearing
- After this Hearing, State offered reduced charges; no trial

TESTIMONY BEFORE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNALS

2015 Chevron Corporation (USA) and Texaco Petroleum Company (USA) v. The Republic of Ecuador, UNCITRAL, PCA Case No. 34877

- Contract dispute
- Consulted by plaintiffs
- Linguistic issue: authorship analysis—whether a judgment was plagiaristically copied from unfiled documents
- Testified at Tribunal Hearing
- Venue: Washington, DC
- Decision for plaintiffs

2014 Muhammet Cap & Sehil Insaat Endustri ve Ticaret Ltd. St. v. Turkmenistan, World Bank International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes ICSID Case ARB/12/6

- Contract dispute
- Consulted by plaintiffs
- Linguistic issue: Interpretation of English version of Turkey-Turkmenistan bilateral investment treaty (BIT)
- Testified at Tribunal Hearing
- Venue: Paris
- Decision for plaintiffs

DEPOSITIONS

2026 Concord Music Group Inc v. Anthropic PBC, U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee, Case No. 3:23-cv-01092

- Consulted by Plaintiffs
- February 2026
- Linguistic issue: Indicia of copying in works at issue
- Ongoing

2025 Steven Wood, Scott Tucker, et al. vs. Dinh 'Peter' Nguyen, Mark Joseph Reef, et al.; Case No. CACE-24-000763

- Consulted by Plaintiff/Claimants
- October 2025
- Linguistic issue: Authorship of contested emails
- Ongoing

2025 State of Florida v Johnathan I. Alcegaire, Case No. 53-2016-CF000284-A000-XX

- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic issue: Reliability of Ear witness identification, procedure
- 1st Degree Murder; Death Penalty
- Ongoing

2025 Open AI, INC. v Open Artificial Intelligence, INC., and Guy Ravine
Case No.: 4:23-cv-03918-YGR

- Consulted by Defendants
- March 2025
- Linguistic issue: Trademark—whether the mark "Open AI" has specialized meaning in computing/technology field, and whether the mark appears to describe Defendants' products/services
- Ongoing

2024 Bold v. Rocket Resume, Inc., and Stephen Zimmerman, United States District Court,
Case No. 5:22-cv-1045-BLF-SVK

- Northern District of California, San Jose Division
- Consulted by Plaintiffs
- Linguistic issue: Did defendant copy their website from plaintiffs'—i.e., authorship analysis
- Ongoing

2024 Shegerian & Associates v. High Noon Office

- Superior Court of the State of California County of Los Angeles – West – Beverly Hills
- Consulted by plaintiffs
- Linguistic issue: interpretation of contract language

2023 Snap Inc. v. Katherine K. Vidal, Case No. 2:22-cv-00085-SK

- United States District Court Central District of California
- Consulted by plaintiffs
- Linguistic issue: linguistic significance of trademarks

2023 GOLO, LLC v. Goli Nutrition Inc. C.A. No. 20-667-RGA-SRF

- United States District Court for the District of Delaware
- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic issue: linguistic significance of trademarks
- Jury verdict for defendant

2023 Delta Air Lines, Inc., v. Marriott International, Inc., Defendant and Counterclaim, Plaintiff, and Marriott Worldwide Corporation, Counterclaim Plaintiff.
C. A. No. 1:20-CV-01125-ELR

- United States District Court, Northern District of Georgia, Atlanta Division
- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic issue: linguistic significance of "delta"
- Ongoing

2022 Zuru LLC and Zuru Inc. v. LEGO Juris A/S, Cancellation No. 92075254.

- United States Patent & Trademark Office; Before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board
- Consulted by appellant
- Linguistic issue: linguistic significance of trademark

2021 CFI Group USA, LLC vs. Verint Americas, Inc., Case No. 2:19-cv-12602

American Customer Satisfaction Index, LLC, vs. Foresee Results, Inc. Case No. 2:18-cv-13319

- United States District Court, Eastern District of Michigan
- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic issue: linguistic significance of ACSI and American Customer Satisfaction Index
- Settled

2021 Express Lien, Inc. v. Handle, Inc. et al., Civil Action No: 19-10156 Section: "H"

- United States District Court Eastern District of Louisiana, New Orleans
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: Did defendant copy their website from plaintiffs'—i.e., authorship analysis
- Defendant requested settlement after my testimony

2020 Estate of David Kleiman, and W&K Info Defense Research, LLC v. Craig Wright, Case No. 9:18-cv-80176-BB/BR

- United States District Court, Southern District of Florida, Miami
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: authorship of writings
- Nov 2020 Judge allowed testimony in Daubert Hearing
- Defendant abandoned his claim that he did not author certain writings; jury awarded plaintiff $100M, plus $95M

2019 OGD Equipment Co. D/B/A Overhead Garage Door, LLC v. Overhead Door Corporation, et al., Civil No. 4:17-cv-00898-ALM-KPJ

- United States District Court, Eastern District of Texas, Sherman Division
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: linguistic significance of trademark

2019 Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc. v. ICE Clear US, Inc., et al., Civil Action No. 18-cv-01376.

- United States District Court, Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: linguistic significance of trademark

2019 The Reinalt-Thomas Corporation d/b/a/ Discount Tire v. Mavis Tire Supply Civil Action No. 1:18-cv-05877-TCB

- United States District Court, Northern District of Georgia, Atlanta Division
- Consulted by plaintiff

- Linguistic issue: linguistic significance of trademark

2019 Lodestar Anstalt v. Bacardi & Co. ltd. et al., Case No. 2:16-cv-06411-CAS(FFMx)

- United States District Court, Central District of California
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: linguistic significance of trademark

2018 New Mexico v. Zachary Kahn, Case No. 201307-00081

- Internet sting
- Consulted by defendant
- Testified in Prosecution Interview
- Linguistic issue: linguistic pragmatic analysis of online ads, emails and texts
- Charges dismissed

2018 D. H. Pace Company, Inc., D/B/A Overhead Door Company of Atlanta v. Aaron Overhead Door Atlanta LLC, Jeremy Ryan Lucia, And Stephenie Lucia., Civil Action No. 1:17-cv-03430-MHC

- Trademark
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: linguistic significance of trademark

2017 Rosebank and Dr. Geeta Murali Ganesh v. Ramji Govindarajan et al. Case No. CGC-16-549755

- Superior Court of California, County of San Francisco
- Defamation
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: Whether evidence indicated a set of false and disparaging online reviews of the plaintiff's medical practice were authored by the defendant
- Testified at trial

2017 Ciner Wyoming v. Rock Springs Royalty Company (Anadarko) Docket No. C-16-77-L

- District Court of the Third Judicial District, Sweetwater County, Wyoming
- Contract dispute
- Consulted by defendant
- Linguistic issue: Meaning of a paragraph in a contract
- Settled

2017 Ioannis Kanellakopoulos v. Unimerica Life Insurance Company Case No. 15-CV-04674-BLF

- United States District Court Northern District of California, San Jose Division
- Contract dispute
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: Meaning of a contract

2016 State of Florida v. Kamal Williams Criminal Division Case No F10-21391

- Circuit Court 11th Judicial District, Miami Dade County, Florida
- Murder, Solicitation to Murder
- Consulted by defendants
- Linguistic issue: whether prison recordings show def called off the "hit"
- Plea bargained

2016 Geodata Systems Management v. American Pacific Plastic Fabricators, et al, Civil Action No.1:15-Cv-00276-Lcb-Lpa 4

- United States District Court Central District of California
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: linguistic significance of trademark
- Settled

2016 Leticia Aguilar et al., v. Avis Rent A Car System, LLC, Avis Budget Group, Inc., The City of Los Angeles; Does 1 to 5, Inclusive Case No. BC482101

- Application of Los Angeles City ordinance
- Consulted by defendants
- Linguistic issue: semantic and linguistic pragmatic analysis

2015 Flowers Bakeries Brands, LLC, v. Earthgrains Baking Companies, Inc. and Bimbo Bakeries USA Civil Action No. 7:13-cv-138(HL)

- Trademark
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: linguistic significance of trademark
- Settled

2015 Goya Foods, Inc. and Goya de Puerto Rico, Inc., v Golla Oy, Golla USA, Inc., Best Buy Stores Puerto Rico LLC, Best Buy Stores L.P., and Does 1-4 Case No. 12-cv-1859 (BJM)

- Trademark
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: linguistic significance of trademark
- Settled

2014 Pods Enterprises, Inc. v. U-Haul International, Inc., Case No: 8:12-cv-01479-JDW-MAP

- Trademark
- Consulted by defendant/counterclaim-plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: linguistic significance of trademark
- Plaintiff prevailed

2013 Theranos, Inc. and Elizabeth Holmes,v. Fuisz Pharma Llc, Richard C. Fuisz, and Joseph M. Fuisz, Case No. 11-CV-05236-PSG

- U.S. District Court, Northern District of California, San Jose Division
- Industrial Espionage/Patent Infringement
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: whether a patent idea was illegally obtained and plagiaristically copied
- Settled

2012 Apple, Inc. v. Amazon.Com, Inc., Case No. CV 11-01327 PJH

- Trademark
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: linguistic significance of trademark
- Settled

2011 Deepak Kalpoe and Satish Kalpoe v Phillip C. Mcgraw; CBS Television Distribution Group, et al. Case No. Bc 363201

- Defamation
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: analysis of interview and television show
- Settled

2010 State of Arizona v. Roberto Sandoval CR2009-147989

- Sexual misconduct
- Consulted by defendant. Testified in Prosecution Interview
- Linguistic issue: linguistic pragmatic analysis of telephone call, to wit, whether defendant "confessed" during third-party undercover recorded "confrontation call"
- Acquitted

2010 National Western Life Insurance Company v. Western National Life Insurance Company and AGC Life Insurance Company Case No. A09CA711 LY Federal District Court, Austin, TX

- Trademark
- Consulted by defendants
- Linguistic issue: linguistic significance of trademarks
- Settled

2009 Lisa Lopez-Dusart v. Marriott Ownership Resorts, Inc., d/b/a Marriott Vacation Club International, and Stephen P. Weisz No. 05-24730 CA 25.

- Circuit court for the eleventh jud. circuit Miami-Dade
- Employee discrimination
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: linguistic pragmatic analysis of communications
- Found for defendants; on appeal

2009 Royal Linen

- Breach of Contract
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: authorship of letters
- Settled

2008 Best Western International v. James Furber et al. and Jim Dial v. Best Western Intl et al.

- Breach of Contract
- Consulted by plaintiff
- Linguistic issue: authorship of emails
- Settled