

ELIZABETH WOOD

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December 3, 2025

EDUCATION

- 2024 Ph.D. in Linguistics, University of Texas at Austin
Thesis: Prosodic structure in spontaneous speech: Phrase-final marking, word-initial glottalization and vowel deletion in Chichicastenango K'iche'
Supervisor: Dr. Scott Myers
- 2020 M.A. in Linguistics, University of Texas at Austin
Thesis: Vowels and Stress in Chichicastenango K'iche'
Supervisors: Drs. Nora England and Scott Myers
- 2017 B.A. in Linguistics with general honors, University of Chicago

OTHER EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 2022 Curso de formación en lenguas amerindias y contacto lingüístico en iberoamérica, University of Salamanca
- 2021 Summer Statistics Institute, University of Texas at Austin
- 2018 Mayan Language Institute, Nahualá, Guatemala
- 2015 Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute, University of Chicago

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Phonetics and phonology: vowel systems, prosody, stress, intonation, voice quality, syntax-prosody interface
Language documentation and description: Mayan languages, K'iche'

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2025 Seal of Excellence (Horizon Europe Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, European Commission. Recognizes a high-quality project proposal in a highly competitive evaluation process that could not receive funding due to budgetary constraints).
- 2019–2022 Graduate Research Fellowship (National Science Foundation).
- 2017–2022 Provost Supplement (University of Texas at Austin, Graduate School).
- 2020 Gorilla Grant, Diamond tier (Gorilla).
- 2018–2019 Graduate Recruitment Fellowship (University of Texas at Austin, Graduate School).
- 2018 Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Summer Fellowship (Tulane University, U.S. Department of Education).
- 2014–2017 Dean's List (University of Chicago).

- 2017 Duel Richardson Award (Neighborhood Schools Program, University of Chicago).
- 2016 Student Marshal (University of Chicago; highest honor awarded to undergraduate students).
- 2016 Phi Beta Kappa (University of Chicago; joined junior year).
- 2014 Lillian Gertrude Selz Prize (University of Chicago; awarded to female students with the highest GPA after freshman year).

RESEARCH GRANTS

- 2023 Carlota Smith Fellowship (University of Texas at Austin, Department of Linguistics). Fieldwork in Chichicastenango, Guatemala. \$572.
- 2023 Carl J. and Tamara M. Tricoli Endowed Fellowship, Graduate Research Travel (University of Texas at Austin, College of Liberal Arts Office of Research and Graduate Studies). Fieldwork in Chichicastenango, Guatemala. \$1000.
- 2021 Jacobs Research Funds Individual Grant (University of Washington, Department of Linguistics). Documentation of Chichicastenango K'iche'. \$1364.
- 2019 Tinker Field Research Grant (Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies, University of Texas at Austin). Fieldwork in Chichicastenango, Guatemala. \$500.
- 2019 Carlota Smith Fellowship (University of Texas at Austin, Department of Linguistics). Fieldwork in Chichicastenango, Guatemala. \$2000.
- 2018 Sherzer Research Fellowship (University of Texas at Austin, Department of Linguistics). Pilot study in Chichicastenango, Guatemala. \$500.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Elizabeth Wood.** Acentuación y calidad vocálica en el k'iche' de Chichicastenango. Sound Systems of Latin America 4. November 9, 2024. In-person presentation.
- Walters, Mackenzie, **Elizabeth Wood** and Elijah Wilder. Realización fonética de fricativas glotales en maya yucateco. Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics VII. February 22, 2024. In-person presentation.
- Wood, Elizabeth.** Vocales y oclusivas glotales en posición inicial de palabra en el k'iche' de Chichicastenango. 10th Conference on Indigenous Languages of Latin America. November 11, 2023. In-person presentation.
- Wood, Elizabeth.** Vowel-initial words and glottalization: a corpus study of Chichicastenango K'iche'. 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences. August 7, 2023. In-person poster.
- Wood, Elizabeth.** Glotalización inicial de palabra en k'iche' (maya). XV Congreso Internacional de Lingüística General, Universidad Complutense de Madrid. June 16th, 2023. In-person presentation.

- Wood, Elizabeth.** Status suffixes at the syntax-prosody interface: a corpus study of Chichicastenango K'iche'. The 59th Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society, Chicago, IL. April 30th, 2023. In-person presentation.
- Wood, Elizabeth,** Megan Crowhurst and Mackenzie Walters. The perceptual salience of creak and duration as prosodic boundary cues in Spanish and English. Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting 2022, Washington D.C. January 6th, 2022. Virtual poster.
- Wood, Elizabeth.** Sufijos de categoría en el k'iche' de Chichicastenango: un estudio de corpus. Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics VI, San Cristóbal de las Casas, Mexico. November 13th, 2021. Virtual presentation.

INVITED TALKS

- Elizabeth Wood.** La estructura de las palabras en el k'iche' de Chichicastenango: consonantes y vocales. II Conferencia sobre los Idiomas Originarios de Mesoamérica, Feria Internacional del Libro de Guatemala (FILGUA). July 8, 2025. In-person presentation.
- Wood, Elizabeth.** Acoustic and (morpho)phonological evidence for word-initial glottal stops in K'iche' (Mayan). Berkeley Phonetics, Phonology and Psycholinguistics Forum. March 1st, 2024. In-person presentation.
- Wood, Elizabeth.** Vocales iniciales de palabra y glotalización en el k'iche' de Chichicastenango. Taller: La importancia de la relación entre la combinación de los métodos cuantitativos y la lingüística. Universidad Mayor de San Simón, Cochabamba, Bolivia. April 15th, 2023. Virtual presentation.
- Wood, Elizabeth.** Status suffixes and consonant cluster phonotactics: A corpus study of Chichicastenango K'iche'. Remembering Nora England: Linguistics Symposium and Memorial. April 30th, 2022. In-person presentation.
- Wood, Elizabeth.** Describing complexity in naturalistic speech data: status suffixes in Chichicastenango K'iche'. Berkeley Fieldwork Forum. February 9th, 2022. Virtual presentation.
- Wood, Elizabeth.** El proyecto de documentación lingüística del k'iche' de Chichicastenango. Maya Language Summer Institute (K'iche' and Kaqchikel courses). June 15th, 2021. Virtual presentation.
- Wood, Elizabeth.** Variación dialectal en k'iche': la variante de Chichicastenango. Maya Language Summer Institute (K'iche' course). July 7th, 2020. Virtual presentation.

PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Wood, Elizabeth.** (Accepted). El patrón acentual del k'iche' (maya) de Chichicastenango. *Círculo de Lingüística Aplicada a la Comunicación*.
- Wood, Elizabeth.** (2025). Predictable vowel deletion in content words and variable vowel deletion in function words in Chichicastenango K'iche'. *Journal of the International Phonetic Association*. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0025100325100765>.

Wood, Elizabeth Anne. (2025). Phrase-final Suffixes at the Syntax-Prosody Interface: A Corpus Study of Chichicastenango K'iche'. *International Journal of American Linguistics* 91(4), pp. 543-580. DOI: 10.1086/737188.

Wood, Elizabeth Anne. (2025). An acoustic study of tense, lax, and glottalized vowels in Chichicastenango K'iche' (Maya). *Journal of the International Phonetic Association*. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0025100325100698>.

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Wood, Elizabeth. 2023. Vowel-initial words and glottalization: a corpus study of Chichicastenango K'iche'. R. Skarnitzl & J. Volín (Eds.) *Proceedings of the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences - ICPHS 2023*, pp. 1766-1770. International Phonetic Association.

EDITED VOLUMES

Coons, Caitlin, Zhe-Chen Guo, Seyeon Park and **Elizabeth Wood.** 2020. *Proceedings of the 19th Meeting of the Texas Linguistics Society*. Available online at <https://tls.ling.utexas.edu/2020/proceedings.html>

TRANSLATION

Cruz Cruz, Hilaria. 2021. Between insiders and outsiders: When an indigenous researcher conducts studies in her own community. [Translated from Spanish by **Elizabeth A. Wood.**] In Cruz, Emiliana. (Ed.) *Theoretical reflections around the role of fieldwork in linguistics and linguistic anthropology: Contributions of indigenous researchers from southern Mexico*. Language Documentation & Conservation Special Publication no. 23, nn-nn. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press.

DIGITAL RESOURCES

Wood, Elizabeth. The K'iche' Collection of Elizabeth Wood. The Archive of Indigenous Languages of Latin America, ailla.utexas.org. Access: public. PID: 563. (Old Islandora PID: 271517.)

Wood, Elizabeth and Mónica I. Orduña. 2019. K'iche'. Published online at <https://youtu.be/6RvLYq4whuk>

Promotional video about the K'iche' language and Mayan backstrap weaving, made in collaboration with the Archive of the Indigenous Languages of Latin America and K'iche' speakers Manuel de Jesus Tahay Gómez and Isabel Tzaj Guarchaj

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2023–2024 University of Texas at Austin, Assistant Instructor
 - Introduction to the Study of Language (LIN306, undergraduate). *Instructor of record, responsible for curriculum design and all aspects of course.*

- 2018–2019 University of Texas at Austin, Teaching Assistant
- Phonetics: The Production and Perception of Speech Sounds (undergraduate, Dr. Rajka Smiljanic). *Graded homework and exams, led exam review sessions, held office hours, guided students through in-class labs, proctored exams, gave one class lecture.*
 - Speech Science (undergraduate, Dr. Harvey Sussman). *Graded exams, led exam review sessions, held office hours, proctored exams.*
- 2015–2017 University of Chicago, Language Assistant
- Swahili I-III (undergraduate and graduate, Fidèle Mpiranya). *Held office hours, led exam review sessions, organized supplemental conversation group.*

RESEARCH POSITIONS

- 2022–2023 Predoctoral research fellow. Linguistics Department, University of Texas at Austin. Prosodic structure of Chichicastenango K'iche'. Supervisor: Dr. Scott Myers
- 2019–2022 Predoctoral research fellow. Linguistics Department, University of Texas at Austin, and National Science Foundation. Vowels, stress, and prosodic structure of Chichicastenango K'iche'. Supervisor: Dr. Nora England and Dr. Scott Myers
- 2017–2018 Predoctoral research fellow. Linguistics Department, University of Texas at Austin. Affect words in Mayan languages. Supervisor: Dr. Nora England
- 2015–2016 Research Assistant. Linguistics Department, University of Chicago. Selectional classes of nouns, verbs and adjectives. *Collected and organized data about English prepositional idioms, discussed findings with principal researcher.* Supervisor: Dr. Jason Merchant
- 2014–2015 Research Assistant. Linguistics Department, University of Chicago. Transcription of Spanish interviews with Bolivian hip-hop artists. *Transcribed interviews in Spanish with Bolivian hip-hop artists, translated academic articles from English into Spanish.* Supervisor: Dr. Karl Swinehart

FIELDWORK

- 2025 Documentation and phonetics of Chichicastenango K'iche' (Mayan). Chichicastenango, Guatemala; 3 weeks.
- 2023 Documentation and phonetics of Chichicastenango K'iche' (Mayan). Chichicastenango, Guatemala; 4 weeks.
- 2019 Documentation and phonetics of Chichicastenango K'iche' (Mayan). Chichicastenango, Guatemala; 8 weeks.

2018 Pilot study of Chichicastenango K'iche' (Mayan). Chichicastenango, Guatemala; 4 days.

SERVICE

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

2023 Reviewer and session moderator, Conference on the Indigenous Languages of Latin America
 2023 Reviewer, Texas Linguistics Society
 2022 Volunteer, International Conference of the Association for Linguistic Typology
 2022 Reviewer, Texas Linguistics Society
 2021 Reviewer, Form and Analysis in Mayan Linguistics VI
 2020 Conference Organizer, Texas Linguistics Society
 2019 Session moderator, Conference on Indigenous Languages of Latin America
 2019 Reviewer and session moderator, Texas Linguistics Society
 2015 Intern, Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

2021-2022 Mentor to a first-year graduate student, UT Austin Department of Linguistics
 2020-2022 Dissertation Defense Parties Committee, UT Austin Department of Linguistics
 2019-2020 Department of Linguistics Student Liaison, UT Austin Phi Beta Kappa Chapter
 2017-2018 Student Recruitment Open House Committee, UT Austin Department of Linguistics

OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

2022-2023 Interpretation (English-Spanish-K'iche'), Refugee Services of Texas, contracted
 2021- Interpretation (English-Spanish-K'iche'), VECINA ReUnite Family Project, volunteer

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2023- Fellow, Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies
 2023- International Phonetic Association
 2021- Linguistic Society of America
 2016- Phi Beta Kappa

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

LANGUAGES

English (native); Spanish (native); French (proficient); K'iche' (proficient); Modern Standard Arabic (intermediate); Swahili (intermediate); Nahuatl (beginner); Basque (beginner); Kinyarwanda (beginner)

Fieldwork/Research Experience: K'iche' [quc]; Southern Bolivian Quechua [quh]; Tagalog [tgl]

COMPUTER SKILLS

ELAN, Praat, L^AT_EX, R, InqScribe, Audacity, HTML, CSS