

**THERA MARIE CRANE**  
*Postdoctoral Researcher, African Languages*  
Department of Languages and  
Helsinki Institute for Sustainability Science  
Faculty of Arts, University of Helsinki  
Unioninkatu 38B (PL59), 00014 Helsinki, Finland  
<http://blogs.helsinki.fi/crane/>

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## POSITIONS

- 2015– **University of Helsinki**  
Academy of Finland Researcher (PI) on the project *Accommodating Linguistic Diversity in Conversation: Modal Expressions and Multilingualism in South Africa*, September 2019–August 2024.  
Postdoctoral researcher on the Academy-of-Finland-sponsored project *Stability and Change in Language Contact: The Case of Southern Ndebele (South Africa)*, January 2015–present
- 2012– **France-Berkeley Fund**, University of California, Berkeley  
2014 Program manager (overseeing bilateral grant program for international collaborative academic research), October 2012–December 2014
- 2012 **University of California, Berkeley**  
Instructor in Linguistics, Summer 2012
- 2012 **Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium**  
Chaire internationale of the Bureau des Relations Internationales et de la Coopération, January 2012
- 2011 **Royal Museum for Central Africa, Tervuren, Belgium**  
Postdoctoral researcher with the Belgian Federal Science Policy Inter-University Attraction Poles Programme *Grammaticalization and (Inter)Subjectification*, August – December 2011
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## EDUCATION

- 2011 University of California, Berkeley  
PhD, Linguistics  
Dissertation: **Beyond time: temporal and extra-temporal functions of tense and aspect marking in Totela, a Bantu language of Zambia**  
*Committee: Larry Hyman & Lynn Nichols (co-chairs); Line Mikkelsen; Alan Timberlake*
- 2007 University of California, Berkeley  
M.A, Linguistics
- 2002 Juniata College, Huntingdon, PA  
B.A., Language and Culture (with secondary emphasis in Mathematics)
- 2000– Philipps-Universität Marburg  
2001 Exchange student, German Language and Linguistics

### OTHER TRAINING

- 2010 Trondheim Workshop in Language Description and Documentation  
*Emphasis on Bantu languages and annotation technologies*  
Norwegian University of Science and Technology, September 2010
- 2009 Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute  
*Coursework in field linguistics, language documentation, pragmatics, semantics, tense/aspect/mood, and other topics*  
University of California, Berkeley, Summer 2009
- 2008 InField Institute on Field Linguistics and Language Documentation  
*Intensive seminars on language documentation technology and methodology, language revitalization, and other fieldwork-related issues*  
University of California, Santa Barbara, Summer 2008

### SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

- 2019– **Academy Research Fellow**  
2024 Academy of Finland  
Five years of funding for the project *Accommodating Linguistic Diversity in Conversation: Modal Expressions and Multilingualism in South Africa*
- 2007– **NSF Graduate Research Fellowship**  
2011 United States National Science Foundation  
*Full funding for three years of PhD study*
- 2008– **Harvey Fellow**  
2011 Mustard Seed Foundation  
*Grant used for research costs*
- 2007 **Andrew and Mary Thompson Rocca Research Award**  
University of California, Berkeley, Center for African Studies, Summer 2007  
*Summer Pre-Dissertation Research Award for fieldwork in Zambia and Namibia*

### PUBLICATIONS

#### BOOK

- 2011 Crane, Thera M., Larry M. Hyman & Simon Nsielanga Tukumu, *A Grammar of Nzadi [B865]: A Language of Democratic Republic of the Congo*. University of California Publications in Linguistics. Berkeley: University of California Press.

#### EDITED VOLUMES

- 2018 *Revealing structure: Papers in honor of Larry M. Hyman*, ed. by Eugene Buckley, Thera Crane, & Jeff Good. Stanford: CSLI Publications.

- 2012 *Proceedings of the Thirty-Third Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistic Society*, ed. by Thera Crane, Donna Fenton, Hannah Haynie, Shira Katseff, Russell Lee-Goldman, Ruth Rouvier & Dominic Yu. Berkeley, CA: Berkeley Linguistics Society.

#### CHAPTERS IN PEER-REVIEWED VOLUMES

- Forthcoming. **Lexical structures, lexical semantics.** To appear in *The Oxford guide to the Bantu languages*, ed. by Lutz Marten, Nancy Kula, Ellen Hurst & Jochen Zeller. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 2019 Crane, Thera Marie & Axel Fleisch. **Towards a fieldwork methodology for eliciting distinctions in lexical aspect in Bantu.** *Linguistic diversity research among speakers of isiNdebele and Sindebele in South. (Studia Orientalia 120)*, ed. by Lotta Aunio & Axel Fleisch. Helsinki: Studia Orientalia, 129–179.
- 2019 **Totela.** In *The Bantu languages*, 2nd edition (Routledge Language Family Series), ed. by Mark Van de Velde, Koen Bostoen, Derek Nurse & Gérard Philippson. London/New York: Routledge, 645–691.
- 2015 **The roles of dissociative and (non-)completive morphology in structuring Totela narratives.** Beyond aspect: *The expression of discourse functions in African languages. (Typological Studies in Language 109)*, ed. by Doris L. Payne & Shahar Shirtz, 145–176. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins.

#### PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Forthcoming. Crane, Thera Marie & Axel Fleisch. **Constituency, imbrication, and the interpretation of change-of-state verbs in isiNdebele.** To appear in a special issue of *Studia Orientalia Electronica*.
- 2019 Crane, Thera Marie & Msuswa Petrus Mabena. **Time, space, modality, and (inter)subjectivity: Futures in isiNdebele and other Nguni languages.** *South African Journal of African Languages* 39.3:291–304.
- 2019 Crane, Thera Marie & Bastian Persohn. **A model-theoretic discussion of Bantu actionality.** *Africana Linguistica* 25:27–63.
- 2019 Crane, Thera Marie & Bastian Persohn. **What's in a Bantu verb? Actionality in Bantu languages.** *Linguistic Typology* 23.2:303–345 (plus online appendix).
- 2014 **Melodic tone in Totela TAM.** *Africana Linguistica* 20:63–79.
- 2013 **Resultatives, progressives, statives, and relevance: The temporal pragmatics of the -ite Suffix in Totela.** *Lingua* 133:164–188.
- 2012 **-ile and the pragmatic pathways of the resultative in Bantu Botatwe.** *Africana Linguistica* 18:41–96.

#### PAPER IN CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS (PEER REVIEWED)

- 2012 **Completion and dissociation in Totela tense and aspect.** In Michael R. Marlo et al. (eds.), *Proceedings of the 42nd Annual Conference on African Linguistics*, 208–220. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Proceedings Project.

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

- 2018 Good, Jeff, Eugene Buckley & Thera Crane. **Revealing structure in languages and grammar.** In *Revealing structure: Papers in honor of Larry M. Hyman*, ed. by Eugene Buckley, Thera Crane, & Jeff Good. Stanford: CSLI Publications, 1–17.
- 2009 **Narrative structuring (and restructuring) in Totela: a group study of tense-aspect in the field.** *Proceedings of Conference on Language Documentation & Linguistic Theory 2*, ed. by Peter K. Austin, Oliver Bond, Monik Charette, David Nathan, & Peter Sells. London: SOAS, 61–71.
- 2009 **Tense, aspect, mood, and tone in Shekgalagari.** *UC Berkeley Phonology Lab Annual Report*. Berkeley: University of California, 224–278.
- 2007 Crane, Thera & Larry M. Hyman. **Review of Halme, Riikka, *A tonal grammar of Oshikwanyama*.** *Journal of African Languages and Linguistics* 28.1:82–7.
- 2004 Crane, Thera, Karl Lindgren-Streicher & Andy Wingo. ***Hai ti! A beginner's guide to Oshikwanyama*.** US Peace Corps: Namibia.
- 2004 Crane, Thera, Karl Lindgren-Streicher & Andy Wingo. ***Te ti! A beginner's guide to Oshindonga*.** US Peace Corps: Namibia.

**MANUSCRIPTS (UNDER REVISION, SUBMITTED AND IN PREPARATION, SELECTED)**

- In prep. **Notes on lexical aspect and participant structure in isiNdebele.**
- In prep. Aunio, Lotta, Thera Crane, Axel Fleisch & Stephan Schulz. ***A sketch of isiNdebele grammar*.**
- In prep. Aunio, Lotta, Thera Crane & Richard Kerbs. **Penultimate lengthening in isiNdebele: a system and its variations.**

**PRESENTATIONS****INVITED TALKS**

- 2/2020 **Modal and evidential functions of Bantu (tense-)aspect morphology.** *Beyond Time 2*, Brussels, Belgium.
- 11/2018 **Lexical aspect in Proto-Bantu.** *Workshop on Reconstructing Proto-Bantu Grammar*, Ghent University / Royal Museum for Central Africa, Belgium.
- 3/2018 **Evaluating approaches to aspect in Bantu.** *Seminar Series in Linguistic Structures*, Department of Languages and Literatures, University of Gothenburg, Sweden.
- 4/2015 **The subjectification of ‘come’ and ‘go’ futures in Ndebele: a preliminary look.** Tense and Aspect Workshop, University of Gothenburg, Sweden.
- 10/2011 **What can Bantu teach us about tense and aspect? Some lessons from Totela and other languages.** University of Leuven, Belgium.
- 1/2010 **High-tone anticipation in Totela.** Laboratoire Dynamique du Langage, CNRS, Lyon, France.

**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)**

- 2/2020 **Penultimate lengthening in isiNdebele (South Africa)**  
With Lotta Aunio (presenter) and Richard Kerbs, poster presented at *Fonologi i Norden (FiNo) 2020*, University of South-Eastern Norway.

- 8/2018 **Coming-to-be in Bantu: towards an ontology and epistemology of inchoative verbs.** (Updated and condensed version of SAMWOP talk)  
With Bastian Persohn (presenter) at the *9<sup>th</sup> World Congress of African Linguistics*, Rabat, Morocco.
- 12/2017 **Coming-to-be in Bantu: towards an ontology and epistemology of inchoative verbs.** With Bastian Persohn (presenter) at the *6<sup>th</sup> Southern African Microlinguistics Workshop (SAMWOP-6)*, Stellenbosch University, South Africa.
- 6/2017 **Time, space, modality and (inter)subjectivity in isiNdebele’s three futures.** *The Semantics of Verbal Morphology in Under-described Languages*, University of Gothenburg, Sweden.
- 3/2017 **The impact of contact on conceptual structure: Bantu change-of-state verbs.** Presented with Axel Fleisch at the *Fourth International Conference on Language Contact in Times of Globalization (LCTG4)*, Greifswald, Germany.
- 8/2016 **Non-metrical distinctions in past and future “tense” marking in isiNdebele.** *Time and Language*, Turku, Finland.
- 6/2016 **Event type lexicalization across language boundaries: verbs in South African Ndebele varieties.** Presented with Axel Fleisch at the *Sixth International Conference on Bantu Languages*, Helsinki, Finland.
- 8/2011 **Pragmatic development of the -ite Suffix in Totela (and beyond!)** *41st Colloquium on African Languages and Linguistics*, Leiden, Netherlands.
- 6/2011 **Completion and dissociation in Totela tense and aspect.** *42nd Annual Conference on African Linguistics*, College Park, Maryland, USA
- 1/2011 **A quantitative analysis of narrative-structuring uses of tense and aspect in Totela.** *85th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America*, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA.
- 9/2010 **Anticipatory tone in Totela: an unexpected system.** *The Fourth European Conference on Tone and Intonation*, Stockholm, Sweden.
- 11/2009 **Narrative structuring (and restructuring) in Totela: a group study of tense-aspect in the field.** *Language Documentation and Linguistic Theory 2*, School of Oriental and African Studies, London.
- 1/2009 **Phrase formation and downstep in Shekgalagari.** *83rd Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America*, San Francisco, California, USA.
- 10/2008 **When relevance trumps time: the information-structuring role of a Bantu anterior in Totela.** *Chronos 8: International Conference on Tense, Aspect, Mood, and Modality*, Austin, Texas, USA.
- 4/2008 **The state (and progress) of the perfect in Totela.** *39th Annual Conference on African Linguistics*, Athens, Georgia, USA.
- 9/2007 **Totela’s diminishing augments: a case study of language change in progress.** *International Conference on Bantu Languages: Analysis, Description, and Theory*, Gothenburg, Sweden.
- 9/2007 **Contact-induced homophony: the case of Totela’s ubiquitous ka.** *International Workshop on Language Contact and Morphosyntactic Variation and Change*, Paris, France.
- 1/2007 **The force of o-: Left periphery interactions in Oshiwambo.** *81st Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America*, Anaheim, California, USA.

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## TEACHING AND ADVISING

**TEACHING**University of Helsinki

Spr. 2020 **African Linguistics with an emphasis on Bantu and Mande languages**, co-taught with Maria Khachatryan.

Fall 2017 Guest Lectures:

“Fieldwork tools”, with Lotta Aunio, in MA course *Linguistics in the digital age*, taught by Jörg Tiedemann (14 November).

“Semantic field investigations: Some principles and a sample workflow”, in MA course *Theory and method in language sciences*, taught by Matti Miestamo (14 November).

“Investigating semantic diversity and variation”, in MA course *Linguistic diversity and variation*, taught by Axel Fleisch (10 October).

Spr. 2017 **Semantic field methods: Investigations in meaning in isiNdebele**, *Instructor*

Developed and taught special field methods course working with isiNdebele speaker to investigate topics in semantics using methodological best practices.

Spr. 2016 Guest Lecture: “Basic Ndebele tense, aspect, and mood”, in *Bantu languages*, taught by Lotta Aunio (29 February).

University of California, Berkeley

Sum. 2012 **Endangered languages: What do we lose when a language dies?** (Ling R1B)  
Intensive reading and composition course. Primary instructor.

Fall 2010 **Graduate field methods** (Ling 240)

Investigation of Abo, a Bantu language of Cameroon. Graduate student researcher and teaching assistant with Prof. Larry Hyman (special position created as part of an instructional improvement grant).

Fall 2008– **Introduction to field methods** (Ling 140)

Spr. 2009 Investigation of Nzadi, a Bantu language of the Democratic Republic of Congo.  
Graduate student researcher and teaching assistant with Prof. Larry Hyman.

Spr. 2007 **Introduction to Syntax and Semantics** (Ling 120)

Graduate student instructor with Prof. Alice Gaby.

Fall 2006 **The American Languages** (Ling 55AC)

Graduate student instructor with Prof. Leanne Hinton.

**PHD COMMITTEES**

**Hilde Gunnink**, University of Ghent.

Thesis title: *A grammar of Fwe: A Bantu language of Zambia and Namibia*. Defense date: 9 March 2019. External committee member and member of jury.

**Ponsiano Kanijo**, University of Gothenburg.

Working thesis title: *Description of tense, aspect and aspectuality in KiNyàmwéèzi*. Defense date: 25 October 2019. Co-supervisor.

I have also served as a PhD thesis examiner for the Department of Linguistics, University of South Africa

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## FIELDWORK IN AFRICA

**Northern Transvaal Ndebele (Sindebele), an endangered Bantu language of South Africa**

May 2016 (Limpopo Region, part of Helsinki Area & Language Studies field trip)

**Southern Ndebele (isiNdebele), a Bantu language of South Africa**

March – May 2016 (Pretoria, Moloto, and Mthambothini/Siyabuswa)

February – April 2015 (Pretoria and Moloto)

**Totela, an endangered Bantu language of Zambia and Namibia**

March – June 2009 (Western Province, Zambia)

June – August 2007 (Western Province, Zambia, and Caprivi, Namibia)

June – July 2006 (Western Province, Zambia, and Caprivi, Namibia)

**Kwanyama, a Bantu language of Namibia and Angola**

October 2002 – December 2004 (Ohangwena Region, Namibia: informal fieldwork during U.S. Peace Corps service)

Extensive additional work with native speakers of Bantu languages in the USA and Europe.

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## SERVICE

**CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION**Organizer

- 2019 *13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Association for Linguistic Typology (ALT)*, Pavia, Italy, 4–6 September. Co-organizer of workshop “A cross-linguistic perspective on the role of the lexicon in actionality” with Johanna Nichols and Bastian Persohn.
- 2019 *Descriptive grammars and typology: the challenges of writing grammars of underdescribed and endangered languages*, University of Helsinki, 27–29 March.
- 2016 *Sixth International Conference on Bantu Languages*, University of Helsinki, 20–23 June.
- 2007 *33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society (BLS)*, University of California, Berkeley, 9–11 February.

Scientific committee member

*Association for Linguistic Typology (ALT)*

*The Semantics of Verbal Morphology in Underdescribed Languages*

*Sixth International Conference on Bantu Languages*

*Berkeley Linguistics Society (multiple years)*

**JOURNALS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS**Editing

- 2018– Editor, Language and linguistics, *Nordic Journal of African Studies*  
present

Ad-hoc reviewing (selected)

Africana Linguistica

*The Bantu languages, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition* (Routledge)

Brill

*Current approaches to morphosyntactic variation in Bantu* (Oxford University Press)

Folia Linguistica Historica

Language Science Press

Lingua

Nordic Journal of African Studies

*The Oxford guide to the Bantu languages* (Oxford University Press)

Proceedings of the Annual Conference on African Linguistics (multiple years)

Studia Orientalia

Studia Orientalia Electronica

Studies in African Linguistics

Studies in Language

UNAM Press (University of Namibia)

**OTHER SERVICE**

2010– Harvey Fellows application review committee.

present

2009 *Linguistic Institute*, Linguistic Society of America, June–August.

Volunteer Staff.

2006– Library Committee, Department of Linguistics, University of California Berkeley.

2007

**PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES (CURRENT)**

Association of Linguistic Typology

Association of Contemporary African Linguistics

Linguistic Association of Finland / Suomen kielitieteellinen yhdistys (SKY)

Helsinki Area and Language Studies

**SKILLS AND LANGUAGES**

Native: English

Fluent: German

Some proficiency: Finnish, Kwanyama, Spanish, Totela, Chichewa, French, Italian

Research: Southern Ndebele (isiNdebele, South Africa), Northern Transvaal Ndebele (Sindebele, South Africa), Totela, Kgalagari, Kwanyama, Nzadi, Southeastern Pomo, Abo

Computer: HTML, LaTeX, R, MS Office Suite (including Access), FileMaker Pro, Adobe Suite, C++, Praat, ELAN, FLEx, Dative (OLD)

**CAREER BREAKS**

Three children, born 6/2013, 7/2015, and 6/2018

*CV last updated 20 March 2020.*