

Curriculum Vitae

Robert J. Reynolds

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Assistant Research Professor
Brigham Young University
1163G JFSB
Office of Digital Humanities
Provo, UT 84602
(+1) 801.422.7426 (office)
(+1) 801.830.6391 (mobile)
robert_reynolds@byu.edu

Education:

PhD, Russian Language Technology, Universitetet i Tromsø, Aug 2016
MA, Russian Linguistics, Ohio State University, 2011
BS, Psychology and Russian majors, Philosophy minor, Brigham Young University, 2008

Dissertation:

“Russian Natural Language Processing and Computer-assisted Language Learning:
Capturing the benefits of deep morphological analysis in real-life applications”
Advisors: Prof. Laura Janda and Dr. Prof. Detmar Meurers

Research Interests:

Natural Language Processing and Computational Linguistics:
ICALL (intelligent computer-assisted language learning = NLP + CALL)
Automatic morphological analysis and ambiguity resolution
Machine-learning approaches to automatic text readability analysis
Linguistics:
Structure of Russian (morphology, verbal aspect, etc.)
Corpus linguistics

Research:

Peer-reviewed journal articles:

Janda, Laura and Robert Reynolds. “Construal vs. Redundancy: Russian aspect in context.”
Under submission. 33pp.

Endresen, Anna, Laura Janda, Robert Reynolds, and Francis Tyers. “Who needs particles?
A challenge to the classification of particles as a part of speech in Russian.” *Russian
Linguistics* 40 (2). 2016.

Peer-reviewed collection articles:

Parker, Jeff, Robert Reynolds, and Andrea D. Sims. “Network properties of inflection class
systems: Why some classes contribute more complexity than others”. Committed to
volume on morphological typology and linguistic cognition, to be submitted to
Cambridge University Press, eds. Andrea D Sims, Adam Ussishkin, Jeff Parker and
Samantha Wray.

Peer-reviewed proceedings articles:

- Parker, Jeff, Robert Reynolds, and Andrea D. Sims. "A Bayesian Investigation of Factors Shaping the Network Structure of Inflection Class Systems." *Proceedings of the Society for Computation in Linguistics* 1, no. 1 (2018): 223-224.
- Reynolds, Robert. "Insights from Russian second language readability classification: complexity-dependent training requirements, and feature evaluation of multiple categories." In *Proceedings of the 11th Workshop on Innovative Use of NLP for Building Educational Applications*, pp. 289–300. 2016. San Diego, California.
- Reynolds, Robert and Francis Tyers. "Automatic word stress annotation of Russian unrestricted text." In *Nordic Conference of Computational Linguistics NODALIDA 2015*, p. 173. 2015.
- Tyers, Francis and Robert Reynolds. 2015. "A preliminary constraint grammar for Russian." In *Proceedings of the Workshop on "Constraint Grammar – methods, tools, applications" at NODALIDA 2015*. Vilnius, Lithuania.
- Reynolds, Robert, Eduard Schaf and Detmar Meurers. 2014. "A VIEW of Russian: Visual Input Enhancement for a Morphologically Rich Language." In *Proceedings of 3rd workshop on NLP for computer-assisted language learning*. Uppsala, Sweden.
- Reynolds, Robert. 2014. "Automatic Evaluation of Potential Targets for Textual Enhancement: Identifying Optimal Sentences for Learner Uptake." In *Research Challenges in CALL. Proceedings of the Sixteenth International CALL Conference*, edited by Jozef Colpaert, Ann Aerts, and Margret Oberhofer, 365. Antwerp: University of Antwerp.
- Reynolds, Robert. 2013. "Are Russian prefixes out of order?: Complexity-Based Ordering and template morphology." *University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics* 19 (1). ISSN 1524-9549.s 158 - 168.

Presentations:

- Janda, Laura and Robert Reynolds. 2018. "Russian aspect in context". Presentation at the *2018 Conference of The American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages*. Feb 1-4, Washington, DC.
- Janda, Laura, Robert Reynolds and Francis Tyers. 2018. "TWIRLL Workshop: Targeting Word forms In Research-based Russian Language Learning". Presentation at the *2018 Conference of The American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages*. Feb 1-4, Washington, DC.
- Parker, Jeff, Robert Reynolds and Andrea D. Sims. "Network properties of inflection class systems: why some classes contribute more complexity than others". Presentation at the *Morphological Typology and Linguistic Cognition Workshop* at the Linguistic Institute, University of Kentucky, July 22-23, 2017.
- Reynolds, Robert. 2016. "Russian computer-assisted language learning and artificial intelligence: automatic morphological analysis and disambiguation." presented at *The 11th Slavic Linguistics Society Annual Meeting*. Sept 23-25, Toronto, Canada.
- Reynolds, Robert. 2016. "Computer Assisted Language Learning and Artificial Intelligence: A Case Study With Russian Morphology" presented at *Language Acquisition Research Colloquium*. Sept 21, Provo, UT.
- Janda, Laura, Hanne Eckhoff, Olga Lyashevskaya, Robert Reynolds. 2016. "How learnable is Russian aspect?" presented at *Time and Language, organized by the Linguistic Association of Finland*. August 25-26, Turku, Finland.
- Reynolds, Robert. 2016. "Insights from Russian second language readability classification: complexity-dependent training requirements, and feature evaluation of multiple

- categories.” presented at *The 11th Workshop on Innovative Use of NLP for Building Educational Applications*. June 16, San Diego, California.
- Tyers, Francis, Anna Endresen, Robert Reynolds and Laura Janda. 2015. “Do "particles" deserve to be classified as a part of speech? A view from Russian.” presented at *The 5th Conference of the Scandinavian Association for Language and Cognition*. Trondheim, Norway.
- Reynolds, Robert and Francis Tyers. 2015. “Automatic word stress annotation of Russian unrestricted text.” presented at the *Nordic Conference of Computational Linguistics NODALIDA 2015*. Vilnius, Lithuania.
- Tyers, Francis and Robert Reynolds. 2015. “A preliminary constraint grammar for Russian.” presented at the *Workshop on “Constraint Grammar – methods, tools, applications” at NODALIDA 2015*. Vilnius, Lithuania.
- Reynolds, Robert, Eduard Schaf and Detmar Meurers. 2014. “A VIEW of Russian: Visual Input Enhancement for a Morphologically Rich Language.” presented at the *3rd workshop on NLP for computer-assisted language learning*. Uppsala, Sweden, November 13.
- Reynolds, Robert. 2014. “Automatic evaluation of potential targets for textual enhancement: identifying optimal sentences for learner uptake.” presented at *Antwerp CALL 2014, the XVth International CALL Research Conference*, July 7-9, Antwerp, Belgium.
- Reynolds, Robert. 2014. “Automatisk vurdering og rangering av setninger i tekstberikelse.” presented at *NORKOG: Kognitivt sommerseminar* June 20-21, Tromsø, Norway.
- Reynolds, Robert. 2013. “Intelligent computer-assisted language learning applications for Russian.” *Novemberseminaret*, Nov 22, Tromsø, Norway.
- Reynolds, Robert. 2013. “Russian prefix ordering.” *Giellatekno Seminar*, Sept 22, Tromsø, Norway.
- Phelan, Michael, Jeffrey Parker, Robert Reynolds, Lauren Ressue. 2012. “Breaking command-ments and friend-ships: effects of relative frequency and affix parsability in lexical processing.” presented at the *American International Morphology Meeting*, Sept 22, Amherst, MA.
- Reynolds, Robert. 2012. “Are Russian prefixes out of order?: Complexity-Based Ordering and template morphology.” presented at *Penn Linguistics Colloquium 36*, March 23-25, Philadelphia, PA.
- Ressue, Lauren, Robert Reynolds, Jeffrey Parker, and Michael Phelan. 2010. “The complexity of processing simple words: The morphological processing of infrequent base words.” presented at *The 5th Annual Slavic Linguistic Society Conference*, October 29, Chicago, IL.
- Reynolds, Robert. 2010. “Diachronic trends in verb token frequencies in Old Novgorodian: Insights into the development of aspect.” presented at *Midwest Slavic Conference*, April 17, Columbus, OH.

Posters:

- Parker, Jeff, Robert Reynolds and Andrea D. Sims. 2018. “A Bayesian investigation of factors shaping the network structure of inflection class systems”. Poster at the *1st Meeting of the Society for Computation in Linguistics*, Salt Lake City, January 4-7, 2018.
- Reynolds, Robert, and Detmar Meurers. 2014. “A VIEW of Russian: Visual Input Enhancement for a Morphologically Rich Language.” presented at *The 3rd workshop on NLP for computer-assisted language learning*, Uppsala, Sweden, November 13.

Phelan, Michael, Jeffrey Parker, Robert Reynolds, Lauren Ressue. 2012. “Breaking command-ments and friend-ships: effects of relative frequency and affix parsability in lexical processing.” presented at *The Buckeye Language Network Symposium*, Nov 30, Columbus, OH.

Reynolds, Robert. 2006. “The effects of irritating stimuli on mood-congruent memory.” Poster presented at *The Mary Lou Fulton Mentored Research Conference*, Provo, UT.

Computer Applications:

Two-level finite-state morphology of Russian

<https://victorio.uit.no/langtech/trunk/langs/rus/> (source code)

<http://giellatekno.uit.no/cgi/d-rus.eng.html> (online interface for raw analyses)

Constraint grammar of Russian

<https://svn.code.sf.net/p/apertium/svn/languages/apertium-rus/apertium-rus.rus.rlx>

Russian VIEW

<http://gtlab.uit.no:8080/VIEW/>

OpenSearch plugin for StarLing.rinet.ru’s Russian morphological analysis.

<http://mycroftproject.com/search-engines.html?name=StarLing>

Works in progress:

“With a VIEW to learn”: assessing the effect of Russian VIEW on learner motivation and learning outcomes.

“Inspecting expected aspects”: evaluating how textual features—such as nearby adverbs, verbs, or conjunctions—influence native Russian speakers’ tendency to prefer imperfective or perfective aspect. In addition to theoretical contributions, this research is intended to improve the programming logic used to generate Russian VIEW aspect activities, as well as improving pedagogical approaches to aspect.

Russian L2 readability models: recent research shows that machine learning approaches to readability classification outperform traditional readability formulas. I am experimenting with a variety of features, comparing models’ learning curves at different levels of complexity, and testing the generalizability/portability of resulting classifier models.

Russian inflection class inducer: an algorithm to induce a Zaliznjak-style morphological description from a set of attested wordforms. Facilitates the automatic expansion of my morphological analyzer’s lexicon based on curated resources, such as wiktionary and opencorpora.

Two-level txt2ipa: a two-level transducer for converting orthographic text (with indicated stress position) into phonetic representations (either Russian Linguistic Alphabet or IPA)

Russian Grammar Reference Cards, 10 cards covering morphology, phonology, syntax, case governance of prepositions, inflectional irregularities and special topics.

https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/454734/ReynoldsGrammarCards_15Jul2013BW.pdf

Teaching Experience:

Visiting Affiliate, Russian 323 (morph. and phon.), Brigham Young University, 2016

Doctoral Fellow, 1st and 2nd year Russian, University of Tromsø, 2013-2017

Graduate Teaching Associate, 1st-3rd year Russian and Russian Individualized Instruction; Ohio State University, 2010-2013

- Primary instructor for these courses, responsible for all aspects of instruction, including lesson planning, classroom instruction, exam preparation, grading, etc.

Instructor of Russian, Intensive 12-week introductory Russian course, Missionary Training Center, Provo UT, 2002-2007
 Teaching Assistant, First-year Russian, Dixon Middle School, 1994-1995

Other relevant professional work experience:

Team leader, Russian “Oahpa!” online grammar workbook, UiT The Arctic University of Norway, Tromsø 2013-2017
 Team leader, Russian language textbook, Missionary Training Center, Provo UT, 2013
 Training Coordinator, Russian and Ukrainian area, Missionary Training Center, Provo UT, 2007-2009 (hired/trained/supervised 36 Russian and Ukrainian teachers)
 Pedagogical and Linguistic Consultant for Russian, TALL (Technology Assisted Language Learning) ver. 4.1, Missionary Training Center, 2008
 Editor/Reviewer, SILA grammar manual, Missionary Training Center 2007-2009

Teaching Interests:

Linguistic tools for text processing
 Web development
 Computational linguistics
 Corpus linguistics

Service:

Office Representative, Employee Giving Campaign, BYU, 2017
 Reviewer, Journal of Slavic Linguistics, 2017
 Reviewer, Building Educational Applications Workshop, 2016, 2017
 Google Summer of Code, Mentor, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017
 Google Code-In, Mentor, 2014, 2015
 Forskningsdagene science fair, Tromsø, Norway, Sept 19-20 2014
 Buckeye Language Network, Steering Committee, 2010-2013
 Graduate Council on Benefits and Compensation, 2011-2013
 Ohio State University Slavic Department Technology Committee, 2011-2012
 OSU Council of Graduate Students, 2011-2012
 Ohio State University Slavic Department Web Committee, 2009-2010

Honors:

PhD Fellow, University of Tromsø, 2013 - present
 FLAS Fellow, Ohio State University, 2011-2012
 University Fellow, Ohio State University, 2009-2010
 Debate Champion, Saratov State University Debate Competition, 2007
 Member, Eta Sigma Phi, Classics Honor Society
 Member, Dobro Slovo, National Slavic Honor Society

Foreign residence :

Norway, Tromsø, 2013 - 2015
 Russia, Kazan' / Samara / Togliatti / Marks, 2000-2002

Languages Spoken:

English (native)
 Russian

ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview, *Superior*, 2007

ACTFL Writing Proficiency Test, *Superior*, 2007 (diagnostic score)

Norwegian

Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian

Czech

Latin

Computer Languages:

python

unix / bash scripting

lexc / twolc / vislcg3

LaTeX

sql

xml / xhtml / html

javascript / jquery

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