

# Jaime Melissa Benheim

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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2023- Visiting Assistant Professor, Brown University, Providence, RI  
Program in Linguistics

## EDUCATION

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2023 **Ph.D. Linguistics**, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL  
Certificate in Cognitive Science

2016 **B.A. Linguistics**, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA  
*Summa Cum Laude*, with Honors

## PUBLICATIONS

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### *Peer-reviewed Journal Articles*

- 2025 **Benheim, Jaime**. "The bad school on the Northwest Side": Indexical order and high school choice in Chicago. *Journal of Sociolinguistics*. Early View.
- 2024 **Benheim, Jaime** and Annette D'Onofrio. Local features, local meanings: Language ideologies and place-linked vocalic variation among Jewish Chicagoans. *Language in Society*, 53(1): 129-155.
- 2020 D'Onofrio, Annette and **Jaime Benheim**. Contextualizing reversal: Local dynamics of the Northern Cities Shift in a Chicago community. *Journal of Sociolinguistics*, 24(4): 469-491.

### *Refereed Proceedings*

- 2020 **Benheim, Jaime**. Regional features and the Jewish ethnolinguistic repertoire in Chicago. *University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics*, 26(2): 1-10.

## PRESENTATIONS

### *Invited Presentations*

- 2025 Sound change and social meaning in urban schools and neighborhoods. Georgia Institute of Technology School of Modern Languages Colloquium, 29 October.
- 2023 Semiotics, social categories, and linguistic change: Evidence from Chicago-area adolescents. Northwestern University PhLing (Philosophy & Linguistics) Working Group, 3 June.

*Refereed Conference Presentations; \*Indicates student co-author; †Indicates co-first authors*

- 2025      **Benheim, Jaime.** “You don’t really hear it much on the East Side”: THOUGHT-lowering and ideologies of place in Providence, Rhode Island. Paper presented at *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 53*. 5-7 November, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.
- 2025      **Benheim, Jaime,** Luca Iallonardi\* and Talia Sherman\*. Representing Rhode Island: Lifespan change in the Senate. Paper presented at the *American Dialect Society Annual Meeting*. 9-12 January, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2024      **Benheim, Jaime,** Adia Colvin\*, and Julia Dubnoff\*. Locat(ING) social meaning: Gender, orientation to place, and local personae in Chicago. Paper presented at *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 52*. 7-10 November, Miami Beach, FL.
- 2024      Sherman, Talia\* and **Jaime Benheim.** Locating class in place: An analysis of Boston and Rhode Island personae performances. Paper presented at *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 52*. 7-10 November, Miami Beach, FL.
- 2023      **Benheim, Jaime.** /t/-release and burst duration in the construction of Jewish masculinity. Paper presented at *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 51*, 13-15 October, Queens College, City University of New York.
- 2023      **Benheim, Jaime.** “Like prestigious like whatever”: Attention paid to speech and orientation to elite education in Chicago area high schools. Paper presented at the *American Dialect Society Annual Meeting*. 5-8 January, Denver, CO.
- 2022      **Benheim, Jaime.** “The bad school on the Northwest Side”: High school choice and the social meaning of sound change in Chicago. Paper presented at *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 50*. 13-15 October, Palo Alto, CA.
- 2022      **Benheim, Jaime.** Northern cities and suburbs: TRAP, LOT, and THOUGHT among white Chicagoland adolescents. Poster presented at the *American Dialect Society Annual Meeting*. 6-9 January, Washington, D.C. [Virtual].
- 2022      Stecker, Amelia† and **Jaime Benheim**†. Listeners’ interpretation of mock Southern U.S. English in parody. Paper presented at the *American Dialect Society Annual Meeting*. 6-9 January, Washington, D.C. [Virtual].
- 2021      **Benheim, Jaime.** Style in sound change: Chicago adolescents’ class- and age-based evaluations of the NCS. Paper presented at *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 49*. 19-24 October, The University of Texas at Austin [Virtual].
- 2021      D’Onofrio, Annette and **Jaime Benheim.** Evolving intersections: Shifting identities and Northern Cities Vowels in a Chicago community. Paper presented on the panel: Unsettling assumptions: Intersectionality and the categories of linguistic analysis

(Levon & King, Organizers). *Sociolinguistic Symposium 23*. 7-10 June, The University of Hong Kong [Virtual].

- 2021 **Benheim, Jaime**<sup>†</sup> and Amelia Stecker<sup>†</sup>. Political ideology, masculinity, and the indexical associations of Southern U.S. English. Poster presented at *The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Mid-Continental Phonetics and Phonology Conference*. 30 January, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign [Virtual].
- 2020 D'Onofrio, Annette, **Jaime Benheim**, and Shawn Foster. Distinction without distance: Racialized vocalic differences in an integrated Chicago community. Paper presented at the *American Dialect Society Annual Meeting*. 2-5 January, New Orleans, LA.
- 2019 **Benheim, Jaime**. Regional features and the Jewish ethnolinguistic repertoire in Chicago. Paper presented at *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 48*. 10-12 October, Eugene, OR.
- 2019 **Benheim, Jaime**. Regional features and the Jewish ethnolinguistic repertoire in Chicago. Poster presented at *The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Mid-Continental Phonetics and Phonology Conference*. 4-5 October, Milwaukee, WI.
- 2018 D'Onofrio, Annette and **Jaime Benheim**. Contextualizing reversal: Sociohistorical dynamics and the Northern Cities Shift in a Chicago neighborhood. Paper presented at *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 47*. 18-21 October, New York, NY.

## GRANTS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

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### Research Funding

2023-2025	Undergraduate Teaching & Research Grants (UTRA) x6 Stipend support for undergraduate research assistants	
2021-2023	NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (BCS-2116957), <i>Doctoral Dissertation Research: High school choice and the social meanings of a sound change in language</i> . Co-PI, with PI Annette D'Onofrio	\$9,977
2020	Northwestern-SSRC Dissertation Proposal Development Program Fellowship	\$4000
2018	Northwestern Linguistics Department Graduate Research Grant	\$150

### Other Awards and Grants

2022	The Graduate School Travel Grant, Northwestern University
2019	The Graduate School Travel Grant, Northwestern University
2018	Cognitive Science Travel Grant, Northwestern University
2018	Computing Essentials for Social Scientists Program, Northwestern University
2016	Phi Beta Kappa
2016	Henry Hoenigswald Prize in Linguistics, University of Pennsylvania

## TEACHING

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### Brown University

#### *Introductory Courses*

**Introduction to Linguistics** (x4) Spring 2024, 2025, Summer 2024\*, 2025\*  
**Bad Grammar: Language, Power, and Society** (*First Year Writing Seminar*) Fall 2025  
**Language and Gender** (x2) Fall 2023, 2024

#### *Intermediate and Advanced courses*

**Phonetics** (x2) Fall 2023, 2025  
**Sociolinguistics** Spring 2024  
**Sociolinguistic Cognition** Fall 2024  
**Research Practicum: Variation and Change in Rhode Island** Spring 2025

### Northwestern University

#### *Instructor of Record*

**Individual Speech and Language Instruction for Nonnative Speakers of English**, Northwestern English Language Programs Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Spring 2020\*

#### *Teaching Assistantships*

**Language and Gender\*** (x2), **Language and Society\***, **Sociolinguistics**, **Sound Patterns in Human Language** (x2), **Formal Analysis of Words and Sentences**, **Meaning**  
\*=Courses taught online

## SERVICE

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#### *Journal Reviewing*

*Ad hoc* reviewer for *Language Variation and Change*, *Language in Society*, *Journal of Jewish Languages*

#### *Conference Organization*

2020-2021 25<sup>th</sup> Mid-continental Phonetics and Phonology Conference Organizing Committee [Virtual]

#### *Departmental Service*

2025-2026 Colloquium and LingLangLunch Coordinator, Brown Linguistics  
2021-2022 Graduate admissions committee, Northwestern Linguistics  
2020-2021 Colloquium Committee, Northwestern Linguistics  
2021 Racial Justice in Linguistics Reading Group, Interim Co-coordinator, Northwestern Linguistics  
2018-2020 Noon Colloquium Co-Coordinator, Northwestern Linguistics  
2017-2018 Colloquium Reception Committee, Northwestern Linguistics

### Community Involvement

## Media Coverage

## FIELDWORK

## NON-ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

<b>Elementary Literacy Tutor</b> , The Literacy Lab, Washington, D.C. Full-time reading support instructor for grades K-3 at Mt. Vernon Community School in Alexandria, VA	2016-2017
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