

# **Maike Helene Rocker, PhD**

## **Curriculum Vitae**

The Ohio State University  
Department of Germanic Languages & Literatures  
[rocker.17@osu.edu](mailto:rocker.17@osu.edu)

### **Education**

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- 2022           **PhD in German Linguistics and Language Science**  
                 The Pennsylvania State University, PA, USA  
                 Dissertation: *Variation in finite verb placement in heritage Iowa Low German: The role of prosodic integration and information structure.*
- 2016           **Master of Education**, Universität Bremen, Germany  
                 Master thesis: *Data-driven learning for the acquisition of modal verbs in German secondary schools.*
- 2013           **Bachelor of Arts**, Universität Bremen, Germany  
                 Bachelor thesis: *TV commentaries in women's and men's football and volleyball. A comparative analysis*

### **Journal Articles and Conference Proceedings (Peer-Reviewed)**

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- In preparation    $\emptyset$  werden berichten: Null-subjects in spoken Standard German (with Katherine Kerschen).
- Accepted       Language and identity in the East Frisian-American (postvernacular) heritage community. *Selected Proceedings of the 12th Workshop on Immigrant Languages in the Americas (WILA 12)*. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Press.
- 2022           Prolonged language maintenance in multilingual texts: Evidence from the Ostfriesen Zeitung and a reader's diary. *Selected Proceedings of the 11th Workshop on Immigrant Languages in the Americas (WILA 11)*. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Press, 29–39.
- 2021           Deutsch als Fremd- und Herkunftssprache in der Dominikanischen Republik. In P. Voerkel, D. Uphoff, & D. H. Gruhn (Eds.), *Germanistik in Lateinamerika*. Universitätsverlag Göttingen, 79–98.  
<https://doi.org/10.17875/gup2021-1784> (with Meike Schröer).

## **Journal Articles and Conference Proceedings (continued)**

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- 2021 Language use and codeswitching in the trilingual diary of an East Frisian immigrant to the USA. In A. Hjelde & A. Softeland (eds.), *Selected Proceedings of the 10th Workshop on Immigrant Languages in the Americas (WILA 10)*. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Press, 49–59.
- 2021 East Frisians ‘achter de Penn’: Language and identity in correspondences to a German newspaper in America. In C. Zimmer (Ed.), *German(ic) in language contact. Grammatical and sociolinguistic dynamics*. Berlin: Language Science Press. 187–214. [DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.4954487](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4954487)
- 2019 English-origin aspectualizers and their effects on complementation in Pennsylvania Dutch: The case of ‘schtaerte’. In J. Brown & K. Byers (eds.), *Selected Proceedings of the 9th Workshop on Immigrant Languages in the Americas (WILA 9)*, Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Press, 20–27. (with Michael Putnam).

## **Book Chapters (Peer-Reviewed)**

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- Accepted *Language change came when our people were ready for it: A sociolinguistic history of the East Frisian community in Grundy County, Iowa*. In M. Putnam & B. R. Page.
- Accepted *Niederdeutsche Sprachinseln in den USA*. In A. Bieberstedt, D. Brandt, K-H. Ehlers & C. Schmitt (eds.), *100 Jahre Niederdeutsche Philologie. Ausgangspunkte, Entwicklungslinien, aktuelle Herausforderungen*. Berlin: Peter Lang.

## **Book Reviews**

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- 2020 *Multilingual memories: Monuments, museums and the linguistic landscape*. Authors: Blackwood, Robert & John McAllister. *Language in Society* 49 (5), 797–799.

## **Other Publications**

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- 2021 Immigrant Languages in the United States – Disappearing or Enduring? *Bilingualism Matters Newsletter* Winter/Spring 2021.
- 2021 Bilingualism Matters Featured Partners. Interview with Miguel Ramírez Bernal and Schönn Franklin on the advantages and challenges of online language learning. *Bilingualism Matters Newsletter* Summer/Fall 2021.

## **Presentations**

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- Accepted      *Dahoam is nur Daitsch gredt woan / Wi proten heel Tieden Platt Identitätskonstruktionen ober- und niederdeutscher Sprachminderheiten.* 8. Dialektologisches Symposium im Bayerischen Wald. May 2023 (with Sebastian Franz).
- 2022      *Language maintenance against all odds: the Ostfriesen Zeitung in the USA.* 11<sup>th</sup> Historical Sociolinguistics Network Conference. University of Murcia, Spain. 1-3 June.
- 2022      *Sosúa heute – A Research Project on a German-Jewish Settlement in the Dominican Republic.* Society of German-American Studies. The University of Iowa, Iowa City. 21-23 April. (with Patrick Wolf-Farré)
- 2022      Invited speaker. *One language - one topic? Evidence from a trilingual immigrant's writing.* Language Learning, Literacy and Multilingualism. University of Amsterdam. 11 April.
- 2022      "*Auf einmal ich hör nur noch so*" – Prosodic realization of V3 declaratives across German varieties. Deutsche Sprachminderheiten weltweit kontrastiv: Fallstudien, Methoden und Korpora. 3-4 March (with Oliver Bunk).
- 2022      *Methodological Challenges in Corpus Research – Untangling Morphosyntactic Variation in Contact Settings of Closely-related Varieties.* Deutsche Sprachminderheiten weltweit kontrastiv: Fallstudien, Methoden und Korpora. 3-4 March (with Nantke Pecht).
- 2021      Invited speaker. *Wer benutzt V3 und warum? – Ergebnisse einer Langzeitstudie des US-Niederdeutschen.* Multilingualism, language contact, and variation, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany, (online) 25. November.
- 2021      *Syntaktische Variation Niederdeutscher Herkunftssprecher in den USA: Sprachwandel, aber kein Sprachverlust.* Saarbrücker Runder Tisch für Dialektsyntax, Germany. 4-6 November.
- 2021      *,Der hund war am nei gucke gwest‘: Towards a variationist analysis of progressive aspect in Pennsylvania Dutch an Cité Duits.* Poster Präsentation. NNAV 49. The University of Texas at Austin, TX, USA (online). 19-24 October (with Nantke Pecht).
- 2021      *Language and identity in the East Frisian-American (postvernacular) heritage community.* WILA 12, University of Helsinki, Finnland (online). 6-9 October.
- 2021      *The versatile life of ‘doon(en)’.* WILA 12. University of Helsinki, Finnland (online). 6-9 October. (with Nora Vosburg)

## **Presentations (continued)**

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- 2021 *Dat is all, wat wi kunnen doon – Verbstellung in Haupt- und Nebensätzen im Ostfriesischen Niederdeutsch in Iowa.* 10. Nachwuchskolloquium des Vereins für niederdeutsche Sprachforschung. Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg, Germany (online). 4-6 October.
- 2021 Invited speaker, *Geschichte, Identität und Sprache der Ostfriesen in den USA.* Interdisziplinäres linguistisches Kolloquium Augsburg, Universität Augsburg, Germany (online), 6. July.
- 2021 *Verb placement variation in Germanic contact varieties – Evidence from heritage speakers of Low German in Iowa.* 35th Comparative Germanic Syntax Workshop, Università di Trento, Italy (online), 23-25 June.
- 2021 *Mattheier's language island model revised – Evidence from the Iowa East Frisian community.* GLAC-27. The University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI, USA (online), 12-14 May.
- 2021 Invited speaker, *From 'tropical Zion' to vacation destination: Sosúa's German-Jewish heritage.* Workshop Minderheiten germanischer Sprachen in Lateinamerika, Universität Bamberg (online), 30 April.
- 2021 *Morgen, wi kommen weer: Verb Placement Variation in Heritage Speakers of Low German.* Poster-Präsentation. Research Unit Emerging Grammars (RUEG) Konferenz. Humboldt-Universität Berlin, (online). 21-23 February.
- 2020 *The influence of literary practice on language maintenance: Evidence from the Ostfriesen Zeitung and a reader's diary.* WILA 11. University of North Carolina-Asheville, NC, USA (online). 8-10 und 15-17 October.
- 2020 *Language shift without language loss - the last speakers of Iowan Low German.* Poster-Presentation. 12. Heritage Language Research Institute. The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, USA (online). 8-12 June.
- 2020 Invited speaker, *Variation aber kein Verlust: Verbstellung im ostfriesischen Niederdeutsch in Iowa.* Lesezirkel Friesisches Seminar, Europa-Universität Flensburg, Germany, (online), 29. April.
- 2019 *Language shift and codeswitching in the trilingual diary of an East Frisian immigrant to the US.* WILA 10. Høgskloen i Østfold, Halden, Norway. 10-12 October.
- 2019 *Another non-null subject language: Variable subject expression in German.* NNAV 48. University of Oregon, Eugene, OR, USA. 10-12 October (with Katherine Kerschen and Cole Callen).
- 2019 *East Frisians achter de Penn: language contact in letters to a German newspaper in America.* German(ic) in language contact: Grammatical and sociolinguistic dynamics. Freie Universität Berlin, Germany, 3-5 July.

## **Presentations (continued)**

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- 2019      *Investigation the superiority effect: A comparison of English and German.* GLAC-25. The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA, USA. 3-4 May. (with Valerie Keppenne, Katherine Kerschen und Michael Putnam).
- 2019      *Wu denkscht as der John is? or Wua jleewst du wua John es? – Differences in complex wh-dependencies in two Germanic minority languages in Kansas and Ohio.* GLAC-25. The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA, USA. 3-4 May. (with Nora Vosburg).
- 2019      *Language contact and language shift: letters to a German-American newspaper.* Poster-Presentation. Young Language Science Scholar Poster Session. The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, USA. 7. February.
- 2018      *English-origin aspectual verbs in Pennsylvania Dutch: The case of start(e).* WILA 9. University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, Eau Claire, WI, USA. 25-27 October (with Michael Putnam).
- 2018      *The morphosyntax of progressive aspect in Pennsylvania Dutch (PD).* GLAC-24. The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA. 11-12 May (with Michael Putnam).

## **Teaching Experience**

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- 2022 - current      **Lecturer of German**  
The Ohio State University, OH, USA  
Coordinator of beginner level language classes  
Beginner-level German language: GER1101, GER1102, GER1103
- 2017 – 2022      **Graduate Teaching Assistant**  
The Pennsylvania State University, PA, USA  
Beginner-level German language: GER 1, GER 2  
Beginner-level German Online courses: GER 1, GER 2, GER 3  
Intermediate-level German: GER 201, GER 302w (writing and grammar)  
Advanced culture course: GER 440 (“Germany after the Reunion”)
- 2016 – 2017      **DAAD Visiting Lecturer for German as a Foreign Language**  
Binghamton University, NY, USA  
Beginner-level German language: GERM 101  
Intermediate-level German language: GERM 203, GERM 204,  
Intermediate German Speaking: GERM 211  
Advanced German: GERM 305 (Texts & Contexts I; independent study)

## **Teaching Experience (continued)**

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- 2015 – 2016      **Teacher for German as a Foreign Language**  
CASA Internationale Sprachschule, Bremen  
Intensive classes, immersion courses, summer courses, Test DAF certificate preparation. German for all proficiency levels
- 2014 – 2015      **Visiting Lecturer for German as a Foreign Language**  
University of Waterloo, Canada  
Beginner-level German language: GER 101, GER 102  
Teaching Assistant for online classes on German language (GER 203)  
Teaching Assistant for online classes on German culture (GER 311)

## **Fellowships and Awards**

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- 2022                **Graduate Student Symposium Grant**  
(Grant of \$750 to attend the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual SGAS Symposium)
- 2022                **Research and Graduate Studies Office Dissertation Support Funding**  
(Semester teaching release, Spring semester 2022)
- 2021                **Max Kade Foundation Research Grants**, PSU  
(Grant of \$2000 for dissertation data transcription)
- 2020                **Max Kade Foundation Research Grants**, PSU  
(Grant of \$930 for research project in Iowa, USA)
- 2020                **Adele Miccio Travel Award**, The Center for Language Science, PSU  
(\$2100 for a networking opportunity at the Europa-Universität Flensburg)
- 2019                **Chaiken Holocaust Fund**, Jewish Studies Program, PSU  
(Grant of \$1000 for research project in Sosúa, Dominican Republic)
- 2019                **Max Kade Foundation Research Grants**, PSU  
(Grant of \$870 for research project in Iowa, USA)
- 2019                **Global Programs Graduate Student Travel Grant**, PSU  
(Conference travel support of \$385)
- 2018                **College of the Liberal Arts Superior Teaching and Research Award**  
(\$2000 for research project in Iowa, USA)
- 2018                **Max Kade Foundation Research Grants**, PSU  
(Grants of \$730, \$760, and \$1340 for three research projects)
- 2016 – 2017        **Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst**, Binghamton University  
(Fellowship to teach German as a Foreign Language)

## Fellowships and Awards (continued)

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- 2014 – 2015      **Pädagogischer Austauschdienst Deutschland**, University of Waterloo  
(Fellowship to teach German as a Foreign Language)
- Herbst 2012      **Bremer Institut für Kanada und Québec Studien**, University of Ottawa  
(Study Abroad Fellowship)

## Professional Experience

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- Sommer 2021      **Research Assistant**, Prof. Katharina Schuhmann, PSU
- 2020 – present      **Ad-hoc Reviewer**  
Special volume on Minorities of Germanic Languages in Latin America,  
University of Bamberg, Germany
- 2020 2021      **Research Assistant**, Center for Language Science, PSU
- 2020 – present      **Goethe-Certificate Examiner**  
Goethe Institute Testing Center, PSU; Certified for B1, B2 Levels
- Sommer 2019      **Online Teaching Certificate**, PSU
- Sommer 2018      **Research Assistant**, Prof. Michael Putnam, PSU
- 2014 2016      **Editorial Assistant**  
*International Journal of Learner Corpus Research*; University of Bremen
- 2013 – 2014      **Research Assistant**, Prof. Marcus Callies, University of Bremen

## Professional and Departmental Service

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- 2021 – present      **Organizer**  
International Discussion Group on Language Shift (with Joseph Salmons).
- 2021 – present      **Organizing Committee Member**  
Network for (German) linguistic minorities
- 2020 present      **Social media manager**  
Facebook and Instagram; Department of German and Slavic Languages and Literatures, PSU (with Anna Piotti and Michael McLaughlin).
- 2019 – present      **Co-Organizer**  
Graduate student practice talks (with Valerie Keppenne and Chrisann Zuerner).

## **Professional and Departmental Service (continued)**

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January 2021	<b>Co-Organizer</b> Lecture and workshop on <i>Task-based language teaching</i> (with Katherine Kerschen and Julia Götze)
2019 – 2021	<b>Founding Committee Member and Treasurer</b> <i>German Graduate Student Association</i> , PSU
2019 – 2020	<b>Co-Organizer</b> <i>Young Scholar Speaker Series</i> , <i>Center for Language Science</i> , PSU
2019	<b>Co-Organizer</b> <i>Poetry Without Borders</i> (poetry reading forum Department of German and Slavic Languages and Literatures, PSU)

## **Professional Affiliations**

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Verein niederdeutscher Sprache  
The Society for German-American Studies  
Ostfriesen Genealogical Society of America  
Ostfriesen Heritage Society  
Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst Alumna  
Pädagogischer Austauschdienst Alumna

## **Languages**

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German	Native language
Low German	Native language
English	Near native (C2-Level; TOEFL-test 117/120 points)
Spanish	Beginner level (A2)
North Frisian	Beginner level (A1)

## **Technology**

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*AntConc, Audacity, BlackBoard, Canvas, Cisco, Elan, Excel, Exmaralda, GoldVarb, LateX, Moodle, PsychoPy, Praat, Qualtrics, R, VoiceThread, WordPress, Zoom, Zotero*