



# MELISSA SCHURING

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER

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## CURRENT POSITION

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### Postdoctoral researcher in linguistics

Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Brussels Centre for Language Studies (BCLS)

Linguistics and Literary Studies (LIST)

2024

## SCIENTIFIC QUALIFICATIONS

2024

### PHD IN LINGUISTICS

KU Leuven (BE), Brussels Campus

2020

Dissertation (11/2024): Between observation and elicitation. A multi-methods analysis of English in preadolescents' Belgian Dutch

[see project website](#)

Supervisors

prof. dr. Eline Zenner (KU Leuven)

prof. dr. Laura Rosseel (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)

2020

### MASTER IN LINGUISTICS AND LITERATURE DUTCH-FRENCH

University of Antwerp

summa cum laude

2019

MA thesis: *L'adverbe visiblement*: analyse prosodique d'un marqueur évidentiel

mark: 19/20

supervisor: prof. dr. Patrick Dendale

2019

### BACHELOR IN LINGUISTICS AND LITERATURE DUTCH-FRENCH

University of Antwerp

magna cum laude

2016

## TRAINING: COURSES AND CERTIFICATES

2024

- 21 ECTS from the Master in Education Sciences
- MEDAL Summer School in Experimental Linguistics, 'EEG & language comprehension'

2023

- 9 ECTS from the Master in Educational Sciences ('Vakdidactiek Nederlands' - 'Taaloverstijgende Vakdidactiek')
- Child & Youth Institute: Winter school, Science communication for children

- Science Figured out: pitching your research ([published video](#))
- Leadership training for PhDs (KU Leuven training )

2022

- 12 ECTS from the Master in Educational Sciences ('Leren in maatschappelijk betrokken onderwijs I & II')
- Data tidying in Python with pandas
- L-C&Y Methods Club: Models for longitudinal data analysis
- LOT summer school courses 'Experimental pragmatics' and 'Sociolinguistics: new speakers of minoritized languages' (University of Groningen)

2021

- Experimental Methods in Language Acquisition Research (EMLAR XVII workshop 2021)
- Usage Based Approaches to Knowledge (880030-M-6, Tilburg University)
- Introduction to R, regular expressions in R, Graphics in R, Regression with Ordinal Variables
- Start to teach, Supervising a Master's Thesis

## RESEARCH STAYS

2023

**University of Waikato**, Hamilton, New Zealand (July 2023)

invited by prof. dr. Andreea Calude

invited talk: Children, challenges and checklists: studying young language users' development of social meaning. Presented at the *Linguistics seminar series*.

## GRANTS

2024

PDM - postdoctoral fellowship 2024-2025

Awarded by KU Leuven

Not taken up

2023

Travel grant for ISB14 (International Symposium of Bilingualism)

Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia

Awarded by the Research Foundation - Flanders (FWO)

## ACADEMIC SERVICING

2024 - ...

BCLS Research Hub: co-organizer of the BCLS lecture series and skills lab, organizer of the BCLS social gatherings, BCLS webmaster

Member of the European Network On Lexical Innovation (ENEOLI) (COST Action CA22126)

Editor of *VakTaal*, a science outreach journal for Dutch studies

2022

Chairwoman of the ABAP Council @KU Leuven (representation of PhD students, postdocs, teaching assistants), member of the Faculty Board

Main projects: preparing and leading monthly meetings of the ABAP-council, installment of the KU Leuven teaching certificate, survey on the ABAP Feedback conversations, organization of ABAP-events: How Do You Do (it)? and Out of Office.

2023

member of local Organizing Committee for Vila5

Variation in Language Acquisition 5: website construction & design, EasyChair and communication with authors

2022-2024

Member of the KU Leuven Child & Youth Institute (L-C&Y)

research line: the In-Between Age

2021-2024

ABAP representative in the ABAP Council and the 'Campusraad' (KU Leuven - Brussel)

2021

co-organizer of PhD Day(s), KU Leuven, 8-9 September 2021

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2024

Lecturer (full responsibility and course design), 2026FLWTLN Corpuslinguistiek van het Nederlands, 'Dutch corpus Linguistics'; substitute for prof. dr. Dirk Pijpops  
MA in Linguistics and Literature, University of Antwerp

2021

**teaching assistant** for B-KUL-HMJ09A: Journalistieke productie en taalvaardigheid 'Dutch language production and proficiency for journalists'  
MA in Journalism, KU Leuven Brussels Campus

2024

**teaching assistant** for B-KUL-HMC26A: Variatielinguïstiek 'Variationist Linguistics'  
Ma in Multilingual Communication, KU Leuven Brussels Campus

2023

**guest lecturer** for B-KUL-S0E32A: Taal & Cultuur 'Language & Culture',  
MA in Linguistics and Literature/MA in Sociology, KU Leuven

2021

**guest lecturer** 2021FLWTLF: Voyages fascinants dans le monde de la linguistique 'Fascinating journeys into the world of linguistics' - Introduction à la prosodie 'Introduction to prosody'  
MA of French Linguistics & Literature, University of Antwerp

## SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS

2021

co-supervisor of  
1 BA paper and  
1 MA thesis

2022

2022

co-supervisor of  
1 BA paper and  
2 MA theses

2023

2023

co-supervisor of  
2 MA theses

2024

## COURSES ON DATA MANAGEMENT AND ETHICS IN CHILD DATA

- Schuring, Melissa. (2022). Methods for anonymizing qualitative data. Walking the fine line between privacy and open science. Invited by the University of Hasselt.
- Schuring, Melissa. (2022). Managing conversational child data: challenges and opportunities in Project OMG. Invited by *The Knowledge Hub*. Presented at the Lunch with the Knowledge Hub: Practical implementation of RDM in a research project, UHasselt
- Schuring, Melissa. (2022). FAIR data in Project OMG : standardize, pseudonymize, hypothesize. Invited by *KU Leuven RDM*.

## LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

### JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Schuring, Melissa, Rosseel Laura & Zenner, Eline. (2025). Children's emerging sociolinguistic expectations towards social roles: a triangulated approach, accepted for publication in *Linguistics Vanguard*.
- Schuring, Melissa, Rosseel Laura & Zenner, Eline. (2024). Expectation through imitation: towards a unified protocol for roleplay in developmental sociolinguistics., *Language Sciences*, 104, 101635.
- Schuring, Melissa, Rosseel, Laura & Zenner, Eline. (2023). Says who? Language regard towards speaker groups using English loanwords in Dutch. *Folia Linguistica*, 57(2), 387-412.
- Schuring, Melissa & Zenner, Eline. (2022). English from scratch: Preadolescents' developing use of English lexical resources in Belgian Dutch. *Frontiers in Communication*, 6 (Englishes in a Globalized World: Exploring Contact Effects on Other Languages), Art.No. 788768, 1-15.

- Dendale, Patrick, Vanderheyden, Anne & Schuring, Melissa. (2022), *Visiblement*, adverbe de phrase évidentiel ou *visiblement*, adverbe de constituant exprimant la manière. La prosodie comme nouveau critère. *Langages*, 227 (3), 57-78.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

- Dendale, Patrick & Schuring, Melissa. (2023). *Quelque chose me dit que* et l'indication du recours à l'intuition : une nouvelle catégorie de marqueurs évidentiels. In L. Rouanne, J-C. Anscombe, G. Kleiber (Eds.), *Histoires de dire 3*, (251-273). Peter Lang. ISBN: 9783034345941.

## CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS (PEER REVIEWED)

- Schuring, Melissa & Vanderheyden, Anne. (2022). Parlez-vous #hashtag ? Quelques éclairages sur l'anglicisme *hashtag* et ses substituts français *mot-dièse* et *mot-clic*. In: SHS Web of Conferences: vol. 138, (Paper No. 11015), (1-14). Presented at the 8th World Congress of French Linguistics, Orléans, FRANCE. doi: 0.1051/shsconf/202213811015
- Schuring, Melissa & Dendale, Patrick. (2020). Qu'est-ce qu'on voit quand on dit à *ce que je vois*? À propos de l'évidentialité inférentielle et perceptuelle. In: SHS Web of Conferences: vol. 78, (Paper No. 05004), (1-15). Presented at the 7th World Congress of French Linguistics, Univ Montpellier 3, Montpellier, FRANCE. doi: 10.1051/shsconf/20207805004

## DISSERTATIONS

- Schuring, Melissa. (2024). *Between observation and elicitation. A multi-methods analysis of English in preadolescents' Belgian Dutch?* PhD dissertation, KU Leuven.
- Schuring, Melissa. (2020). *L'adverbe visiblement: analyse prosodique d'un marqueur évidentiel.* University of Antwerp, MA thesis.

## PRESENTATIONS

### THEME SESSIONS (ORGANIZER)

- Schuring, Melissa. (2023). New approaches to studying social meaning in child bilingualism. Theme session. Presented at the International Symposium on Bilingualism (ISB14), Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia, 27 Jun 2023.

### INVITED TALKS

- Schuring Melissa, Rosseel Laura & Zenner, Eline (2025, forthcoming). How crazy is the amount of English in children's Dutch really? A multi-methods analysis of a youth language phenomenon. Invited by prof. dr. Marina Terkourafi, Leiden University Center for Linguistics (LUCL).
- Schuring, Melissa, Rosseel, Laura, Zenner, Eline. (2024). The socio-pragmatic value of children's use of English in Dutch: developing the connection between language, world and mind. Invited by prof. dr. Steven Verheyen. Presented at the CoBra-meeting, Erasmus University Rotterdam
- Schuring, Melissa. (2024). *Playing with English*. (Pre)adolescents and the social meaning of English in development. Invited by prof. dr. Virve Vihman, University of Tartu, Estonia.
- Schuring, Melissa. (2023). Children, challenges and checklists: studying young language users' development of social meaning. Presented at the Linguistics seminar series, University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand, invited by prof. dr. Andreea Calude.
- Schuring, Melissa. (2022). The Stylization Task: A new method to elicit sociolinguistic stereotypes. Invited by Werkgroep over Taal (WOT), Vrije Universiteit Brussel. Brussels.

## PRESENTATIONS AT CONFERENCES

- Schuring, Melissa, Van De Mierop, Dorien, Rosseel, Laura, Zenner, Eline. (2025, forthcoming). "You really can't speak English, hey?": teenagers' evaluation of socially meaningful language use in interaction. *Variation in Language Acquisition 6 (ViLA6)*, University of Potsdam.
- Schuring, Melissa. (2024). Scary, creepy or just eng? Mapping usage patterns of English versus Dutch adjectives in Flemish teen speak. Presented at the 57th Annual Meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea (SLE), University of Helsinki.
- Schuring, Melissa, Rosseel, Laura, Zenner, Eline. (2024). English outta limits? A developmental sociolinguistic perspective on preadolescents' use of English lexemes in Belgian Dutch. Presented at the Linguistics departement's maxi-presentations, Leuven.
- Schuring, Melissa, Rosseel, Laura & Zenner, Eline. (2023). *Heterogeneity in developing habits*. Emerging sociolinguistic expectations on language contact and social roles. Presented at the *Workshop on Language as a social habit*, Tilburg University, 29 Feb 2024.
- Schuring, Melissa, Rosseel, Laura & Zenner, Eline. (2023). Rating, roleplay and reflection. Triangulating children's emerging sociolinguistic expectations on English loanwords in Belgian Dutch. Presented at the TOK-dag 2023 (Taalontwikkeling Kinderen in Nederland en Vlaanderen), Utrecht University, 10 Nov 2023-10 Nov 2023.
- Schuring, Melissa, Zenner, Eline & Rosseel, Laura. (2023). The cognitive reality of 'talking like'. Modeling linguistic stereotype formation in preadolescents' roleplay. Presented at the 16th International Cognitive Linguistics Conference (ICLC16), Düsseldorf.
- Schuring, Melissa, Zenner, Eline & Rosseel, Laura. (2023). Farmer Jan featuring film star Brad. A cognitive socio-onomastic take on English first name stereotypes in Flanders. Presented at the 16th International Cognitive Linguistics Conference (ICLC16), Düsseldorf.
- Schuring, Melissa. (2023). New approaches to studying social meaning in child bilingualism. Theme session. Presented at the *International Symposium on Bilingualism (ISB14)*, Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia, 27 Jun 2023.
- Schuring, Melissa & Zenner, Eline. (2023). Ready, set, action! Socially meaningful English elements in Belgian Dutch preadolescents' roleplay. Presented at the International Symposium on Bilingualism (ISB14), Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia, 27 Jun 2023.
- Schuring, Melissa & Zenner, Eline. (2023). Spilled soda, smashed cameras and "I wanna go home's": Remodeling sociolinguistic fieldwork with kids. Presented at the 5th Variation in Language Acquisition Conference (ViLA5), Brussels.
- Schuring, Melissa & Zenner, Eline. (2022). Microlevel stylization, macrolevel stereotypes: De ontwikkeling van style-shifts bij preadolescenten. *Taal & Tongval 2022*, Gent.
- Schuring, Melissa, Rosseel, Laura & Zenner, Eline (2022). Says who? Language regards towards speaker groups using English loanwords in Dutch. *NWAV50*, Stanford University.
- Schuring, Melissa & Zenner, Eline. (2022). Project OMG: The social meaning of contact-induced variation in preadolescence. *NWAV50*, Stanford University.
- Schuring, Melissa & Zenner, Eline. (2022). Stereotypes in preadolescents' stylization: social meaning in development. Presented at the Sociolinguistic Symposium 24, Ghent, 13 Jul 2022-16 Jul 2022.

- Schuring, Melissa & Vanderheyden, Anne. (2022). Parlez-vous #hashtag ? Quelques éclairages sur l'anglicisme 'hashtag' et ses substituts français 'mot-dièse' et 'mot-clic'. Presented at the 8e Congrès Mondial de Linguistique Française (CMLF2022), Orléans, 04 Jul 2022-08 Jul 2022.
- Schuring, Melissa & Zenner, Eline. (2022). The Stylization Task: A new method to elicit sociolinguistic stereotypes. Presented at the LingO 2022: Language and Society, Oxford.
- Schuring, Melissa & Zenner, Eline. (2022). On the emergence and development of English as a youth language marker. Presented at the *11th International Conference on Language Variation in Europe (ICLaVE|11)*, Vienna, Austria (online), 11 Apr 2022-14 Apr 2022.
- Schuring, Melissa & Zenner, Eline. (2022). From zero to hero. Identifying the point of acceleration of English as a socially meaningful lexical resource for Belgian Dutch children. Presented at the *11th International Conference on Language Variation in Europe (ICLaVE|11)*, Vienna, Austria (online), 11 Apr 2022-14 Apr 2022.
- Schuring, Melissa & Zenner, Eline. (2022). The way into jongerentaal? Engelse woorden in de taalproductie van Vlaamse preadolescenten. Presented at the *Sociolinguistics Circle 2022*, Leuven, 01 Apr 2022-01 Apr 2022.
- Schuring, Melissa & Zenner, Eline. (2021). Socio-onomastics meets roleplay. Presented at the *Symposium on Multilingual Children and their Imaginative Worlds*, University of Oslo, online, 11 Nov 2021-12 Nov 2021.
- Schuring, Melissa & Zenner, Eline. (2021). Wazzup with English in Belgian Dutch preadolescents' language use? Acquiring socially meaningful contact-induced variation. Presented at the *Bilingualism Matters Research Symposium 2021, BMRS2021*, online, 25 Oct 2021-26 Oct 2021.
- Schuring, Melissa & Zenner, Eline. (2021). Inspelen op stereotypen: contactgebaseerde lexicale variatie in het rollenspel van Vlaamse preadolescenten. Presented at the *Linguists' Day - Linguistic Society of Belgium*, Brussels.
- Schuring, Melissa, Zenner, Eline & Rosseel, Laura. (2021). Contact-induced variation and community beliefs: societal roles using English in Dutch. Presented at the *Fifth International Conference on Language Contact in Times of Globalization, LCTG5*, Digital conference (formerly Klagenfurt, Austria), 09 Sep 2021-10 Sep 2021.
- Schuring, Melissa & Zenner, Eline. (2021). Challenge accepted! Exploring the development of social meaning of English in Belgian Dutch preadolescents. Presented at the *KU Leuven Linguistics PhD Day*, Leuven, 08 Sep 2021-09 Sep 2021
- Schuring, Melissa, Zenner, Eline, Rosseel, Laura. (2021). Perceptions of and attitudes towards contact-induced variation: The case of societal roles using English in Dutch. Presented at the *5th Variation and Language Processing Conference, VALP5*, Copenhagen, 25 Aug 2021-27 Aug 2021.
- Schuring, Melissa & Zenner, Eline. (2021). Say what? Preadolescents' acquisition of sociolinguistic variation in the Dutch-English contact situation. Presented at the *4th Variation in Language Acquisition conference, ViLA4*, Digital Conference (formerly Rorschach / Switzerland), 02 Jun 2021-04 Jun 2021.
- Schuring, Melissa & Zenner, Eline. (2021). English lexical resources in Belgian Dutch preadolescents' language use. Presented at the *International Conference on Youth Languages, ICYL*, digital conference (Manchester Metropolitan University), 26 May 2021-28 May 2021.
- Schuring, Melissa. (2020). La prosodie outil pour identifier les adverbes exophrastiques et endophrastiques. L'exemple de 'visiblement' en français. Presented at the *Linguists' Day - Linguistic Society of Belgium*, online, originally scheduled for Namur, 16 Oct 2020-16 Oct 2020.



## SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

### POSITIONS

- Editor of *VakTaal*, a science outreach journal for Dutch studies

### PRESS

- Expert comment @Veto. (10.12.24). *Nederlandstalige popmuziek is hip, hot en happening*. [Link](#). (PRINT)
- Expert comment @DeStandaard. (2.12.24).
  - *Kinderen kennen de vulgaire oorsprong van tienerwoorden niet*. [Link](#). (PRINT)
  - *Kinderen en tieners hebben gekozen: glamour en noncha zijn voor hen de woorden van het jaar*. [Link](#). (PRINT)
- Expert comment @UrgentFM. (31.10.24). Item on youth language. (RADIO).

### LECTURES & WORKSHOPS

- Schuring, Melissa (2025, forthcoming). *Crazy, cool en mindblowing*. Over de X-factor van Engelse woorden in het Nederlands van Vlaamse kinderen. Presented at the Uitgenodigd door de Orde van den Prince, afdeling Kempen., Kasterlee, 11 Apr 2025.
- Schuring, Melissa (2024). *Taalkabaal! Vijf crazy weetjes over Engelse woorden in kindertaal*. Presented at the Kinderuniversiteit 2024, Kindercollege, Leuven, 05 Oct 2024.
- Schuring, Melissa. (2023). *"Mama, waar is mijn shiny unicorn?" Mythes en waarheden over Engelse leenwoorden in het Nederlands van Vlaamse kinderen*. Presented at the Week van het Nederlands, invited by Cultuurlab Vlaanderen, Sint-Niklaas, 04 Oct 2023.
- Schuring, Melissa. (2023). *Go with the flow of gaan met die banaan?* Engelse woorden in het Nederlands van kind tot tiener. Presented at the Marnixring, Overijse, 19 Apr 2023.

### PROJECTS

- Franco, Karlien & Schuring, Melissa. (2024). *Olympiade Nederlands - Smulstaaf, carotkroket of boefbol? Een sociolinguïstisch onderzoek naar de naamgeving van fictieve frituursnacks*. Supervision of finalist Sil De Backer (first prize).
- Cai, Yingying, Heynen, Lena, Louagie, Dana, Markey, Marie-Anne, Schuring, Melissa & Shaw, Marlieke. (2021). *Kinderuniversiteit: Big Bang - Sherlock zoekt: speurneuzen met een talenknobbel*.

### OTHER OUTPUT (ARTICLES, BLOGS, VIDEOS, WEBSITES)

- <https://www.melissaschuring.com/project-omg> [WEBSITE]
- Schuring, Melissa (2024). Schuring, M. (2024). *Van middeleeuwse Spotify-playlists tot fictieve frituursnacks: dit was de Olympiade Nederlands 2024*. *VakTaal*, 37 (1), 4-5 [ARTICLE]
- Schuring, Melissa. (2023). *Video Pitch*. Showtime! Stereotypes over Engelse woorden bij kinderen. [VIDEO]
- Schuring, Melissa. (2022). *Hey dude, zijn we niemand vergeten? De preadolescent als missing link bij de ontwikkeling van taalvariatie*. *Child and Youth Institute Blog*. ([URL](#)) [BLOG]
- Schuring, Melissa & Zenner, Eline. (2022). *Wazzup met Engelse woorden bij Vlaamse kids?* *VRT Taal*. [ARTICLE]
- Schuring, Melissa, Zenner, Eline. (2022). *"Drie, twee, een, GO!" Engelse woorden in het Nederlands van preadolescenten*. *VakTaal*, 35 (1), 10-11. [ARTICLE]