

Marie-Caroline Pons

Languages and Cultures of Oral Tradition (LACITO) - UMR 7107 – CNRS

Associate Member

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Research Interests

Community-based language description and documentation; linguistic typology; historical linguistics, and language phylogeny – functional, usage-based, constructional, and diachronic approaches to language description and language change; Trans-Himalayan languages; Himalayan clade: Magar, Kham, Chepang, Bhujel, Dura, Khamci, Bhoto, Raji (Rawat), Raji, Kiranti languages; history and anthropology of the Himalayas

Education

- 2022 **Ph.D. Linguistics**, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR, USA
The Chepang language: Phonology, nominal and verbal morphology – synchrony and diachrony of the varieties of the Lothar and Manahari Rivers
Committee: Scott DeLancey (chair), Spike Gildea, Doris Payne, Jing Zhuo-Schmidt
- 2013 **M.A. Linguistics**, University of Paris IV Sorbonne, Paris, France
Description of the Magar language spoken in Syangja, a Tibeto-Burman Language of Nepal. Phonology, morphology, and syntax
Committee: Alain Lemaréchal (chair), Martine Mazaudon
- 2013 **B.A. Nepali - Languages, Literatures and Civilizations of Asia** (Audit), National Institute for Oriental Languages and Civilizations (INALCO), Paris, France
- 2010 **B.A. Linguistics**, University of Paris IV Sorbonne, Paris, France
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Teaching Experience

*S: Spring, F: Fall, W: Winter

- 2022-23 **Instructor in French (Français Langue Étrangère - FLE)**, for bachelor's degree students (A2-B2 level), School of Languages, Shanghai University of International Business and Economics (SUIBE), Shanghai, China
- 2014-21 **Teaching Assistant & Instructor in Linguistics**, Department of Linguistics, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR, USA
- W* 2016 Functional Syntax I (LING 451/551)
S 2016 Functional Syntax II (LING 452/552)
F 2015 Analytical Methods in Morphology and Syntax (LING 435/535)
S 2015-18 Introduction to Linguistic Analysis (LING 301)
W 2018-19 Languages of the World (LING 211)
F 2018 Introduction to Language (LING 101)
F 2014-16-17 Structure of English Words (LING 150)
W 2015-17-21
S 2017-19-20-21

2009-14	Freelance Teacher in French (Français Langue Étrangère - FLE) , for adults and children (A1-C2 level), in associations, organizations, and universities
2012-14	KIELA Consulting, Paris, France
2013-14	Paris Langues, Paris, France
2011	University of Zadar, Zadar, Croatia
2010	Primavera NGO, Paris, France
2009-2010	National Institute for Blind Youth, Paris, France

Other Experience

2007-2009	Translation Project Manager , V.O. Paris, Paris, France
2008	Radio Producer Assistant , Audio Documentary ‘Sur les Docks’ Radio France Culture, Paris, France

Research Projects (Principal Investigator)

2023-24	Chepang Digital Dictionary – with Pabitra Chepang and Santosh Praja, and Chepang community members of Makawanpur and Chitwan; to be hosted by the Living Dictionaries of the Living Tongue Institute; funded by the Endangered Language Fund (ELF)
2017-	Chepang Digital Corpus (40+ hours) – with Pabitra Chepang and Santosh Praja, and Chepang community members of Makawanpur and Chitwan

Research Manuscripts

2023-24	<i>A Grammar of Chepang, a Trans-Himalayan language of Nepal</i>
TBA	<i>More reflex constructions of PTH 2nd person prefix #tV- in Trans-Himalayan languages</i>
TBA	<i>Chepang annotated bibliography for interdisciplinary studies</i> – with Hugh Patterson

Community Training and Language Documentation Access

2019-23	Linguistics Training – for Chepang community members, Rapti Municipality, Chitwan, Nepal. Phonology, morphosyntax, writing system development, language data processing in ELAN, audio and video recording
2015-	Chepāng Bhāsā Yādi'ng (Chepang Language Night) – 3 Editions Video projection of recordings at the local level in Chepang villages
2015-	Websites development – Magar and Chepang languages
2015-	YouTube channel development – Chepang language

Publications – Refereed Journal Articles

- in revision* On the distribution and discourse functions of =*taŋ* in Chepang
Linguistics
- 2021 On the origin of 2nd person prefix #*tV-* in Trans-Himalayan languages. *Linguistics of the Tibeto-Burman Area* 44:2, 226–263. <https://doi.org/10.1075/ltba.20004.pon>
- 2014 Valence and voice strategies in Magar. *Nepalese Linguistics* 29, 101–108.
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Invited Book Chapters

- to appear* State of the art on the phylogeny of West-Himalayan/Himalayish, Himalayan, Central-Himalayan, Magaric, Raji-Raute and Eastern Kiranti. In Hildebrandt & Suzuki eds. *The Oxford Guide to Tibeto-Burman Languages*. Oxford University Press.
- to appear* Morphological evidence for Kali-Karnali (a.k.a. “Raji-Raute”) and genetic position within Trans-Himalayan. *Die Fröhliche Sprachwissenschaft*. Brill.
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Book Reviews – Refereed Journal Articles

- 2021 Review: The Dura language: Grammar and phylogeny. *Himalayan Linguistics* 20:1, 116-132. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5070/H920155279>
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Conference Papers and Talks

- 2022 1st and 2nd person (SAP) interactions in Chepang. Paper presented at Person Marking in Tibeto-Burman Workshop. University of Cologne, Germany.
- 2022 Chepang’s direct-inverse system in need of historical, epistemic, and pragmatic explanations. Paper presented at Societas Linguistica Europaea. SLE 55. Bucharest, Romania.
- 2021 Phonology of Chepang – diphthongs and variation on the glottal stop. Presented at Language Documentation and Revitalization. LDR. University of Oregon.
- 2020 The Chepang Language Documentation and Description Project. Presented at Nepal Chepang Sangh. Rapti Municipality, Chitwan, Nepal.
- 2019 On the origin of 2nd person prefix #*tV-* in Trans-Himalayan languages. Paper presented at Association for Linguistic Typology. ALT 13. Pavia, Italy.
- 2019 On the distribution and discourse functions of =*taŋ* in Chepang. Paper presented at Societas Linguistica Europaea. SLE 52. Leipzig, Germany.
- 2019 The Chepang Language Documentation and Description Project – Towards Community-Based Research (CBR). Poster presented at International Conference on Language Documentation and Conservation. ICLDC 6. University of Hawai’i at Mānoa, Hawai’i, USA.

- 2018 On the origin of 2nd person prefix #*tV*- in Trans-Himalayan languages. Presented at Language Documentation and Revitalization. LDR. University of Oregon.
- 2017 Morphological evidence for Kali-Karnali (aka “Raji-Raute”) and genetic position within Trans-Himalayan. Invited talk. Paper presented at the University of Bern, Switzerland.
- 2017 Morphological evidence for Kali-Karnali (aka “Raji-Raute”) and genetic position within Trans-Himalayan. Paper presented at Linguistic Society of Nepal. LSN 38. Kirtipur, Nepal.
- 2017 Reconstructing a 2nd person mirative construction for Central Himalayan – and beyond? Paper presented at Himalayan Languages Symposium. HLS 23. Tezpur, India.
- 2017 Reconstructing a 2nd person mirative construction for Central Himalayan – and beyond? Paper presented at GLOSS Linguistics Colloquium. University of Oregon.
- 2016 Breathiness spreading in Magar. Poster presented at Societas Linguistica Europaea. SLE 49. Naples, Italy.
- 2016 Breathiness spreading in Magar. Poster presented at Northwest Phon{etics;ology}. NoWPhon 2. University of Oregon.
- 2016 Khamci, nomadic voice of Nepal. Endangered Languages Night. ELN 2. University of Oregon.
- 2016 *mi*- in Magar, inalienability to definiteness. Field Ling. University of Oregon.
- 2016 The Rautes of Nepal. Endangered Languages Night. ELN 1. University of Oregon.
- 2015 Valence and voice strategies in Magar. Field Ling. University of Oregon.
- 2014 Verbal indexation morphology in Magar. Tibeto-Burman Ling. University of Oregon.
- 2013 Valence and voice strategies in Magar. Paper presented at Linguistic Society of Nepal. LSN 34. Kathmandu, Nepal.
- 2013 Linguistic fieldwork in Nepal, aims and methodology. Young Researchers Seminar. National Institute for Oriental Languages and Civilizations (INALCO). Paris, France.
- 2012 Causative morphology in Magar. Paper presented at Tibeto-Burman Seminar. Languages and Cultures of Oral Tradition (LACITO), UMR 7101, CNRS, and East Asian Language Research Center (CRLAO), UMR 8563, EHESS/CNRS/INALCO. Paris, France.

- 2011 Magar, a Tibeto-Burman Language of Nepal. Functional Linguistics Seminar. University of Paris IV Sorbonne, Paris, France.
- 2011 Phonology of Magar, a Tibeto-Burman language of Nepal. Paper presented at Tibeto-Burman Seminar. Languages and Cultures of Oral Tradition (LACITO), UMR 7101, CNRS, and East Asian Language Research Center (CRLAO), UMR 8563, EHESS/CNRS/INALCO. Paris, France.

Workshops

- 2011 Khaling, a Kiranti language spoken in Nepal. Linguistic survey, data collection. With: Guillaume Jacques, Aimée Lahaussais, Martine Mazaudon, Boyd Michailovsky, Dhana Khaling. Languages and Cultures of Oral Tradition (LACITO), UMR 7101, CNRS, and East Asian Language Research Center (CRLAO), UMR 8563, EHESS/CNRS/INALCO. Paris, France.

Research in Nepal (2011-2023)

*SR: Summer, S: Spring, F: Fall, W: Winter

*W/S/SR/F 2020 F 2017, 2019, 2021 SR 2015, 2018, 2021 W/S/F 2022 W/S/SR/F 2023	Chepang Manahari and Raksirang, Makawanpur Rapti and Siddi, Chitwan
SR 2015, 2016, 2017 W 2014	Khamci Dailekh, Surkhet, Achham, Kalikot
W 2014	Bhoto Jogbuda and Sirsha, Dadeldhura
SR 2015, 2016, 2017 W 2014 SR 2011	Magar Nibuwakharka and Jagatradevi, Syangja Birendranagar, Surkhet

Grants, Awards, Fellowships, and Scholarships

- 2023-24 Endangered Language Fund (ELF): Language Legacies. Chepang Digital Dictionary, with Pabitra Chepang and Santosh Praja. \$3,900.
- 2023-25 Grant in-aid for Scientific Research. Cultural anthropology and folklore. PI: Kenichi Tachibana; Co-PI: Marie-Caroline Pons. Ritsumeikan University. \$24,423.
- 2021 Graduate Student Research Award. Linguistics Department, University of Oregon. \$1,000.
- 2019-22 National Science Foundation NSF-DEL (Documenting Endangered Languages) Dissertation Improvement Grant. Doctoral Dissertation. PI: Scott DeLancey; Co-PI: Marie-Caroline Pons. \$22,125.

2019	Oregon Humanities Center Graduate Research Support Fellowship. University of Oregon. \$1,000.
2019	Special “Opps” Travel and Research Award. University of Oregon. \$1,000.
2019	College of Art and Science Continuing Student Scholarships and Fellowships. University of Oregon. \$2,500.
2018	Global Oregon Graduate Research Award. University of Oregon. \$1,000.
2017	Center for Asian and Pacific Studies Small Professional Grant. University of Oregon. \$250.
2016	Firebird Foundation for Anthropological Research Fellowship in Oral Literature. \$10,000.
2016	Center for the Study of Women in Society Research Grant. University of Oregon. \$2,500.
2015	Global Oregon Graduate Research Award. University of Oregon. \$2,000.
2014-22	Conference Travel Grants. Linguistics Department, University of Oregon. \$1,800.
2011	Field Research Grant. Languages and Cultures of Oral Tradition (LACITO), UMR 7101, CNRS. \$500.

Languages

French	Native
English, Nepali, Spanish	Advanced fluency
Chepang, Magar	Speaking, reading, writing
Khamci, Bhoto, Raji (Rawat), Raji	Structural knowledge
Bhujel, Kham, Newah, Kiranti languages,	
Ao languages, rGyalrongic languages	
Mandarin Chinese, Hindi, Latin, Catalan (Mallorquí), Russian, Arabic	

Technical Skills

Systems

Windows, Mac-OS

Software

AntConc, Audacity, ELAN, FLEx, Lexique Pro, Praat

Programming

Python, HTML, R-studio (data manipulation and visualization: *dplyr*, *tidyr*, *ggplot2*, *ggmap*)

Recording

Audio-Video recording, cameras, microphones, editing and mixing, lighting

Professional Service

Department and College

Department of Linguistics, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR, USA

- 2015-19 Graduate Linguists of Oregon Student Society (GLOSS)
Linguistics Colloquium Organizer. Web Administrator. Social Media.
- 2018 Job search committee member

Advisory Board Membership

- 2020- Institute for Indigenous Affairs and Development (IIAD), Nepal.
<https://iiad.org.np>

Peer Review of Journal Articles

- 2019- Himalayan Linguistics, North-East Indian Linguistics, BRILL

Affiliation and Membership in Professional Organizations

- 2023- Languages and Cultures of Oral Tradition (LACITO) - UMR 7107 – CNRS.
- 2021- The Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies. ANHS.
- 2019- Association for Linguistic Typology. ALT.
- 2016- Societas Linguistica Europaea. SLE.
- 2018 Linguistics Society of America. LSA.
- 2013- Linguistic Society of Nepal. LSN.
- 2011-14 Languages and Cultures of Oral Tradition (LACITO) - UMR 7107 – CNRS.