



Dr. Michael St. Clair

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Research Interests: Deciphering the prehistory of language with a synthesis of linguistic, genetic, anthropological, and climate data.

Overview of Qualifications and Experience

- Ph.D. from a leading research university
- developed novel methodology for deciphering the prehistory of language with genetic data
- graduate level coursework in language systems (i.e., phonetics)
- graduate level course work in language contact theory
- undergraduate coursework in biology, anthropology, and chemistry
- experience with the extrapolation, analysis, and publication of data
- experience with linguistic database construction, query structuring, and data entry
- experience with project management experience collaborating with others in multi-ethnic work environment
- experience with collection development for an academic library
- experience with curriculum development
- ability to mentor students
- experience with the assessment and reporting of student academic progress
- mastery of office software
- knowledge of office equipment
- ability to work independently
- comfortable with public speaking
- knowledge of German, French, and Spanish

Education

Ph.D. German (2007-2012). University of California at Berkeley. Emphasis in Germanic linguistics.

M.A. German (2005-2007). University of Colorado at Boulder. Emphasis in linguistics and German literature.

B.A. German (2001-2005). *Cum laude*. University of Colorado at Denver. Coursework in linguistics, anthropology, biology, and chemistry.

Research and Project Management

2013-2021

Independent Researcher, Genetic-Linguistic Interface Project, Stuttgart, Germany. Complex independent research project to develop more reliable models of language prehistory by utilizing a synthesis of linguistic, genetic, anthropological, and climate data. Please access the following link for more details: <https://genlinginterface.com/>

2009-2014

Curatorial Library Assistant. University Library, Berkeley, California. Under the supervision of the Librarian for Germanic Collections, International and Area Studies, Doe Library, University of California at Berkeley. Research and administration of special projects to develop holdings for German, Dutch, and Scandinavian Studies. Position required proficiency with bibliographic databases.

2010-2012

Ph.D. Dissertation. Department of German, University of California, Berkeley, California: Evaluated language contact models of Germanic origins from perspectives of archaeology, linguistics, and genetics.

Dissemination of Research

St. Clair, Michael 2023. *The Uto-Aztecan Language Family and its Trajectory into the Historical Record*. Preprint. Stuttgart, Germany: The Genetic-Linguistic Interface Project. DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.2.29726.20800. [Link to 2023 Uto Aztecan Paper](#)

St. Clair, Michael R. 2021. "The Austronesian advantage: natural selection and linguistic diversity." *Humans* 1: 11-17. [Link to 2021 Austronesian Paper](#)

St. Clair, Michael R. 2020. "Triangulated Y-chromosome analysis of the Korean language: a heuristic for exploring the prehistory of language." The Genetic-Linguistic Interface Project. [Link to 2020 Korean Paper](#)

St. Clair, Michael R. 2020. "What linguists should know about ancient DNA: A discussion of methods from the Genetic-Linguistic Interface Project." The Genetic-Linguistic Interface Project. [Link to 2020 Ancient DNA Paper](#)

St. Clair, Michael R. 2017. "The co-evolution of agriculture, language and human genetic mutations." *Interdisciplinary Journal for Germanic Linguistics and Semiotic Analysis* 22(2): 229-239. [Link to 2017 Co-Evolution Paper](#)

St. Clair, Michael R. 2014. "Population genetics and the humanities: Crimean Goths and contemporary European Romani." *Interdisciplinary Journal for Germanic Linguistics and Semiotic Analysis* 19(1): 135-142. [Link to 2014 Crimean Goths Paper](#)

St. Clair, Michael R. 2012. Germanic Origins from the Perspective of the Y-chromosome. Ph.D. dissertation. [Link to 2012 Dissertation](#)

Presentations

“Investigating the origin of Transeurasian languages: Common ancestry hypothesis or language contact theory.” Co-presented with Dr. Anahit Hovhannisyan. Interdisciplinary conference on the prehistory of Transeurasian. Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, Jena, Germany, January 2019.

“The Uralic-substrate model of Germanic origins from the perspective of genetics.” Berkeley Germanic Linguistics Roundtable, University of California, Berkeley, March 2012.

“Did Afro-Asiatic play a role in the development of Germanic?” Fourteenth Annual Graduate Student Conference of the German and Dutch Graduate Student Association, University of Wisconsin at Madison, March 2012.

University Teaching

2008 - 2013

Lecturer and Graduate Teaching Instructor. German Department, University of California, Berkeley, California. Taught elementary and intermediate undergraduate German language courses. Taught graduate level advanced German for the translation exam. Developed curriculum for reading and composition courses.

2005 – 2007

Graduate Teaching Instructor. German Department, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado. Taught elementary Undergraduate German language courses.

Information Technology

Proficiency with Microsoft Word, Access, Excel, and Power Point, as well as Adobe Acrobat. Ability to quickly learn computer programs using a manual and tutorial. Proficiency with academic bibliographic databases (i.e., WorldCat). Experience with online learning platforms (i.e., Blackboard).