



Dr. Michael St. Clair, Ph.D.

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

Overview of Qualifications and Experience:

- Ph.D. from a leading research university
- Development of a novel methodology for researching the prehistory of language
- Graduate level training in language systems (i.e. phonetics, morphology, etc.)
- Graduate level training in language contact theory
- Graduate level training in historical linguistics
- Undergraduate coursework in biology, anthropology, and chemistry
- Experience with extrapolation, analysis, and publication of data
- Experience with linguistic database construction, data entry, and query structuring
- Experience with project management
- Experience with collaborating with others in a multi-ethnic work environment
- Experience with collection development for academic library
- Experience with curriculum development
- Knowledge of German, Spanish, and French

Education: Ph.D. German with an emphasis in Germanic linguistics, University of California at Berkeley, 05/2012.

Academic Research Projects:

- 2014-present: **Independent researcher**, Genetic-Linguistic Interface, Stuttgart, Germany. Complex independent research project to develop more reliable models of language prehistory.
- 2009-2014: **Library assistant**, university library, University of California at Berkeley. Under the supervision of the Librarian for the Germanic Collections. Research and administration of special projects to develop holdings for the German, Dutch, Scandinavian Departments.

- 2010-2012: **Ph.D. dissertation.** Evaluated the usefulness of Y-chromosome single nucleotide polymorphisms as a tool for linguistic research.

Teaching: Lecturer and Graduate Teaching Instructor, University of California at Berkeley. Taught German language courses and 20th century German culture, 2008-2013.

Dissemination of Research:

- St. Clair, Michael R. 2025. *A Critical Analysis of “The Genetic Origin of the Indo-Europeans” as Published in the Journal Nature by Lazaridis et al. on February 5, 2025.* Stuttgart, Germany: The Genetic-Linguistic Interface. [Link to 2025 Comments on the Lazaridis Paper](#)
- St. Clair, Michael R. 2024. *From Lake Baikal to Lake Chad: The Y-Chromosome R1b-V88 Mutation and Ecological Plasticity.* Stuttgart, Germany: The Genetic-Linguistic Interface. [Link to 2024 R1b-V88 Paper.](#)
- St. Clair, Michael R. 2023. *Das Y-Chromosom und die Vorgeschichte der Sprache.* Self-published online monograph. Stuttgart, Germany: The Genetic-Linguistic Interface. [Link to 2023 Monograph](#)
- St. Clair, Michael 2023. *The Uto-Aztecan Language Family and its Trajectory into the Historical Record.* Stuttgart, Germany: The Genetic-Linguistic Interface Project. [Link to 2023 Uto Aztecan Paper](#)
- St. Clair, Michael R. 2021. *The Prehistory of Language: A Triangulated Y-Chromosome-Based Perspective.* Self-published online monograph. Stuttgart, Germany: The Genetic-Linguistic Interface. [Link to 2021 Monograph](#)
- 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. “What linguists should know about ancient DNA: A discussion of methods from the Genetic-Linguistic Interface Project.” Stuttgart, Germany: The Genetic-Linguistic Interface Project. [Link to 2020 Ancient DNA Paper](#)
- St. Clair, Michael R. 2020. “Triangulated Y-chromosome analysis of the Korean language: a heuristic for exploring the prehistory of language.” Stuttgart, Germany: The Genetic-Linguistic Interface Project. [Link to 2020 Korean 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. University of California at Berkeley. [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 8-11, 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.