

## Simon Charlow

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### Research

Specialization: formal and computational semantics for natural language.

Interests: scope and binding; indefiniteness; dynamic semantics; continuations; monads; ellipsis.

### Employment

- 2020– Associate Professor, Linguistics, Rutgers University
- Graduate Program Director (2020–22)
  - Member, Rutgers University Center for Cognitive Science (2016–)
- 2014–20 Assistant Professor, Linguistics, Rutgers University

### Education

- 2008–14 New York University, Ph.D. Linguistics.  
Dissertation: [On the semantics of exceptional scope](#).
- 2003–07 Brown University, B.A. Linguistics (Honors) & Visual Art.

### Honors & awards

- 2020 Board of Trustees Research Fellowship for Scholarly Excellence, Rutgers University (recognizes the exceptional research accomplishments of newly-promoted and tenured faculty).
- 2014 Start-up grant, Rutgers University.
- 2013 Dean's Dissertation Fellowship, New York University.
- 2009 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship.  
Dean of the College Outstanding Honors Thesis Award, Brown University.
- 2008 Henry M. MacCracken fellowship for graduate study, New York University.  
George W. Hagy Prize in Linguistics, Brown University Department of Cognitive & Linguistic Sciences (awarded to the outstanding graduating student in linguistics).  
Magna cum laude, Brown University.
- 2007 Phi Beta Kappa, Brown University.

### Papers

- in prep Effect-driven interpretation in natural language semantics.  
Dylan Bumford & Simon Charlow.  
*Elements in Semantics*, Cambridge University Press.
- Dynamic semantics.  
Revised entry for the *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*.
- submitted [Dynamic semantics with static types](#).  
Dylan Bumford & Simon Charlow.  
Submitted to *Linguistics and Philosophy*. 41pp.
- [Scalar implicature and exceptional scope](#).  
Resubmitted to *Linguistic Inquiry*. 14pp.

- A modular theory of pronouns and binding.  
Under revision for *Natural Language Semantics*. 15pp.
- accepted Static and dynamic exceptional scope.  
Accepted with minor revisions at *Journal of Semantics*. 51pp.
- Post-suppositions and semantic theory.  
Accepted with minor revisions at *Journal of Semantics*. 49pp.
- 2022 On Jacobson's "Towards a Variable-Free Semantics".  
*Studies in Linguistics and Philosophy* 100, 171–196. DOI:10.1007/978-3-030-85308-2\_10.
- 2021  $\exists$ -closure and Alternatives.  
*Linguistic Inquiry* 52(1), 143–152. DOI:10.1162/ling\_a\_00367.
- 2020 The scope of alternatives: indefiniteness and islands.  
*Linguistics and Philosophy* 43, 427–472. DOI:10.1007/s10988-019-09278-3.
- 2019 Where is the destructive update problem?  
In press at *Semantics and Pragmatics* 12(10). 17pp. DOI:10.3765/sp.12.10.
- 2017 Parsing with Dynamic Continuized CCG.  
Michael White, Simon Charlow, Jordan Needle & Dylan Bumford.  
*Proceedings of the 13th International Workshop on Tree Adjoining Grammars and Related Formalisms (TAG+13)*, Association for Computational Linguistics, 71–83.  
<https://www.aclweb.org/anthology/W17-6208/>
- 2015 GIVENNESS, compositionally and dynamically.  
*Short 'schrift for Alan Prince*. 7pp.
- 2014 Bound 'de re' pronouns and the LFs of attitude reports.  
Simon Charlow & Yael Sharvit.  
*Semantics & Pragmatics* 7(3), 1–43. DOI:10.3765/sp.7.3.
- Stochastic time analysis of syllable-referential intervals and simplex onsets.  
Adamantios I. Gafos, Simon Charlow, Jason A. Shaw & Philip Hoole.  
*Journal of Phonetics* 44, 152–166. DOI:10.1016/j.wocn.2013.11.007.
- 2012 Cross-categorial donkeys.  
*Selected Papers from the 18th Amsterdam Colloquium*, 261–270.  
DOI:10.1007/978-3-642-31482-7\_27.
- 2010 Can DP be a scope island?  
*ESSLLI 2008 & ESSLLI 2009 Student Sessions, Selected Papers*, 1–12.  
DOI:10.1007/978-3-642-14729-6\_1.
- 2009 "Strong" predicative presuppositional objects.  
*Proceedings of New Directions in the Theory of Presupposition, ESSLLI 2009*. 11pp.
- 2008 Free and bound pro-verbs: a unified treatment of anaphora.  
*Proceedings of Semantics and Linguistic Theory* 18, 194–211. DOI:10.3765/salt.voio.2487.

### External teaching and short visiting positions

- 2022 Effectful composition in natural language semantics (with Dylan Bumford). 33<sup>rd</sup> European Summer School in Logic, Language and Information (ESSLLI 2022). Galway, Ireland.

- 2019 Extensible semantics.  
Invited minicourse, Yale University, Aug 28–Sep 10, part of a two-week visiting position.
- Alternatives in semantics.  
Invited advanced course, Eastern Generative Grammar (EGG), Wrocław, Jul 29–Aug 9.
- Extensible semantics.  
Invited minicourse, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, April 3 & 4.

**Selected presentations** (\* = refereed, † = colloquium, ‡ = keynote/plenary)

- 2023 † Title TBD.  
Colloquium, University of Amsterdam (ILLC), Spring.
- 2022 Title TBD.  
Invited lecture, Department of Philosophy, National Taiwan University, December 22.
- The syntax-discourse interface.  
Invited talk, Language Diversity, Linguistic Theory and Cultural Identity in South Asia, Yale University, April 29.
- 2020 † Givenness and local contexts.  
Colloquium, University of Chicago, April 9.
- 2019 † Givenness and local contexts.  
Colloquium, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, December 6.
- † Givenness and local contexts.  
Colloquium, University of Delaware, November 1.
- Givenness and local contexts.  
Invited talk, Yale University Syntax/Semantics Group, September 3.
- ‡ Givenness and local contexts.  
Keynote address, Semantics and Linguistic Theory 29, UCLA, May 18. ([slides](#))
- † Local contexts in ellipsis.  
Colloquium, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, April 5. (Also given at NYU, Rutgers.)
- 2018 Effectful composition in natural language semantics (with Dylan Bumford).  
Invited lecture, New type-theoretic tools in natural language semantics, Carnegie Mellon University (NASSLLI 2018), June 28.
- Static and dynamic exceptional scope.  
Invited talk, Meaning as action, All Souls College Oxford University, Mar 19.
- 2017 † Modularity and computation in semantic theory.  
Colloquium, Princeton University, Nov 29.
- \* A modular theory of pronouns and binding.  
Logic and Engineering of Natural Language Semantics 14, Tokyo, Nov 14. ([slides](#))
- Modular alternative semantics.  
UMass Amherst Semantics Group talk, Oct 25. ([slides](#))
- \* A modular theory of pronouns (and binding).  
Philosophical Linguistics & Linguistical Philosophy, Tarrytown, Oct 14. ([slides](#))

A modular theory of pronouns (and binding).  
Invited talk, New York Philosophy of Language Workshop, NYC, Sept 25. (slides)

\* Parsing with Dynamic Continuized CCG.  
Michael White, Simon Charlow, Jordan Needle & Dylan Bumford.  
13th International Workshop on Tree-Adjoining Grammar and Related Formalisms (TAG+13), Umeå, Sept 5. (slides)

A modular theory of pronouns (and binding).  
Invited talk, Philosophy of Language & Linguistics, Dubrovnik, Sept 4. (slides)

Exceptional implicature.  
Invited talk, Nova Scotia Meaning Workshop, Shobac NS, Jul 27. (slides)

The scope of alternatives: Indefinites and islands  
Invited talk, UCSD Semantics Babble, Jun 1. (slides)

Meaning as computation?  
Invited lecture, UCSD Graduate Semantics (Ling 230), May 30. (slides)

What is dynamic semantics?  
Invited lecture, Rutgers Semantics Group (SURGE), Apr 20.

2016 Alternatives, and alternative semantics.  
NYU Semantics Group, November 4. (abstract, slides)

\* Monadic dynamic semantics: Side effects and scope (with Dylan Bumford).  
Natural Language & Computer Science 4, Columbia Univ, July 10. (slides)

The syntax-semantics interface.  
Invited lecture, Cognitive Science Proseminar, Rutgers University, October 18.

2015 † The grammar of exceptional scope.  
Colloquium, University of Maryland, November 20. (abstract, slides)

Comments on "Are attitude reports ambiguous?" (Sam Cumming).  
5<sup>th</sup> Cornell Workshop in Linguistics and Philosophy, November 7.

† The grammar of exceptional scope.  
Colloquium, Cornell University, November 5. (abstract, slides)

Monadic dynamic semantics for anaphora.  
Invited talk, Dynamic Semantics: Modern type theoretic and category theoretic approaches, The Ohio State University, October 24. (slides)

Leading issues at the interface of syntax and semantics.  
Invited lecture, Cognitive Science Proseminar, Rutgers University, October 20.

Compositional licensing of silent structure.  
Invited talk, CUNY Syntax Supper, October 13. (slides)

Monadic dynamic semantics for anaphora.  
NYU Semantics Group, October 9.

Monads, applicative functors, and scope.  
Invited lecture, Monads and Natural Language (ESSLLI 2015), Uni. Pompeu Fabra, August 7.

Conventional Implicature as a scope phenomenon.

- Workshop on continuations and scope, New York University, May 22. ([slides](#))
- \* The scope of alternatives.  
Semantics and Linguistic Theory 25, Stanford University, May 15. ([slides](#))
  - ‡ The scope of alternatives.  
Plenary address, Going Heim: Linguistic Meaning Between Structure and Use, University of Connecticut, May 3. ([handout](#))
  - Formal semantics.  
Invited lecture, Advanced Topics in Cognitive Science, Rutgers University, April 7.
  - 2014 † The dynamic core of exceptional scope.  
Colloquium, Rutgers University, February 28. ([handout](#))
  - Locality in the syntax and semantics of attitude ascriptions.  
Invited talk, Rutgers University, February 27. ([handout](#))
  - 2013 Ellipsis really is binding.  
NYU Semantics Group, March 28.
  - 2011 \* Cross-categorial donkeys.  
The 18th Amsterdam Colloquium, University of Amsterdam, December 20. ([slides](#))
  - More on the LFs of attitude reports.  
Invited session, University of Michigan Workshop in Philosophy and Linguistics, April 9. Comments by Nicholas Fleisher, Ezra Keshet. Reported joint work with Yael Sharvit.
  - \* Bound ‘de re’ pronouns and concept generators (with Yael Sharvit).  
The 33rd Annual Conference of the German Linguistic Society (DGfS), Georg August University, Göttingen, February 23.
  - 2010 \* Bound ‘de re’ pronouns and concept generators (with Yael Sharvit).  
The 41st Annual Meeting of North East Linguistic Society, University of Pennsylvania, October 24. ([handout](#))
  - \* *De re* anaphors.  
Poster at Semantics and Linguistic Theory 20, University of British Columbia and Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, April 30. ([poster](#))
  - Two kinds of *de re* blocking.  
Presentation in MIT’s Ling-Lunch series, March 18. ([handout](#))
  - 2009 \* “Strong” predicative presuppositions.  
New Directions in the Theory of Presupposition, Bordeaux, July 29. ([slides](#))
  - \* Can DP be a scope island?  
ESSLLI 2009 Student Session, Bordeaux, July 23. ([slides](#))
  - 2008 \* Free and bound pro-verbs: a unified treatment of anaphora.  
Semantics and Linguistic Theory 18, UMass Amherst, March 23. ([handout](#))

### Curriculum development

- 2018–19 Co-developed (w/Adam Jardine) Rutgers undergraduate course Computational Linguistics. Approved 2019 and offered since Spring 2020.

## Teaching

### Rutgers graduate courses:

- Semantics I (Fall 2014, Fall 2015) ([course site](#))
- Semantics II (Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Spring 2020) ([course site](#))
- Semantics III (Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Fall 2020)
- Seminars in semantics:
  - Spring 2015: Alternatives in semantics ([course site](#))
  - Spring 2017: Computational semantics ([course site](#))
  - Spring 2022: Dynamic semantics
  - Fall 2022: Effectful composition in natural language semantics
- Qualifying paper workshop (Spring 2015, Spring 2016)

### Rutgers undergraduate courses:

- Introduction to Linguistic Theory (Fall 2016, Fall 2018)
- Honors Introduction to Linguistic Theory (Fall 2016, Spring 2020)
- Semantics (Spring 2016, Spring 2018)
- Computational Linguistics (Fall 2021)

## Advising

### As dissertation chair:

- ongoing Sreekar Raghatham. Title TBD (verbal reflexives). Co-chair: Mark Baker.
- 2022 Ang Li. Comparing Alternatives.  
Lydia Newkirk. Be flexible, but not too flexible: limited variable-force modals in Kinande and the typology of modal force.  
Lecturer in Linguistics, Yale University.
- 2021 Yu Cao. Plurality and quantification in graph representation of meaning.  
Applied Researcher, eBay.
- 2020 Haoze Li (NYU). A dynamic semantics for *wh*-questions. Co-chair: Anna Szablczi.  
Yunshan Scholar (Assistant Professor), Guangdong University of Foreign Studies.
- 2020 Augustina Owusu. Cross-categorial definiteness/familiarity.  
Visiting Assistant Professor, Boston College.
- 2019 Jess H.-K. Law. Constraints on distributivity. Co-chair: Veneeta Dayal.  
Assistant Professor, UC Santa Cruz.

### As dissertation committee member:

- 2020 Livia Camargo Souza. Switch-reference as anaphora: a modular account.  
Samuel Carter. Exploring information.
- 2019 Yağmur Sağ. The semantics of bare nouns, counting, and measurement.
- 2018 Yi-Hsun Chen. Superlative modifiers: Ignorance and concession.
- 2017 Dylan Bumford (NYU). Split-scope effects in definite descriptions. External member.  
Beibei Xu. Biased questions.
- 2016 Mingming Liu. Varieties of alternatives.

### As qualifying paper committee chair:

- 2022 Indira Das. Unique and Anaphoric definites in Odia. Co-chair: Dorothy Ahn.  
Gérard Avelino. The Tagalog particle *sana*: Modals and subjunctives at the syntax-semantics interface.

- 2019 Yu Cao. Scope-taking in graph representation of meaning. Co-chair: Adam Jardine.  
Cameron Domenico Kirk-Giannini. Non-speaker-oriented conventional implicatures as mixed quotations (RuCCS Cog Sci Certificate project).  
Lydia Newkirk. *Benché* and the subjunctive.
- 2017 Simon Goldstein. Alternator semantics (RuCCS Cog Sci Certificate project).  
Ang Li. Distributing events: Mandarin verbal classifiers.
- 2016 Augustina Owusu. Actuality entailment in Akan.
- 2015 Jess Law. Modal variation, exhaustivity, and cumulativity. Co-chair: Veneeta Dayal.

**As qualifying paper committee member:**

- ongoing Jiaxing Yu. The non-deictic uses of Mandarin Demonstratives.
- 2021 Akane Ohtaka. *Wh-ka* and *wh-demo* in Japanese.
- 2020 Chaoyi Chen. The concessive reading of scalar particles.  
Jillian Harper. Temporal ambiguity in possessive constructions.  
Sreekar Raghatham. Disjunctions and polarity.
- 2018 Eileen Blum. On the locality of vowel harmony over multi-tiered ASRs.  
Shiori Ikawa. The role of functions in concealed questions and identity questions.
- 2017 Livia Camargo Souza. Modal inference and negative dependencies in Brazilian Portuguese.  
Deepak Alok. Semantics of various internal components of Magahi numeral phrases.
- 2016 Jess Law. The discourse potential of bare NPs in Mandarin.  
Kunio Kinjo. Contrastively topicalized *wh* in Japanese and Okinawan.  
Yağmur Sağ. The semantics of number in Turkish.
- 2015 Yi-Hsun Chen. Actuality entailment, aspect and genericity.  
Ümit Atlamaz. Focus in questions.

**Other advising:**

- 2020 Alexandra Maris. Crossover and the proportion problem in conditionals. Undergraduate Independent Study Project.  
Florence Verity. Implicatures in continuation-based dynamic semantics by reasoning in the context. External examiner: Australia National University MPhil thesis.
- 2019 Rory Harder (University of Toronto Philosophy PhD candidate). Rutgers faculty host.

**Service to the field**

- ongoing Referee for *Journal of Logic, Language and Information*, *Glossa*, *Journal of Applied Logics*, *Journal of Semantics*, *Language*, *Snippets*, *Lingua* (pre-exodus), *Linguistics & Philosophy*, *Semantics & Pragmatics*, *The Linguistic Review*, *Linguistic Inquiry*, *Natural Language Semantics*, Oxford University Press, MIT Press, Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT), Sinn und Bedeutung (SuB), Amsterdam Colloquium (AC), Penn Linguistics Colloquium (PLC), Chicago Linguistics Society (CLS), Generative Linguistics in the Old World (GLOW), Semantics and Philosophy in Europe (SPE), North East Linguistic Society (NELS), Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), ESSLLI Student Session, Conference of the Student Organisation of Linguistics in Europe (ConSOLE), West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL).
- 2021 Program committee, Computational and Experimental Explanations in Semantics and Pragmatics (ExpSem2021, ESSLLI 2021 workshop).
- 2019–22 Semantics and Linguistic Theory steering committee, technology coordinator.
- 2019 Program committee, Philosophical Linguistics and Linguistical Philosophy (PhLiP 6).

2018 Program committee, Natural Language in Computer Science (NLCS 18).  
 2017– *Snippets*. Member, Review Board.  
 2015–16 NASSLLI 2016. Member, Organizing Committee; member, Program Committee.  
 2014 MACSIM IV. Member, organizing team.  
 2013–14 Semantics and Linguistics Theory 24. Member, program committee.  
 2009–11 *Journal of Semantics*. Scientific Assistant (paid).  
 2009–10 Linguistics Association of NYU (LANYU). Vice President.

### **Editorial responsibilities**

2023– Associate Editor, *Linguistics and Philosophy* (pending)  
 2015– Member, Editorial Board, *Semantics & Pragmatics*

### **Service to the university**

2022 Chair, Rutgers Linguistics Graduate Admissions Committee  
 2020– Member, Rutgers School of Graduate Studies Executive Council  
 2020– Graduate Program Director, Rutgers Linguistics  
 2020 Rutgers Linguistics Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committee.  
 2019–20 Co-chair, Rutgers Linguistics tenure-track semantics hiring committee.  
 2019 Rutgers Linguistics, visiting semantics position hiring committee.  
 2018– Rutgers Linguistics Graduate Program Committee.  
 2017–18 Rutgers Linguistics semantics hiring Committee.  
 2017 Rutgers Linguistics Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committee.  
 Rutgers Linguistics Graduate Admissions Committee.  
 2016– Rutgers University Center for Cognitive Science (RuCCS) Executive Council.  
 2016–17 RuCCS Web Content Committee.  
 2016 Rutgers Linguistics Graduate Admissions Committee.