

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## LEAH NODAR

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Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
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### EDUCATION

Current PhD Graduate Student in the Sociolinguistics Area at North Carolina State University  
Expected Graduation May 2021

Current GPA 4.0

MS Thesis (in progress): *Proving a Negative: Innocent Owners and Civil Forfeiture*

MS Thesis Committee: Walt Wolfram, April Fernandes, Agnes Bolonyai, Wenjie Liao

BA in Linguistics, University of Mississippi 2011

With minors in German, Japanese, and Mathematics

*Summa cum laude*, 3.97 GPA Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, Delta Phi Alpha

Honors Thesis: *And Justice for All: Non-Native Speakers in the American Legal System*

Honors Thesis Committee: Donald Dyer, Allison Burkette, Molly Pasco-Pranger

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

Legal Linguistics, Forensic Linguistics, Language and Law, Sociology of Law, Social Control, Public Linguistics and Public Sociology

### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“What are you doing, Link?”: Pronouns and Direct Address in a Let’s Play.” Presentation at the annual meeting of the South-Eastern Conference on Linguistics, Virginia, USA, 2018.

“The Good Mom: Using and Ratifying Gender Roles in Civil Forfeiture Hearings.” Presentation at the Southern Sociological Society Conference, Louisiana, USA, 2018.

“Ye Olde Shoppes: Pseudo-Archaisms in Business Names.” As The Language Nerd (Ask the League of Nerds). Presentation at the annual meeting of the South-Eastern Conference on Linguistics, South Carolina, USA. 2017.

“Non-Native Speakers in the American Legal System.” Presentation at the 3<sup>rd</sup> European Conference of the International Association of Forensic Linguistics, on the theme of Bridging the Gaps between Language and Law. Porto, Portugal. 2012.

“Speakers with Limited English Proficiency in the Justice System.” Presentation at the annual meeting of the South-Eastern Conference on Linguistics, Georgia, USA. 2011.

## **PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

Nodar, Leah. 2014. “Non-Native Speakers in the American Legal System.” Proceedings of the 3<sup>rd</sup> European Conference of the IAFL, on the theme of Bridging the Gaps between Language and Law. In Porto, Portugal, September 2012.

## **PUBLIC ACADEMIA**

Founder and executive director, Special Committee for Public Engagement, organizing public talks to share sociological research. 2017-present.

Operations Manager, Language Diversity Ambassadors, organizing public talks to share linguistic research. 2016-2017.

As The Language Nerd at Ask the League of Nerds ([asktheleagueofnerds.com](http://asktheleagueofnerds.com)), authored more than one hundred articles sharing linguistic concepts with a general audience and served as editor for articles from other disciplines, including art, biology, paramedics, and electromagnetics.

## **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

“The Jumpsuit Project.” Common Reading Mini-Grant, NCSU, 2017.

Leadership for putting on the funded event, hosting speaker Sherrill Roland for a discussion of wrongful conviction and social justice, 22 March 2018.

Sociology Graduate Student Association Research Mini-Grant, to support thesis research, 2017.

“Hearing is Believing: Language Discrimination in the Criminal Justice System.” Common Reading Mini-Grant, NCSU, 2016.

Leadership for putting on the funded event, a screening of the documentary *Talking Black in America* and panel discussion with linguistic and legal experts, held 4 April 2017.

The Taylor Medal, the University of Mississippi’s highest academic honor, 2011.

The T.J. Ray Award in Linguistics, the University of Mississippi’s award for distinction in linguistic scholarship, 2011.

Chancellor’s List

National Merit Scholarship

## **OTHER EDUCATION**

Hofstra University Forensic Linguistics Internship, May-June 2017.

Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults (CELTA) course, January-February 2013.  
Certification awarded by Cambridge English, February 2013.

## **OTHER EMPLOYMENT**

The Language Nerd at Ask the League of Nerds ([asktheleagueofnerds.com](http://asktheleagueofnerds.com)), 2012-present  
Answering questions about linguistics in a friendly, accessible way. Visited Ethiopia in 2015 to interview the linguists at Addis Ababa University and share their research.

Nodar Editing, 2009-present  
Improving English translations of theses, dissertations, academic articles, and most recently Yonca Eldener's novel *The Guardian of Gobeklitepe*.

Teacher of English as a Second Language, 2011-2015  
Ran an English tutorial for university students for two months in Ethiopia. Taught students from kindergarten to high school for one year in South Korea. Taught speaking and writing skills to middle-schoolers in Istanbul for two years using International Baccalaureate standards, and also directed the end-of-the-year musical.

Paralegal at Legal Services Alabama, summers 2016 and 2017  
Assisted in preparation of a civil forfeiture case and with medical claims from the 2010 BP oil spill.