

Dr. Merle Weicker

Curriculum Vitae

ORCID	https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6977-8695
Website:	https://tinygu.de/Merle-Weicker
Focus in research:	Child first and second language acquisition (semantics, syntax), multimodal communication, language and cognition, linguistics in educational contexts
Focus in teaching:	Child first and second language acquisition, language support, language diagnostics, language didactics

Education

Dr. phil. in General Linguistics (<i>summa cum laude</i>)	04/2019
DFG Research Training Group „Nominal Modification“, Goethe University Frankfurt	
Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Petra Schulz, Prof. Dr. Thomas Ede Zimmermann, Prof. Dr. Tom Roeper	
Dissertation: <i>The role of semantic complexity for the acquisition of adjectives</i>	
Master of Arts Cognitive Linguistics	06/2014
Goethe University Frankfurt	
Master-Thesis: <i>Quantifizierung und Exhaustivität im ungestörten und gestörten Spracherwerb</i>	
Bachelor of Arts Cognitive Linguistics	09/2011
Goethe University Frankfurt	
Bachelorarbeit: <i>Superioritätseffekte bei multiplen w-Fragen</i>	

Academic Career

Research Associate (Postdoc)	05/2019-
Institute for Psycholinguistics and Didactics of German, Goethe University Frankfurt	
	current
Research Associate (Doctoral student)	10/2017-
Institute for Psycholinguistics and Didactics of German, Goethe University Frankfurt	
	04/2019
Research Associate (Doctoral student)	10/2014-
DFG Research Training Group „Nominal Modification“, Goethe University Frankfurt	
	09/2017
Research internship	07/2014-
Leibniz-Institut für Deutsche Sprache, Mannheim	
	09/2014
Student assistant	10/2010-
Project MILA (Relationship between migration background and language impairment in children's language achievement), funded IDeA - Center for Research on Individual Development and Adaptive Education of Children at Risk the Hesse Excellency Grant LOEWE (LOEWE)	
	09/2014
Research internship	07/2010-
University hospital Frankfurt (Phoniatrics and Pediatric audiology)	
	10/2010

Third-party funded projects

Co-PI: <i>Wissenschafts-Praxis-Kooperation zur Unterstützung des Textverständnisses von Schüler*innen in MINT-Fächern</i> (IDeA)	9.738 €
07/2025-06/2026	
PI: <i>Causal connectives: forms and their function for text comprehension</i> (DFG)	295.118 €
01/2025-12/2027	

02/2026

Co-PI: *Negation beyond language: interactions between verbal and nonverbal negation* (DFG) 447.800 €
SFB 1629 “Negation in language and beyond” (Spokesperson: Cecilia Poletto)
04/2024-12/2027

PI: *KonText: The role of causal connectives for text comprehension in primary school* (IDeA) 9.980 €
06/2023-09/2024

Third-party funded projects (cont.)

Principal Researcher: Research Training Group “Nominal Modification” (DFG)

05/2021-09/2023 (Spokesperson: Esther Rinke)

Awards and scholarships

Wilhelm von Humboldt-Prize for early career researchers 2.000 €
German Linguistic Society (DGfS)

Short term research grant Ca. 750 €
Minerva Stiftung

Travel grants 543 €
Goethe Research Academy (GRADE) - center *Language*

Travel grants 674 €
Freunde und Förderer der Goethe-Universität

Travel grants 1.000 €
Fachbereich Neuere Philologien, Goethe-Universität

Funding for student assistants 1.865 €
Goethe Research Academy (GRADE) - center *Language*

Research stays

Bar-Ilan Universität, Ramat Gan, Israel 03/2018

Trainings

Certificate for teaching in higher education 10/2022
Interdisciplinary Center for University Teaching and Learning

Trainings in career planning, third-party funding, strategic networking, and leadership and supervision 06/2022-11/2023
Mentoring Hessen (Program *ProAcademia*)

Summer / winter schools

EMLAR (Empirical Methods in Language Acquisition Research) (2015), LOT winter school (2017), LOT summer school (2021)

Service

Co-organizer methodological group Since 2024
CRC 1629 „Negation in language and beyond”

Deputy member of the doctoral committee Since 2023
Department of Modern Languages, Goethe University

Member of the ethics committee Since 2020
DIPF Leibniz Institute for Research and Information in Education

Representative of the non-professorial staff Since 2019
Institute for Psycholinguistics and Didactics of German, Goethe University

Elected member of the program committee 47th annual meeting of the German Linguistic Society (DGfS)	2024
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Representative of the non-professorial staff in a Tenure Track evaluation committee	2023
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Co-organizer Special Interest Group „Interdisciplinary Approaches to Language Research“	2021
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Elected member of the program committee 43rd annual meeting of the German Linguistic Society (DGfS)	2020
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Reviewing

Journals: *Applied Psycholinguistics, First Language, Language Acquisition, Journal of Psycholinguistic Research, Cognitive Processing, Linguistische Berichte, Zeitschrift für Erziehungswissenschaft (Edition ZfE), Glossa*

Conferences: *International Congress for the Study of Child Language (IASCL), Generative Approaches to Language Acquisition (GALA), Symposium Series in Multimodal Communication (MMSYM), Sinn und Bedeutung*

Organization of workshops and conferences

Workshop “Exploring what is not the case – methods for investigating negation”, 48 th annual meeting of the German Linguistic Society (DGfS), Trier University (Co-organizer)	2026
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Conference “Generative Approaches to Language Acquisition” (GALA 15), Goethe University Frankfurt (member of organizational team)	2022
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Knowledge transfer

Associated member <i>Campusschulprogramm</i>	Seit 2024
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Online-Workshop „Förderliches Sprachhandeln - Mythen und Empfehlungen“ für Ehrenamtliche im Projekt „Start ins Deutsche - Studierende unterrichten Flüchtlinge“	09/2020
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Memberships

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Sprachwissenschaft (DGfS)

Symposium Deutschdidaktik (SDD), AG „Grammatik und Sprachbetrachtung“, AG „Leseverstehen“

Research Centre for Individual Development and Adaptive Education of Children at Risk (IDeA)

Skills

Languages

German (native), English (C2), French (C1)

IT

R, SPSS, LaTeX

Experimental Methods

Language comprehension: picture choice, judgement tasks

Language production: spontaneous speech data analysis, elicitation tasks

Language processing: eye-tracking

Administration of standardized language tests