

Lee-Ann Vidal-Covas

PhD Candidate • Linguistics • Boston University
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Education

- 2018 – Present **Ph.D.**, *Boston University*, Linguistics
Dissertation: *Covariation & Salience in Linguistic Contact: A Sociophonetic Study of Liquid Variation in Spanish in Boston*
Committee: Daniel G. Erker (Chair), Neil J. Myler & Kate Lynn Lindsey
- 2018 – 2021 **M.A.**, *Boston University*, Linguistics
- 2012 – 2013 **M.A.**, *Louisiana State University*, Hispanic Studies / Spanish Linguistics
Thesis: *El uso variable de los pronombres sujetos en el castellano puertorriqueño hablado en Luisiana y Puerto Rico*
Committee: Rafael Orozco, Jeremy King & Andrea Morris
- 2007 – 2011 **B.A.**, *Louisiana State University*, Hispanic Studies and Literatures
- 2020 **The New York - St. Petersburg Institute of Linguistics, Cognition, and Culture**
Coursework in writing systems and phonology, morphology, experimental linguistics & syntax

Publications

Refereed Journal Articles

- 2024 Erker, Daniel G. & **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** Variation, Contact, and Change in Boston Spanish: How social meaning shapes stylistic practice and bilingual optimization. *Studies in Hispanic and Lusophone Linguistics*, 17(2), 223–249, <https://doi.org/10.1515/shll-2024-2010>

Refereed Proceedings

- 2023 **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** ¿Va primero el verbo? or ¿El sujeto va primero?: Subject-verb order in Latin American Spanish. *Proceedings of the Linguistic Society of America*, 8(1), 5542, <https://doi.org/10.3765/plsa.v8i1.5542>
- 2014 Orozco, Rafael; Méndez Vallejo, Catalina; & **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** Los efectos condicionantes del verbo en el uso variable de los pronombres personales de sujeto. *Actas del XVII Congreso Internacional de la Asociación de Lingüística y Filología de la América Latina*, pp. 1–17, <http://mundoalfal.org/CDAnaisXVII/trabalhos/R0696-2.pdf>

Contributions to Edited Volumes (invited)

- 2022 Erker, Daniel G. & **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** What we say when we say nothing at all: Clues to contact-induced language change in Spanish conversational pause-fillers. *Estudios del Observatorio / Observatorio Studies*, 80, pp. 1–29, https://cervantesobservatorio.fas.harvard.edu/sites/default/files/80_en_erker_vidal-covas_sept_20.pdf
- Erker, Daniel G. & **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** Qué decimos cuando no decimos nada: Claves del cambio lingüístico inducido por contacto en las pausas llenas del español conversacional. *Estudios del Observatorio / Observatorio Studies*, 80, pp. 1–31, https://cervantesobservatorio.fas.harvard.edu/sites/default/files/80_sp_erker_vidal-covas_21_sept.pdf

Edited Volumes

- 2021 Dionne, Danielle & **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** (Eds). *Proceedings of the 45th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development*. Somerville, MA, Cascadilla Press, <http://www.cascadilla.com/bucl45toc.html>

Other Publications

- 2013 **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** El uso variable de los pronombres sujetos en el castellano puertorriqueño hablado en Luisiana y Puerto Rico. *LSU Master's Theses*, 3876, https://digitalcommons.lsu.edu/gradschool_theses/3876

Presentations

Refereed Papers

- 2024 **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** How Saliency Influences Dialectal Persistence and Covariation: Insights from Boston's Spanish-Speaking Community, *New Ways of Analyzing Variation* 52, Miami, Florida, November 7th – 9th
- 2024 **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** Investigating Saliency and Ideologies in Greater Boston: a Sociophonetic Analysis of Liquid Variation, *International Symposium on Language Ideologies and Attitudes*, Palma de Mallorca, Spain, October 17th – 19th
- 2024 **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** Riding the Waves of Saliency: Exploring Spanish Liquid Variation among Boston Spanish speakers, *LSA 2024*, NYC, New York, January 4th – 7th
- 2023 **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** Making a Splash: The Saliency of Liquid Variation among Boston Spanish speakers, *New Ways of Analyzing Variation* 51, NYC, New York, October 13th – 15th
- 2014 **Orozco, Rafael; Méndez Vallejo, Catalina; & Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** The Verb as a Predictor of Variable Pronominal Use in Spanish, *New Ways of Analyzing Variation* 43, Chicago, Illinois, October 23rd – 26th
- Orozco, Rafael; Méndez Vallejo, Catalina; & **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** Los efectos condicionantes del verbo en el uso variable de los pronombres personales de sujeto, *The Association of Linguistics and Philology Latin America Conference*, Paraíba, João Pessoa, Brazil, July 14th – 19th
- Orozco, R., Méndez Vallejo, Catalina, & **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** Verb-related Constraints on Variable Pronominal Use: Do we have all the Answers?, *7th International Workshop on Spanish Sociolinguistics*, Madison, Wisconsin, April 3rd – 5th
- Orozco, Rafael; Méndez Vallejo, Catalina; & **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** The Effects of Verb Semantics on Pronominal Expression: A Preliminary Study, *XXIX Biennial Louisiana Conference on Hispanic Languages & Literatures*, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Feb 27th - March 1st
- Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** El uso variable de los pronombres sujetos en el castellano puertorriqueño hablado en Luisiana y Puerto Rico, *XXIX Biennial Louisiana Conference on Hispanic Languages & Literatures*, Baton Rouge, LA, Feb 27th – March 1st
- 2013 **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** Variable use of subject pronouns in the Spanish in Louisiana, *2nd Graduate Symposium Universidad de Puerto Rico*, Río Piedras, Puerto Rico, April
- Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M. & Linder, Cali.** Variable use of subject pronouns in Spanish, *Southeastern Conference on Linguistics LXXX*, Spartanburg, South Carolina, April 4th – 6th

Invited Talks

- 2024 **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** Salient Features, Strong Identities: Social Meaning and Stylistic Choices in Boston Spanish, *World Languages, Literatures & Cultures Department - Louisiana State University*, New Orleans, LA, Dec 3rd
- 2023 **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** Making a Splash: The Saliency of Liquid Variation among Boston Spanish speakers, *Linguistics Program - Northeastern University*, Boston, MA, March 23rd
- 2020 **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** Guest Lecture: English/Spanish Contrastive Phonology & Filled Pauses, *Intro to Sounds - Boston University*, Boston, MA, October 15th
- 2017 **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** Teaching Foreign Language in the 21st Century Classroom, *Louisiana Education Technology Consortium*, Baton Rouge, LA, March

Refereed Posters

- 2023 **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** ¿Va primero el verbo OR El sujeto va primero?: Subject-Verb order in Latin American Spanish, *LSA 2023*, Denver, CO, January 5th– 8th
- 2021 **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** Filled pauses as a site of language contact among Spanish-speaking Bostonians, *LSA 2021*, Virtual, January 9th

Campus/Departmental Talks

- 2023 **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** Making a Splash: The Saliency of Liquid Variation among Boston Spanish speakers, *Graduate Research Forum - Boston University*, Boston, MA, March 20th
- 2020 **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** Filled pauses as a site of language contact among Spanish-speaking Bostonians, *Graduate Research Forum - Boston University*, Virtual, December 2nd
- 2013 **Vidal-Covas, Lee-Ann M.** El uso variable de los pronombres sujetos en el castellano puertorriqueño hablado en Luisiana y Puerto Rico, *LSU Spanish Roundtable*, Baton Rouge, LA, October

Grants and Fellowships

Extramural

- October 2024 **Student Registration Award**, *IDEOLING Organizing Committee*, Fundació Universitat Empresa de les Illes Balears, EUR 100
- 2021 **LSA Registration Award**, Committee on Ethnic Diversity in Linguistics (CEDL), Linguistic Society of America (LSA2021)
- 2013 **Graduate Presentation Award**, *2nd Graduate Symposium*, Universidad de Puerto Rico - Río Piedras, April, USD 200

Intramural

- October 2024 **Travel Grant**, *Boston University Graduate Student Organization (GSO)*, USD 700
- January 2024 **Travel Grant**, *Boston University Linguistics Department*, USD 796
- Fall – Spring 2023 – 2024 **Graduate Student Fellowship**, *Boston University GRS & Office of the Provost*
tuition + stipend
- October 2023 **Travel Grant**, *Boston University Linguistics Department*, USD 817
- January 2023 **Travel Grant**, *Boston University Linguistics Department*, USD 910
- Spring 2019, 2022 – 2023 **Graduate Student Fellowship**, *Boston University Linguistics Department*
tuition + stipend
- Sum – Fall 2019, Sum 2020 – Fall 2021 **Research Fellowship**, *Boston University Linguistics Department*
tuition + stipend
- Fall 2018, Spring 2020 **Teaching Fellowship**, *Boston University Linguistics Department*
tuition + stipend
- Spring 2021 **Graduate Research Grant**, *Boston University Linguistics Department*, USD 1,000
- 2016 – 2017 **21st Century Classroom Implementation Grant**, *Saint Joseph's Academy*, USD 10,000
- Spring 2012 – Fall 2013 **Teaching Assistanship**, *Louisiana State University*, Foreign Languages and Literatures Department
tuition + stipend
- April 2013 **Travel Grant** (To deliver paper at SECOL LXXX, Spartanburg, SC), *Louisiana State University*
- April 2013 **Travel Grant** (To deliver paper at 2nd Graduate Symposium UPRRP, Río Piedras, PR), *Louisiana State University*

Research Experience

Graduate Student Researcher

- 2021 – **Dissertation**
Covariation & Salience in Linguistic Contact: A Sociophonetic Study of Liquid Variation in Spanish in Boston
Committee: Daniel G. Erker (Chair), Neil J. Myler & Kate Lynn Lindsey
- 2020 – 2021 **2nd Ph.D. Qualifying Paper**
Subject-Verb Order in Latin American Spanish
Committee: Neil Myler (1st Reader), Danny Erker, & Paul Hagstrom
- 2019 – 2020 **1st Ph.D. Qualifying Paper**
Filled Pauses as a site of dialectal and language contact among Spanish-speaking Bostonians
Committee: Danny Erker (1st Reader), Neil Myler, & Jon Barnes
- 2011 – 2013 **M.A. Thesis**
El uso variable de los pronombres sujetos en el castellano puertorriqueño hablado en Luisiana y Puerto Rico
Committee: Rafael Orozco (Chair), Jeremy King, & Andrea Morris

Research Assistanships

- 2018 – **Sociolinguistics Lab**, *Spanish in Boston Project*
Directed by Dr. Daniel Erker
- 2020 – 2021 **Structures of Under-researched Languages Lab**, *The Mirror Principle Violations Project*
Directed by Dr. Neil Myler

Linguistic Fieldwork

2012 – 2013 **Puerto Rican Spanish**, in Puerto Rico (DEC – JAN)
in Louisiana

Teaching Experience

Boston University

Fall 2021 **Language and Music**, CAS LX 120
Grader for Dr. Daniel Erker

Fall 2018 & Spring 2020 **Say what? Accents, Dialects, and Society**, CAS LX 110
Teaching Fellow for Dr. Neil Myler

Academy of the Sacred Heart

2017 – 2018 **Intro Spanish**, Span I, 8th grade
Basic Technology, 5th grade

Saint Joseph's Academy

2014 – 2017 **Intro Spanish**, Span I, 9th grade
Intermediate Spanish, Span II, 10th grade

Sum 2016, 2017 **Computer & Software Orientation Course**, 8th grade

Louisiana State University

2013 **Elementary Spanish**, Span 1101
Instructor of Record - Summer & Fall

2012 – 2013 **Elementary Spanish**, Span 1102
Instructor of Record - Spring to Spring (4 semesters)

Service

To the Department

2021 – 2022 **Graduate Student Organizer**, Linguistics Department Colloquium Series, Boston University
Summer 2019 **Lab Manager**, Sociolinguistics Lab (Spanish in Boston Project), Boston University

To the Discipline: Committee

2020 **Co-Organizer**, 45th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development
Sponsorship Chair, 45th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development
2019 **Volunteer Chair**, 44th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development

To the Discipline: Other Work

2021 **Panelist**, Virtual Open House for MA/PhD Linguistics Programs, Boston University, December 13th
Volunteer, 95th Annual Meeting Linguistic Society of America (LSA2021), Boston University, January
2020 **Panelist**, Panel on PhD Applications, Boston University, November 4th
Fall 2018 **Volunteer**, 43rd Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston University
February 2014 **Volunteer**, XXIX Biennial Louisiana Conference on Hispanic Languages & Literatures, LSU
April 2013 **Volunteer**, LXXX SouthEastern Conference on Linguistics (SECOL), Spartanburg, SC
February 2012 **Volunteer**, XXVIII Biennial Louisiana Conference on Hispanic Languages & Literatures, LSU

Other Service

2014 – 2017 **Co-Organizer**, Louisiana Association of High School Spanish Clubs' Annual Conference

Languages

Native English, Spanish
Elementary Brazilian Portuguese
Fieldwork Indonesian, West Greenlandic, Wichita, Yagua, Zulu

Technology

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