FAE HICKS

Curriculum Vitae

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EDUCATION

Linguistics PhD, University of Edinburgh 2023 - Spring 2027
Thesis title: *How (not) to cause change: syntax, phonology, et cetera*
Supervisors: Prof. Patrick Honeybone and Prof. Rob Truswell

Linguistics MRes 2022 – 2023
Thesis title: *A Parametric Study of Classical and Late Latin*
Supervisor: Prof. Giuseppe Longobordi

Linguistics BA(Hons) 2019 - 2022
1st Class

LINGUISTICS RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Visiting Doctoral Researcher, Concordia University 2025
Visiting researcher working with Prof. Charles Reiss at Concordia University's Centre for Cognitive Science and Linguistics. Developing a model of syllable structure within the framework of Logical Phonology and using the framework to analyse the Scottish Vowel Length Rule.

Research Assistant, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia 2024 - 2025
Working on the ERC project PARTHICO "Parameter theory on historical corpora: Measuring the power of parameter setting theory on historical corpora". Conducting a large-scale corpus analysis of Latin nominal syntax, focusing on the development of the DP between Old and Late Latin.

OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Analyst, Scottish Graduate School for Arts & Humanities 2025
Quantitative and qualitative data analysis of current trends in interdisciplinary research at Scottish higher education institutions developing strategies to maximise the impact of the training offer. Designing a doctoral training programme that prioritises active cross-disciplinary engagement and facilitates innovative thinking.

Research Consultant, Make_Sense 2020
Working within a team consulting with schools to develop educational strategy to aid the transition to online learning models during the Covid-19 pandemic.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Guest Lecturer, Concordia University 2026

- Introduction to Phonology

Guest Lecturer, University of Edinburgh 2025 -
Producing and delivering lecture material highlighting innovative research as part a comprehensive curriculum for 3rd and 4th year bachelors' students and masters' students.

- Historical Phonology (Hons/MSc) (2025-26)
- Historical Linguistics (Hons/MSc) (2024-25)

Tutor, University of Edinburgh 2023 -

Leading small group classes, teaching to a range of abilities. Marking essays and problem sets.

- Linguistics and English Language 1A (2025-26)
- Linguistics and English Language 1B (2023-24)
- Linguistic Theory and the Structure of English (2023-24; 2024-25; 2025-26)
- English in Time and Space (2024-25; 2025-26)

Individual instruction

- PPLS Skills Centre: one-to-one academic writing support (2024-25; 2025-26)

Peer Assisted Learning Tutor, University of York 2020 - 2021

- Introduction to Syntax

PUBLICATIONS

Hicks, F. All data is bad data. *The Naxos Papers, Volume II* In press

Hicks, F. Is phonetic erosion a phonological process? Under review

Crisma, P., Sanfelici, E., Guardiano, C., Silvestri, G., **Hicks, F.**, Bertollo, S.
The noun on the move: rethinking N-raising from Latin to Modern Italian. *Proceedings of Diachronic Generative Syntax 26.* Under review

Hicks, F. & Guardiano, C. Parameter systems and diachronic change in nominal structures: the case of Latin. In prep

INVITED TALKS

Hicks, F. What historical patterns can(not) tell us about cognitive biases in grammar acquisition. *Concordia University, Centre for Cognitive Science and Linguistics.* Montreal 29th January. 2026

Hicks, F. Exploring the utility of algebraic lattices in modelling syllable structure. *Workshop on Logical Phonology*, City University of New York. 23rd January. 2026

Hicks, F. What is language change? And do historical linguists study it? *Concordia University, Department of Classics, Modern Languages, and Linguistics.* Montreal 15th May. 2025

Hicks, F. Is 'erosion' causal? A case study in Romance determiners. *York University, Department of Languages, Literature, and Linguistics.*, Toronto 1st May. 2025

CONFERENCE PAPERS

Guardiano, C., Crisma, P., **& Hicks, F.** Linearization and the diachrony of Latin noun phrases. *Diachronic Generative Syntax 27.* Padova. 16th – 19th June. Poster presentation. 2026

Hicks, F. Phonologising 'phonetic erosion': the daughters of Latin ILLE. *The Old World Conference in Phonology.* Cambridge. 14th – 16th January. Poster presentation. 2026

Hicks, F. The fates of Latin ILLE: a tale of phonology and syntax. *The Edinburgh Symposium in Historical Phonology.* 1st – 2nd December. Poster presentation. 2025

Hardie-Lawrence, N. and **Hicks, F.** It's *not* historical: A Logical Phonological analysis of the Scottish Vowel Length Rule. *The Edinburgh Symposium in Historical Phonology.* 1st – 2nd December. Poster presentation. 2025

Hicks, F. and Honeybone, P. The myth of phonetic erosion: grammaticalisation, causality, phonology and syntax. *International Conference of Historical Linguistics.* Santiago de Chile, 18th - 22nd August. 2025

Bertollo, S. Crisma, P., Guardiano, C., **Hicks, F.**, Madaro, R., Sanfelici, E., Silvestri, G. The noun on the move: Rethinking N-raising from Latin to Modern Italian. *Diachronic Generative Syntax 26.* Oxford, 23rd – 26th June. Poster presentation. 2025

Hicks, F. Is PHONETIC EROSION a phonological concept? *Linguistics and English Language Postgraduate Conference.* Edinburgh, 4th– 6th June. 2025

Hicks, F. Is PHONETIC EROSION a phonological concept? Manchester Phonology Meeting. Manchester, 29th – 31st May. Poster presentation. 2025

Hicks, F.PHONETIC EROSION: metalanguage and causality. *North American Phonology Conference.* Montreal, 9th – 10th May. 2025

Hicks, F.. All data is bad data: the role of historical data in Syntax and Phonology. *Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Society of Great Britain.* Newcastle, 28th -30th August. 2024

Hicks, F. All data is bad data: modelling grammar from learner to linguist. 79th Language Lunch, Edinburgh, 4th April. Poster presentation. 2024

Hicks, F. Using the Parametric Comparison Method: a case study in Latin. *Lancaster Linguistics and English Language Postgraduate Conference.* 30th June. 2023

Hicks, F. An examination of third person singular pronoun usage in written English by native Cantonese speakers. *International Conference of Undergraduate Research*, 28th – 29th September. 2021

OTHER TALKS

Hicks, F. Addressing the problem of referring to absence in open syllables. *Phonetics/Phonology Workshop*, University of Edinburgh, 6th February. 2026

Hicks, F. Syntactic inertia and its issues: a case study in grammaticalisation. *Meaning and Grammar Research Group*, University of Edinburgh, 11th November. 2025

Hicks, F. Exploring the notion of 'historical process' within the generative framework. *Eastern Generative Grammar Open Podium*, University of Zagreb, 6th August. 2025

Hicks, F. Is PHONETIC EROSION a phonological concept: an exploration of the nature of phonological processes and causality of change. *Phonetics/Phonology Workshop*, University of Edinburgh, 4th April. 2025

Hicks, F. Grammaticalisation, reduction, and erosion: a case study in causality. *Angus McIntosh Centre Catchup Session*, University of Edinburgh, 5th March. 2025

Hicks, F. All data is bad data: the role of historical data in syntax and phonology. *Naxos Summer School on Diachronic Linguistics*, Naxos, 25th - 31st July. 2024

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Cofounder and Chair of Edinburgh Theoretical Historical Linguistics 2024 -

- **2026 Summer School:** Designed a summer school programme incorporating formal theory and diachrony. Recruited and coordinated teachers. Managed budgets

- **2025 Seminar:** Orchestrated workshop addressing work at the intersection between subfields within Linguistics. Promoting interdisciplinary research and encouraging continued learning in new domains.

Secretary, LAGB Postgraduate Student Committee 2025 - 2026
Ensuring equal access to training and development opportunities in Linguistics for postgraduate students across the UK. Running an open-access workshop series on 'Applying to PhDs in Linguistics' demystifying the hidden curriculum.

Assistant Editor, York Papers in Linguistics 2022 - 2023

Reviewing

- Edinburgh Symposium of Historical Phonology 2025 -
- Journal of the Undergraduate Linguistics Association of Britain 2025 -
- University of Edinburgh Linguistics Postgraduate Conference 2023 - 2025

Talk Series Organisation

- Phonetics and Phonology Workshop University of Edinburgh 2025 -
- Linguistics Circle University of Edinburgh 2024 - 2025

Conference Organisation

- Organising Committee, 4th Angus McIntosh Symposium 2024
- Organising Committee, Edinburgh Symposium of Historical Phonology 2023 -
- Chair, University of Edinburgh Linguistics Postgraduate Conference 2023 - 2025

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Funding for The Edinburgh Theoretical Historical Linguistics Summer School, 2026 ≈£7400

- Van Riemsdijk Foundation Summer School Grant, ≈£6500 (€7500)
- The Philogical Society Event Grant, £360
- Angus McIntosh Centre Event Grant, £250
- Linguistics Association of Great Britain Postgraduate Student Committee Grant, £300

Funding to support Edinburgh Symposium in Historical Phonology, 2025 £700

- The Philological Society Event Grant, £700

Philosophy, Psychology, and Language Sciences Research Support Grant, 2025 £1450
Funding to support attendance research visit to Concordia University and attendance at the Eastern Generative Grammar summer school.

Associate Fellowship of AdvanceHE, 2025
Awarded for commitment to professional standards and effective teaching practise in higher education.

Philological Society Travel Bursary, 2025 £1000
Funds to support attendance at International Conference of Historical Linguistics.

Travel bursary, Conference of Diachronic Generative Syntax, 2025 £50

Funding for the Edinburgh Theoretical Historical Linguistics Seminar, 2025 £2500

- Angus McIntosh Centre Conference Grant, £400
- Philosophy, Psychology, and Language Sciences Training and Development Fund Grant, £1150
- The Philological Society Event Grant, £725
- Linguistics Association of Great Britain Postgraduate Student Committee Grant, £225

Philosophy, Psychology, and Language Sciences Research Support Grant, 2024 £1100
Funding to support attendance at Naxos Summer School in Diachronic Linguistics and Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Association of Great Britain.

Chartered Management Institute Diploma in Leadership and Management, level 5, 2021
Awarded for excellence in leadership and management of large projects in a professional environment

York Futures Grant, 2021 £1000
Grant to support study of Classical Greek.

Laidlaw Scholarship, 2020 £10,000
Research and leadership scholarship funding two summer research projects on prestige effects in semantic variability and on the use of gender pronouns Cantonese native second language learners of English. Global Scholarship awarded to only 25 students at each member university.

SKILLS

Data Analysis	In R and MS Excel
Software	R, LaTeX
Ancient Languages	Latin (advanced), Old English (intermediate), Classical Greek (basic),
Modern Language	German (CEFR A2), French (CEFR A1)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

AdvanceHE	2025 -
Linguistics Association of Great Britian	2024 -
The Philological Society	2024 -
The Chartered Management Institute	2021 -

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Theoretical Historical Linguistics, Syntax, Phonology, Syntax-Phonology interface, Philosophy of Science, cognition, emergence and complex systems