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# Mary Elizabeth Kohn

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## EDUCATION

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*The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*

**PhD in Linguistics** **2012**

In Progress

*North Carolina State University*

**M.A. in English** **2008**

Thesis: "Latino English in North Carolina: A Comparison of Emerging Communities"

*Appalachian State University*

**B.A., Honors, Summa cum Laude in English and Spanish** **2002**

Areas of Concentration: Literary Criticism

Honors Thesis: "Mapping the Invisible: the Political Use of Postmodernism in Jeanette Winterson's Art and Lies"

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## PUBLICATIONS

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- 2012** Dodsworth, Robin and Mary Kohn. Urban rejection of the vernacular: The SVS undone. *Language Variation and Change* (submitted)
- 2012** Dodsworth, Robin and Mary Kohn. Dialect Contact in a Southern U.S. City: Testing Trudgill's Model. M. Putz, Monika Reif, and J. Robinson (eds.) *Cognitive Sociolinguistics*. Frankfurt: Peter Lang. (forthcoming)
- 2012** Wolfram, Walt and Mary Kohn. Regionality in the Development of African American Language. In Sonja Lanehart, Lisa Green, and Jennifer Bloomquist (eds.) *The Oxford Handbook of African American Language (OHAAL)* Oxford: Oxford University Press. (forthcoming)
- 2012** Kohn, Mary and Charles Farrington. Speaker normalization: Evidence from longitudinal child data. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America* (forthcoming)
- 2012** Wolfram, Walt, Janneke Van Hofwegen, Jennifer Renn, and Mary Kohn. The Progression of African American English in Childhood and Adolescence: A Longitudinal Study. *Language*. (submitted)
- 2012** Wolfram, Walt, Janneke Van Hofwegen, Jennifer Renn, and Mary Kohn. Trajectories of Development in African American English: The First 17 Years. In Sonja L. Lanehart (ed.), *Proceedings of the Conference on African American Language in Popular Culture: Intersections among Language, Education, Music, Media, and Sports*. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Proceedings Project. (forthcoming)
- 2011** Wolfram, Walt, Mary Kohn, and Erin Price-Callahan. Southern-bred Hispanic English: An Emerging Socioethnic Variety. In Jim Michnowicz and Robin Dodsworth (eds.) *Selected Proceedings of the 5th Workshop on Spanish Sociolinguistics*, 1-13. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Proceedings Project.
- 2009** Kohn, Mary and Hannah Franz. Localized Patterns for Global Variants: The Case of Quotative Systems of African American and Latino Speakers. *American Speech*, 84 (3):
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- 259-297.
- 2008** Bolonyai, Agnes and Mary Kohn. 'Oh my gosh!': Evaluation and Voicing in Narratives from a Cross-Linguistic Perspective. In Harvey Chan, Enkeleida Kapia, and Heather Jacob (eds.) *A Supplement to the Proceedings from BUCLD 32: Boston University of Language Development*. Boston, MA.
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GUEST LECTURES

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- 2011** Kohn, Mary. Latino English in North Carolina: Dialect emergence in diverse communities. Eng 584/498: *Studies in Linguistics/Ethnolinguistics*. Instr: Walt Wolfram. English Department, North Carolina State University: Raleigh, NC. March.
- 2010** Kohn, Mary. African American English Phonology. LING 310: *Formal Perspectives on African American English*. Instr: J. Michael Terry. Linguistics Department, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, April.
- 2008** Kohn, Mary. Latino English and the quotative system: How Latino kids in North Carolina talk about what other kids talk about. Eng 324: *Modern English*. Instr: Robin Dodsworth. English Department, North Carolina State University: Raleigh, NC, February.
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CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- 2012** Kohn, Mary. Child English bare verbs: One surface form, two sources. Poster presented at LSA 86: *Linguistic Society of America 2012 Annual Meeting*. Portland, January.
- 2012** Kohn, Mary, and Charlie Farrington. A longitudinal analysis of African American Vernacular English Vowels. Paper presented at LSA 86: *Linguistic Society of America 2012 Annual Meeting*. Portland, January.
- 2011** Kohn, Mary, and Charlie Farrington. The Socio-Regional Distribution of African American Vowel Systems in Piedmont North Carolina. Paper presented at NWAV 40: *New Ways of Analyzing Language Variation*. Washington, D.C., November.
- 2010** Kohn, Mary, Charlie Farrington, and David Ethier. The more things change, the more (some) things stay the same: A longitudinal analysis of the vowel spaces in childhood and adolescent African American English. Paper presented at NWAV 39: *New Ways of Analyzing Language Variation*. San Antonio, November.
- 2010** Kohn, Mary, Charlie Farrington, and David Ethier. Shift in the development of AAE: A longitudinal study. Paper presented at SECOL 77: *Southeastern Conference on Linguistics*. Oxford, MS, April.
- 2009** Dodsworth, Robin and Mary Kohn. Urban and rural African American English vowels in North Carolina: A supra-regional shift and regional accommodation. Paper presented at NWAV 38: *New Ways of Analyzing Language Variation*. Ottawa, October.
- 2009** Kohn, Mary and Melissa Farr. Getting rhythm: A methodological comparison of quantitative speech rhythm analyses. Paper presented at SECOL 76: *Southeastern Conference on Linguistics*. New Orleans, April 9.
- 2009** Kohn, Mary and Janneke Van Hofwegen. The diversity and stability of vocalic variation among bidialectal and bilingual children. Paper presented at ADS: *American Dialect Society*. San Francisco, January.
- 2008** Dodsworth, Robin and Mary Kohn. An exploratory study of front vowels in Raleigh, NC. Paper presented at NWAV 37: *New Ways of Analyzing Language Variation*. Houston, November.
- 2008** Kohn, Mary and Hannah Askin. I be like, 'He talked about what he talked about': Latino and African American English quotative system. Paper presented at SECOL 75: *South*
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*Eastern Conference on Linguistics*. Knoxville, April.

- 2008** Wolfram, Walt, Mary Kohn, and Erin Callahan. Southern-bred ESL: Hispanic English in the Mid-Atlantic South. Plenary presented at TALGS '08: TESOL/*Applied Linguistics Graduate Students Conference*. Greenville, NC, February.
- 2007** Kohn, Mary. Systems theory and the description of emerging patterns of language variation. Paper presented at NWAV 36: *New Ways of Analyzing Language Variation*. Philadelphia, October.
- 2007** Cullinan, Danica and Mary Kohn. Negotiation of Hispanic identity in Hickory, NC. Paper presented at SECOL 74: *South Eastern Conference on Linguistics*. Natchitoches, LA, April.
- 2007** Callahan, Erin, Danica Cullinan, and Mary Kohn. New ethnic varieties of English: Hispanic English in North Carolina. Paper presented at TALGS '07: TESOL/*Applied Linguistics Graduate Students Conference*, Greenville, NC, February.

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#### GRANTS AND AWARDS

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- American Dialect Society Presidential Award **2012**
- Future Faculty Fellowship Program: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill **2010**  
**1999-2002**
- Chancellor's Scholarship: Appalachian State University
- Outstanding Watauga College Student: Award for Academic Performance **2001**  
in Watauga College: Appalachian State University
- Jeni Gray Memorial English Scholarship for Academic Achievement, **2001**  
Dedication, Community Contributions, and Character: Appalachian State University

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#### RESEARCH, FIELDWORK, AND RELATED EXPERIENCE

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**2009-Present**

*North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC*

**Research Assistant:** Performed interviews, coordinated the extraction of vocalic data, trained students on vowel extraction, wrote PERL and PRAAT scripts for managing data, performed statistical analysis, and presented results for *The Frank Porter Graham Project*, a project headed by Dr. Walt Wolfram.

**2008-Present**

*North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC*

**Research Assistant:** Performed interviews, acoustically analyzed vocalic data, trained fieldworkers, wrote PERL and PRAAT scripts for managing data, and assisted in presenting results for *Language Variation in Raleigh*, a project headed by Dr. Robin Dodsworth.

**Spring 2009**

*North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC*

**Research Assistant:** Performed fieldwork and data analysis in Spanish and English, collected a combination of forty interviews and testing batteries, and assisted with archiving.

**2007**

*North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC*

**Video Co-Editor:** Designed, filmed, and edited an informational DVD using Final Cut Pro software on behalf of the LTN Teacher Education Program of the NC State Department of English.

**2006-2008**

*North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC*

**Lab Assistant:** Packaged, shipped and tracked video orders and sales for the North Carolina Life and Language Project. Also maintained lab equipment, digitized recordings and assisted in archiving.

2004-2006

*Families Together, Asheville, NC*

**Child Mental Health Case Manager:** Established Title IX compliance by offering mental health case management and in-home services for Spanish-speaking families, as well as recruiting bilingual staff and identifying Spanish-language resources in the community. Also provided in-home support, service coordination, family systems intervention, behavior modification, assessment, and twenty-four hour on-call crisis intervention services to clients. Received one promotion during tenure.

*Hickory Public Schools*

2003-2004

**ESL Educational Interpreter:** Assessed English Proficiency, interpreted for psychological and other evaluations, enrolled all multilingual students, coordinated and interpreted for parent-teacher conferences, provided community outreach, made home visits and linked ESL students to appropriate services.

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#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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**University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

*Teaching Assistantship:* Linguistics 415: Language and Ethnicity  
Proposed and designed course, curriculum, syllabi, and class activities.  
Administered all grades.

Spring 2012

**University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

*Teaching Assistantship:* Linguistics 101

Independently developed syllabi and class activities, and administered all grades.

2009 - Present

**North Carolina State University**

*Tutor:* English, Spanish, Social Sciences

Tutored student athletes in a variety of subjects individually and in groups.

2011 - Present

**Hickory Public Schools: Hickory, NC**

*Teacher:* Honors Spanish IV, Spanish III, Spanish I

Developed syllabi and class activities, and administered all grades.

2004

**Appalachian State University: Boone, NC**

*Tutor:* English, Spanish

Met individually with students, designed activities for students, and served a variety of needs and levels.

2002

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#### LANGUAGES

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**Native English Speaker, Strong Spanish Proficiency, teaching knowledge of Old English**

Spanish skills developed through one semester of full immersion at La Universidad Nacional in Heredia, Costa Rica. Expanded skills through four years of work experience with Spanish speaking populations as well as conducting Spanish/English sociolinguistic interviews in fieldwork.

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#### PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES AND STATISTICAL SOFTWARE

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**Trained in PERL, SAS, and PRAAT. Currently learning R.**

Provides consultation services creating scripts to assist linguists in sorting, file munging, and analyzing data.

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#### VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

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- UNC, Chapel Hill Linguistics: Armchair Linguistics coordinator
- UNC, Chapel Hill Linguistics: Vice President of Graduate Linguistics Association
- Translator for North Carolina Prisoner Legal Services

2010-2012

2009

2009

- Member of Appalachian State University Women's Center

**1999-2001**

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**MEMBERSHIPS**

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- Member of the Linguistic Society of America
  - Member of the South Eastern Conference of Linguistics
  - Member of the North Carolina Language and Life Project
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**INTERESTS**

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- Language variation and change
  - Acoustic analysis
  - Language contact
  - Cultural geography and social cognition
  - Language attitudes
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