

email: erlindemeertens@protonmail.com

Current position

since 4/2025 Postdoc Linguistics, Meertens Institute / KNAW-HUC / NL-Lab
Cow language project: <https://nl-lab.net/projecten/koe-taal/>

Education

2016-2021 PhD in Linguistics, Universität Konstanz
Dissertation: Alternative Questions – from Surface to Meaning
Committee: Maribel Romero, María Biezma, Matthijs Westera

2014-2016 Master of Arts Linguistics, Universiteit Utrecht

2012-2014 Bachelor of Arts Linguistics, Universiteit Utrecht

Areas of Expertise

Semantics/pragmatics: questions, imperatives, discourse, alternatives, focus

Non-human animal interaction: non-human animal interaction, cows, multimodality, ethnographic fieldwork, non-human animal speech acts

Prosody-meaning interface: questions, exhaustivity

Crosslinguistic syntax/semantics: Q-particles, questions, bias

Publications

Journal Papers

Beltrama, A., Meertens, E., & Romero, M. (2020). Alternative Questions: Distinguishing between Negated and Complementary Disjuncts. *Semantics and Pragmatics*, 13, 5. DOI: 10.3765/sp.13.5.

Peer-reviewed Proceeding Papers

Romero, M., & Meertens, E. (2022). Q-particles and islands in Sinhala wh-and polar questions. *Acta Linguistica Academica*, 69(1), 104-127.

Meertens, E. & Jordanoska, I. (2021). The pragmatic effects of Macedonian li: an experimental study. *Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics* 13.

Meertens, E. (2020). How prosody disambiguates between Alternative and Polar Questions. In J. J. Schlöder, D. McHugh and F. Roelofsen, eds., *Proceedings of the 22nd Amsterdam Colloquium*, pages 299-308.

Meertens, E., Egger, S., & Romero, M. (2019). Multiple accent in alternative questions. In M.T. Espinal, E. Castroviejo, M. Leonetti, L. McNally and C. Real-Puigdollers, eds., *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung*, vol.2, pages 179-195.

Meertens, E. (2018). Prosody in disjunctive questions: Introducing class. University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics, 25(1), 21.

Beltrama, A., Meertens, E., & Romero, M. (2018a). Alternative questions between logic and discourse. An experimental study. In Proceedings of the 53rd Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS53).

Beltrama, A., Meertens, E., & Romero, M. (2018b). Decomposing cornering effects: An experimental study. In U. Sauerland and S. Solt, eds., Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 22, vol. 1, pages 175-190.

Presentations

Invited talks

Non-human animal speech acts: The case of dairy cows (July 2025). Leibniz Universität Hannover, Sommerkolloquium Germanistik.

Prosody and Alternative Questions (Autumn 2020). Universität Köln, Fachbereich Kolloquium Linguistik.

Plateau Rise in Disjunctive Questions (2018). Universiteit van Amsterdam (UvA), Institute of Logic, Language and Computation, Inquisitive Semantics Seminar.

Q-Particles in Alternative Questions (2018). Universität Wien, Fachbereich Linguistik, Semantik Kolloquium.

Unpublished conference talks

Focus marking strategies in polar questions in Macedonian (with Izabela Jordanoska) (2020). Workshop Focus alternatives: Theoretical and empirical perspectives. 27-28 February.

Crosslinguistic variation in a minor sentence type: Melioratives in Dutch and German (with Sven Lauer) (2018). Workshop on Non Canonical Imperatives, Humboldt Universität Berlin, 25-26. May.

The Interpretive Contribution of *li* in Macedonian (2018) (with Izabela Jordanoska). Balkan Languages and Dialects: Corpus-Based and Quantitative Studies. St. Petersburg. 18-20. October.

‘Enriching a grammatical database with intelligent links to linguistic resources’ with (Frank Landsbergen, Ton van der Wouden, Jorik van Engeland and Sylvia Wijsman)
Demo at CLARIN-conference, Wroclaw, Poland, 16 oktober 2015

Teaching Experience

2019 Semantics I (Co-instructing with Maribel Romero)
2018 Semantics I (Tutor)

Conference Organisation

2017 TripleA 5 (with Ryan Bochnak, Miriam Butt, and Mark Zymła)
2017 Meaning in non-canonical questions (with Maribel Romero, María Biezma, and Ramona Wallner)

Non-academic Working Experience

4/2024-3/2025 German teacher secondary education, John Dewey College, Den Haag

7/2023-10/2023 Project Manager: Research Data Infrastructures
Bavarian State Library, Munich

03/2022-06/2023 Data Linguist
StepStone, Munich

04/2021-12/2021 Software Developer
Accenture, Munich

Language Proficiencies

Dutch (native), English (fluent), German (fluent)

Technical Skills

Research: Python, R, Praat, LaTeX

Corporate: Python, Java, SQL, Git.