

Curriculum Vitae: Roland Pfau

1. Personal Data

Date of birth August 21st, 1966
Place of birth Wasserlos (Germany)
Work address Department of General Linguistics (ATW)
University of Amsterdam
Spuistraat 134
NL – 1012 VB Amsterdam
tel: 0031 – (0)20 – 525 3022
e-mail: r.pfau@uva.nl
Homepage: www.uva.nl/profiel/r.pfau
Private address Bestevaerstraat 31
NL – 1056 HG Amsterdam
tel: 0031 – (0)20 – 4200062

2. Education

May 1985 Abitur (German high school graduation)
at the Hanns-Seidel-Gymnasium, Hösbach
10/1988 – 2/1995 Studies of German philology, French philology, and psychology at
the Johann Wolfgang Goethe-University in Frankfurt/Main
February 1995 M.A. in German philology, French philology, and psychology
M.A. thesis: “Sprachstörungen im neuronalen Netz: Eine Unter-
suchung zur konnektionistischen Neuropsychologie” [Language
disorders in neural networks: An investigation of connectionist
neuropsychology]
December 2000 Completion of Ph.D. dissertation, University of Frankfurt/Main.
“Features and categories in language production”
July 2001 Defense of the thesis at University of Frankfurt/Main

3. Employment

4/1986 – 10/1988 Training as an industrial clerk at Gunold GmbH, Stockstadt/Main
9/1990 – 2/1995 Student assistant and tutor at the chair of Prof. Dr. Helen Leuninger,
Institute of German Language & Literature, Johann Wolfgang
Goethe-University, Frankfurt/Main

- 3/1993 – 4/2001** Part time job as secretary in the lawyer's and notary's office of Inge Hornischer in Frankfurt/Main
- 10/1995 – 10/2000** Teaching assistant at the chair of Prof. Dr. Helen Leuninger, Institute of German Language & Literature, Johann Wolfgang Goethe-University, Frankfurt/Main
- 05/2001 – 04/2003** Tenure track as assistant professor in sign language linguistics at the Department of General Linguistics at the University of Amsterdam (The Netherlands)
- since May 2003** Tenured position as assistant professor in sign language linguistics at the Department of General Linguistics at the University of Amsterdam (The Netherlands)
- 09/2011 – 01/2012** Fellow at the Lichtenberg-Kolleg, Georg-August-University, Göttingen (Germany)
- since 10/2014** Tenured position as associate professor in sign language linguistics at the Department of General Linguistics at the University of Amsterdam (The Netherlands)

4. Teaching & Ph.D. supervision

4.1. Teaching at the Institute of German Language & Literature, Johann Wolfgang Goethe-University, Frankfurt/Main (in German)

Modular and interactive models of language production [summer 1995]
Morphology and language processing [summer 1996]
Introduction to morphosyntax: Incorporation and agreement [winter 1996/97]
Sign language morphology [summer 1997]
Connectionism [winter 1997/98]
Introduction to linguistics I+II [winter 1997/98 & summer 1998]
Harmony [summer 1998]
Wh-movement in spoken and signed languages [summer 1999]
Optimality Theory [winter 1999/2000]

4.2. Teaching at Department of General Linguistics, University of Amsterdam

Courses taught in the past (in Dutch)

Deaf Culture I + II
Sign Language Phonology
Sign Language Morphology
Academic Skills
Socio- and Psycholinguistic Aspects of Sign Languages
Topics in Sign Linguistics I+II (MA – in English)

Courses presently taught

BA: Introduction to Sign Language Linguistics (6 EC)
Sign Language Phonology & Morphology (6 EC)
Lexicon & Syntax of Sign Languages (6 EC)
MA: Sign Linguistics 1 (6 EC)
Sign Linguistics 2 (6 EC)
MA Term Paper (6 EC)
R-MA: Tutorials

4.3. Other teaching

June 2002, LOT Summer School, Nijmegen

One-week course “Cross-linguistic perspectives on sign language structure”
[with Wendy Sandler, Els van der Kooij, Irit Meir, and Aslı Özyürek]

January 2004, LOT Winter School, Amsterdam

One-week course “Generative approaches to sign language structure”

October 2006, Barcelona

One-week PhD course “The structure of natural sign languages”

March 2008, University College London

Class on “Sign language syntax: wh-questions and negation” within the UCL seminar
“Linguistics of sign languages”

May 2009, University of the Basque Country, Vitoria

One-week PhD course “Sign languages of the world: emergence – structure – use”

January 2011, LOT Winter School, Amsterdam

One-week course “Sign languages of the world: emergence – structure – use”

July 2011, African Linguistics School, Porto Novo (Benin)

Two-week course “Introduction to sign language linguistics”

May 2012, Erasmus exchange (EU Lifelong Learning Programme),

Boğaziçi University, Istanbul (Turkey), 15-18 May 2012

Teaching (“Negation in sign languages”), lecture, and meetings with students

May 2015, COST SignGram Summer School, Barcelona

Three-day course “The morphology and syntax of sign language negation”

May 2015, UNESP – Araraquara (Brazil)

One-week course “Sign language: structure – variation – evolution”

September 2015, Summer school on negation, University of Göttingen (Germany)

One-week course “Structural and typological aspects of sign language negation”

September 2016, European Summer School on Linguistic Typology (TypoLing 2016),
Porquerolles (France)

One-week course “Visible variation: sign languages in typological perspective”

January 2018, LOT Winter School, Amsterdam

One-week course “Visible variation: sign languages in typological perspective”

April 2018, Higher School of Economics, Moscow

3-day course “Typological and formal approaches to sign languages: Negation and the grammar of space”

May 2019, ABRALIN Institute, Universidade Federal de Alagoas, Maceió (Brazil)
3-day course “Sign language typology: patterns and variation”

4.4. PhD students

PhD supervision (promotor/co-promotor)

- BOERS-VISKER, EVELINE. 2020. *Learning to use space: a study into the SL2 acquisition process of adult learners of Sign Language of the Netherlands*. University of Amsterdam & Hogeschool Utrecht.
- BOVEN, CINDY VAN. Started 09/2019. *Morphological reduplication in Sign Language of the Netherlands: A typological and theoretical perspective*. University of Amsterdam.
- BRUNELLI, MICHELE. 2011. *Antisymmetry and sign language – A comparison between NGT and LIS*. University of Venice & University of Amsterdam.
- COSTELLO, BRENDAN. 2015. *Language and modality: Effects of the use of space in the agreement system of Lengua de Signos Española (Spanish Sign Language)*. University of Amsterdam & University of Vitoria (Spain).
- HENDRIKS, BERNADET. 2008. *Jordanian Sign Language: Aspects of grammar from a cross-linguistic perspective*. University of Amsterdam.
- KHRISTOFOROVA, JENIA. Started 09/2020. *The emergence of complex syntactic structures in Russian Sign Language and Sign Language of the Netherlands*. University of Amsterdam.
- KIMMELMAN, VADIM. 2014. *Information structure in Russian Sign Language and Sign Language of the Netherlands*. University of Amsterdam.
- KLOMP, ULRIKA. 2021. *A descriptive grammar of Sign Language of the Netherlands*. University of Amsterdam.
- LINT, VANJA DE. Started 09/2015. *Argument structure in Sign Language of the Netherlands* (working title). University of Amsterdam.
- NYST, VICTORIA. 2007. *A descriptive grammar of Adamorobe Sign Language*. University of Amsterdam.
- OOMEN, MARLOES. 2020. *Iconicity as a mediator between verb semantics and morphosyntactic structure: A corpus-based study on verbs in German Sign Language*. University of Amsterdam.
- SCHUIT, JOKE. 2014. *Typological aspects of Inuit Sign Language (Canada)*. University of Amsterdam.

Committee member

- BANK, RICHARD. 2015. *The ubiquity of mouthings in NGT: A corpus study*. Radboud University Nijmegen.
- BARBERÀ, GEMMA. 2012. *The meaning of space in Catalan Sign Language (LSC) – Reference, specificity and structure in signed discourse*. Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona.
- BAUER, ANASTASIA. 2013. *The use of signing space in a shared sign language of Australia*. University of Cologne.

- BÖRSTELL, CALLE. 2017. *Object marking in the signed modality – Verbal and nominal strategies in Swedish Sign Language and in other sign languages*. University of Stockholm.
- CALDERONE, CHIARA. 2020. *Can you retrieve it? Pragmatic, morpho-syntactic and prosodic features in sentence topic types in Italian Sign Language (LIS)*. Ca' Foscari University of Venice.
- DYAKONOVA, MARINA. 2009. *A phase-based approach to Russian free word order*. University of Amsterdam.
- FORNASIERO, ELENA. 2020. *Description and analysis of evaluative constructions in Italian Sign Language (LIS)*. Ca' Foscari University of Venice.
- FORTGENS, CONNIE. 2003. *Taalkeuze van dove kinderen*. University of Amsterdam.
- GIEZEN, MARCEL. 2011. *Speech and sign perception in deaf children with Cochlear Implants*. University of Amsterdam.
- GIJN, INGEBORG VAN. 2004. *The quest for syntactic dependency. Sentential complementation in Sign Language of the Netherlands*. University of Amsterdam.
- HE, JIA. 2020. *Classifier realization in Hong Kong Sign Language, Beijing Sign Language and Tianjin Sign Language*. Chinese University of Hong Kong.
- KOOIJ, ELS VAN DER. 2002. *Phonological categories in Sign Language of the Netherlands. The role of phonetic implementation and iconicity*. University of Leiden.
- MANTOVAN, LARA. 2015. *Nominal modification in Italian Sign Language (LIS)*. Università Ca'Foscari, Venice.
- PALFREYMAN, NICHOLAS. 2014. *Sign language varieties in Indonesia: a linguistic and sociolinguistic investigation*. University of Central Lancashire.
- PAVLIČ, MATIČ. 2016. *The word order parameter in Slovenian Sign Language: Transitive, ditransitive, classifier, and locative constructions*. Università Ca'Foscari, Venice.
- PENDZICH, NINA-KRISTIN. 2017. *Lexical nonmanuals in German Sign Language (DGS): An empirical and theoretical investigation*. Georg-August-Universität Göttingen.
- PERNISS, PAMELA. 2007. *Space and iconicity in German Sign Language (DGS)*. Radboud University Nijmegen.
- PUCCINI, DANIEL. 2012. *The use of deictic versus representational gestures in infancy*. Radboud University Nijmegen.
- RIJN, MARLOU VAN. 2017. *The expression of modifiers and arguments in the noun phrase and beyond – A typological study*. University of Amsterdam.
- SINHA, SAMAR. 2009. *A grammar of Indian Sign Language*. Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.
- SMEIJERS, ANIKA. 2019. *Availability and accessibility of healthcare for deaf and hard of hearing patients*. University of Leiden.
- TANO, ANGOUA JEAN-JACQUES. 2016. *Etude d'une langue des signes émergente de Côte d'Ivoire: l'exemple de la Langue des Signes de Bouakako (LaSiBo)*. University of Leiden.
- VOS, CONNIE DE. 2012. *Sign-spatiality in Kata Kolok: How a village sign language of Bali inscribes its signing space*. Radboud University Nijmegen.

- WESTVEER, THOM. 2021. *Gender mismatches in partitive constructions in French and German: How society shapes language*. University of Amsterdam.
- ZORZI, GIORGIA. 2018. *Coordination and gapping in Catalan Sign Language (LSC)*. Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona.
- ZWETS, MARTINE. 2014. *Locating the difference: A comparison between Dutch pointing gestures and pointing signs in Sign Language of the Netherlands*. Radboud University Nijmegen.
- ZWITSERLOOD, INGE. 2003. *Classifying hand configurations in Nederlandse Gebarentaal*. University of Utrecht.

5. Further activities

5.1. Conference/workshop organization; projects

- 1990–1992** Member in the research project *Sprachverarbeitung in V/2-Sprachen* [Language processing in verb-second languages], funded by the German Science Foundation (DFG), which investigated the on-line processing of pronominal elements and empty categories in German.
- 1999** Co-organizer of an international sign language symposium at the University of Frankfurt/Main, June 11th – 13th, 1999, co-funded by the German Science Foundation (DFG).
- 2004** Organization (together with Pamela Perniss from the Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen) of a workshop “Sign languages: a cross-linguistic perspective” at the 26th Annual Meeting of the German Linguistic Society, Mainz, February 25th – 27th, 2004.
- 2004** Organization (together with Inge Zwitserlood (Viataal), Onno Crasborn (University of Nijmegen), and Josep Quer (University of Barcelona)) of a workshop “Modality effects on the theory of grammar: A cross-linguistic view from sign language of Europe”, Barcelona, November 15th – 17th, 2004; funded by the European Science Foundation (ESF), grant no. EW03-147 (SCH) (14,000 €).
- 2006** Organization (together with Umberto Ansaldo, Jan Don, and Kees Hengeveld, UvA) of a *Conference on Universality and Particularity in Parts-of-Speech Systems*, Amsterdam, June 8th – 10th, 2006.
- 2006–2008** Collaboration (as project partner for the German version) in the project *Taaltrouwers Abroad*, an educational multimedia project developed by *Studio Taalwetenschap* (Amsterdam) and funded by the EU (Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency); grant # 230404-CP-1-2006-1-NL-LINGUA-1. Project has been completed in September 2008.
- 2011–2016** Collaboration (as project partner and Member of the Committee for the Netherlands) in the COST Action *Unraveling the grammars of European sign languages: pathways to full citizenship of deaf signers and to the protection of their linguistic heritage* (Action IS1006), funded by the European Science Foundation (ca. 400,000 €). Action has been completed December 2015.

- 2015–2019** Research project “Argument structure in three sign languages: typological and theoretical aspects”, involving one PostDoc and two PhD students, funded by the Dutch Science Organization (NWO *Vrije Competitie*; PR-14-15; 720,000 €).
- 2016–2020** Project partner in European research project “Sign Hub: preserving, researching and fostering the linguistic, historical and cultural heritage of European Deaf signing communities with an integral resource”, involving one PhD student, funded by the European Commission in the context of Horizon 2020 – Reflective Society (grant agreement number 693349; 218,000 €).
- 2019–2023** Research project “Morphological reduplication in Sign Language of the Netherlands: a typological and theoretical perspective”, involving one PhD student, funded by the Dutch Science Organization (NWO *Promoveren in de Geesteswetenschappen*; PGW 19.003; 175,000 €).
- 2020–2024** Research project “The emergence of complex syntactic structures in Russian Sign Language and Sign Language of the Netherlands”, involving one PhD student, funded by the Dutch Science Organization (NWO *Promoveren in de Geesteswetenschappen*; PGW 20.008; 184,000 €).

5.2. Editorship

Editor of:

Sign Language & Linguistics (together with Pamela Perniss; since 2007)

Linguistics in Amsterdam (together with Silke Hamann, since 2011)

Editorial board member of the Mouton de Gruyter *Sign Language Typology (SLT)* series (since 2011)

5.3. Reviewing

Reviewing for journals

Applied Psycholinguistics (2013), *Cognitive Linguistics* (2018), *Corpus Linguistics and Linguistic Theory* (2020), *Educational and Child Psychology* (2007), *Journal of Comparative Germanic Linguistics* (2009), *Foundations of Language* (2010), *Frontiers in Psychology* (2014), *Gesture* (2013, 2016), *Glossa* (2016–2021), *Journal of Linguistics* (2011, 2016), *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research* (2012, 2013), *Laboratory Phonology* (2018), *Language* (2010, 2012, 2020), *Language Sciences* (2004), *Lingua* (2004, 2006–2016, 2020), *Linguistic Inquiry* (2014, 2015), *Linguistic Typology* (2018), *Linguistics* (2011, 2013), *Linguistics and Philosophy* (2017), *The Linguistic Review* (2007), *Mind & Language* (2011), *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory* (2004, 2020), *Open Linguistics* (2016, 2018, 2019), *Sign Language & Linguistics* (2001, 2007–2020), *Studies in Language* (2006, 2007), *Syntax* (2014), *Topics in Cognitive Science* (2013, 2014), *Transactions of the Philological Society* (2009)

Reviewing for conferences & organizations

Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS) – 2018

Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe (ConSOLE) – 2005, 2010

Conference on Syntax, Phonology, and Language Analysis (SinFonIJA 10) – 2017
 Generative Linguistics of the Old World (GLOW) – 2004, 2016–2019
 Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory (FEAST) – 2011–2020
 International Conference on Sign Language Acquisition – 2015
 Israeli Association of Theoretical Linguistics (IATL) – 2011, 2014, 2016
 North Eastern Linguistic Society (NELS) – 2004
 Poznan Linguistic Meeting (PLM) – 2018
 Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT) – 2005
 Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research (TISLR) – 2004, 2006, 2009, 2013, 2016, 2019
 West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL) – 2004, 2013
 Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics (WAFL) – 2016

 European Research Council – 2013
 Fonds Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek – Vlaanderen (FWO) – 2014
 Israel Science Foundation – 2009, 2016
 National Research Foundation South Africa – 2017
 National Science Center, Poland – 2014
 National Science Foundation (NSF) – 2002, 2005, 2009, 2012, 2016, 2017
 Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (NWO) – 2006, 2012, 2014

5.4. Memberships

Algemene Vereniging voor Taalwetenschap (AVT)
 Deutsche Gesellschaft für Sprachwissenschaft (DGfS)
 Linguistic Society of America (LSA)
 Sign Language & Linguistics Society (SLLS)

6. Selected Publications

(see www.uva.nl/profiel/r.pfau for complete list)

6.1. (Edited) Books

- Ansaldo, Umberto, Jan Don & Roland Pfau (eds.) 2010. *Parts of speech: Empirical and theoretical advances* (Benjamins Current Topics 25). Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
- Baker, Anne, Beppie van den Bogaerde, Roland Pfau & Trude Schermer (eds.). 2016. *The linguistics of sign languages. An introduction*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
- Perniss, Pamela, Roland Pfau & Markus Steinbach (eds.). 2007. *Visible variation: Cross-linguistic studies on sign language structure*. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.
- Pfau, Roland. 2009. *Grammar as processor: A Distributed Morphology account of spontaneous speech errors* (Linguistik Aktuell 137). Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
- Pfau, Roland, Asli Göksel & Jana Hosemann (eds.) 2020. *Our lives – our stories: Life experiences of elderly Deaf people*. Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton.

- Pfau, Roland, Markus Steinbach & Annika Herrmann (eds.). 2016. *A matter of complexity: Subordination in sign languages* (Sign Languages and Deaf Communities 6). Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton.
- Pfau, Roland, Markus Steinbach & Bencie Woll (eds.). 2012. *Sign language* (HSK – Handbooks on Language and Communication). Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton.
- Quer, Josep, Carlo Cecchetto, Caterina Donati, Carlo Geraci, Meltem Kelepir, Roland Pfau & Markus Steinbach (eds.). 2017. *SignGram Blueprint: A guide to sign language grammar writing*. Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton (open access at www.degruyter.com).
- Quer, Josep, Roland Pfau & Annika Herrmann (eds.) 2020. *Routledge handbook of theoretical and experimental sign language research*. Oxford: Routledge.

6.2. Articles (peer-reviewed)

- Aboh, Enoch O. & Roland Pfau. 2010. What's a wh-word got to do with it? In Benincà, P. & N. Munaro (eds.), *Mapping the left periphery: The cartography of syntactic structures, Vol. 5*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 91-124.
- Couvee, Sascha & Roland Pfau. 2018. Structure and grammaticalization of serial verb constructions in Sign Language of the Netherlands – A corpus-based study. *Frontiers in Psychology* 9: 993. [doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2018.00993]
- Kimmelman, Vadim, Roland Pfau & Enoch O. Aboh. 2020. Argument structure of classifier predicates in Russian Sign Language. *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* 38, 539-579.
- Oomen, Marloes & Roland Pfau. 2017. Signing NOT (or not): A typological perspective on standard negation in Sign Language of the Netherlands. *Linguistic Typology* 20(1).
- Pfau, Roland. 2011. A point well taken: On the typology and diachrony of pointing. In Napoli, D.J. & G. Mathur (eds.), *Deaf around the world. The impact of language*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 144-163.
- Pfau, Roland. 2015. The grammaticalization of headshakes: From head movement to negative head. In Smith, A.D.M., G. Trousdale & R. Waltereit (eds.), *New directions in grammaticalization research*. Amsterdam: Benjamins, 9-50.
- Pfau, Roland. 2016. A featural approach to sign language negation. In Larrivière, P. & C. Lee (eds.), *Negation and polarity: Experimental perspectives*. Dordrecht: Springer, 45-74.
- Pfau, Roland & Josep Quer. 2010. Nonmanuals: their prosodic and grammatical roles. In Brentari, Diane (ed.), *Sign languages* (Cambridge Language Surveys). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 381-402.
- Pfau, R., M. Salzmann & M. Steinbach. 2018. The syntax of sign language agreement: Common ingredients, but unusual recipe. *Glossa: a Journal of General Linguistics* 3(1), 107, 1-46. [doi: 10.5334/gjgl.511].
- Pfau, Roland & Markus Steinbach. 2006. Pluralization in sign and in speech: A cross-modal typological study. *Linguistic Typology* 10, 135-182.
- Pfau, Roland & Markus Steinbach. 2011. Grammaticalization in sign languages. In Narrog, H. & B. Heine (eds.), *The Oxford handbook of grammaticalization*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 683-695.

- Pfau, Roland & Markus Steinbach. 2013. PERSON climbing up a tree (and other adventures in sign language grammaticalization). *Sign Language & Linguistics* 16(2), 189-221.
- Pfau, Roland & Markus Steinbach. 2016. Modality and meaning: Plurality of relations in German Sign Language. *Lingua* 170, 69-91. [doi:10.1016/j.lingua.2015.11.002].
- Pfau, Roland & Ulrike Zeshan. 2016. Positive signs: How sign language typology benefits deaf communities and linguistic theory. *Linguistic Typology* 20(3), 547-559. [doi: 10.1515/lingty-2016-0026].
- Strickland, Brent, Carlo Geraci, Emmanuel Chemla, Philippe Schlenker, Meltem Kelepir & Roland Pfau. 2015. Event representations constrain the structure of language: Sign language as a window into universally accessible linguistic biases. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)* 112(19), 5968-5973. [doi: 10.1073/pnas.1423080112].
- Vos, Connie de & Roland Pfau. 2015. Sign language typology: The contribution of rural sign languages. *Annual Review of Linguistics* 1, 265-288. [doi:10.1146/annurev-linguist-030514-124958].