Stanford



Robert Podesva

Associate Professor of Linguistics

Curriculum Vitae available Online

Bio

BIO

I am currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Linguistics at Stanford University. I hold degrees from Stanford University (PhD, MA) and Cornell University (BA) have been an Assistant Professor at Georgetown University. My research examines the social significance of variation in the domains of segmental phonetics, prosody, and voice quality. I have a particular interest in how phonetic resources participate in the construction of identity, most notably gender, sexuality, race, and their intersections. My latest projects focus on the social meaning of non-modal voice qualities in interactional contexts and sociolinguistic variation in inland California and Washington, DC. I have co-edited Research Methods in Linguistics (with Devyani Sharma), Language and Sexuality: Contesting Meaning in Theory and Practice (with Kathryn Cambpell-Kibler, Sarah Roberts, and Andrew Wong), and a special issue of American Speech on sociophonetics and sexuality (with Penelope Eckert). I live in San Francisco.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Associate Professor, Linguistics

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

- Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University, (2011- present)
- Faculty, Linguistic Society of America Linguistic Institute, University of Michigan, (2013-2013)
- Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics, Georgetown University, (2006-2011)
- Faculty, Linguistic Society of America Linguistic Institute, University of California, Berkeley, (2009-2009)
- Lecturer, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University, (2006-2006)
- Teaching Affiliate, Program in English for Foreign Students, Stanford University, (2002-2006)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association Best Student Abstract Award, Department of Linguistics, University of Hawaii, Manoa (2003)
- Graduate Fellowship, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University (1998 - 2006)

BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Interactional Sociophonetics Laboratory Director (Department), Stanford University (2012 - present)
- Member, Graduate Admissions Committee (Department), Stanford University (2011 - present)
- Member, Linguistics Laboratory Committee (Department), Stanford University (2011 - 2013)
- Fieldwork Group Co-Organizer (Department), Stanford University (2011 - 2012)
- Member, Move Committee (Department), Stanford University (2010 - 2011)

- Member, Undergraduate Curriculum Revision Committee (Department), Stanford University (2009 - 2011)
- Faculty Advisor of eVox: Georgetown Working Papers in Language, Discourse, and Society (Department), Stanford University (2007 - 2011)
- Library Liaison (Department), Stanford University (2006 - 2011)
- Faculty Merit Review Chair (Department), Stanford University (2009 - 2010)
- Member, Faculty Merit Review Committee (Department), Stanford University (2007 - 2009)
- Main Campus Executive Faculty (University), Stanford University (2007 - 2009)
- Member, Ad Hoc Search Committee for Visiting Assistant Professor in Phonology (Department), Stanford University (2008 - 2008)
- Sociolinguistics Concentration Head (Department), Stanford University (2007 - 2008)
- Journal Review, English Language and Linguistics
- Journal Review, Gender and Language
- Journal Review, Journal of English Linguistics
- Journal Review, Journal of Linguistic Anthropology
- Journal Review, Journal of Phonetics
- Journal Review, Journal of Sociolinguistics
- Journal Review, Language and Linguistics Compass
- Journal Review, Language in Society
- Journal Review, Language Variation and Change
- Journal Review, Phonology
- Article Review, Handbook of Laboratory Phonology
- Article Review, Papers in Laboratory Phonology 11: Phonetic Detail in the Lexicon
- Manuscript Review, Cambridge University Press
- Manuscript Review, Routledge
- Manuscript Review, Wiley-Blackwell
- Grant Review, National Science Foundation
- Abstract Review, American Association of Applied Linguistics
- Abstract Review, Georgetown University Round Table
- Abstract Review, International Gender and Language Association
- Abstract Review, New Ways of Analyzing Variation
- Proposal Review, LSA Linguistic Institute (2011 - 2011)
- Member, Acoustical Society of America (ASA)
- Member, American Anthropological Association (AAA)
- Member, American Dialect Society (ADS)
- Member, International Gender and Language Association (IGALA)
- Member, Linguistic Society of America (LSA)
- Member, Society for Linguistic Anthropology (SLA)

PROGRAM AFFILIATIONS

- Center for Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity (CCSRE)
- Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- B.A., Cornell University , Linguistics (1998)
- M.A., Stanford University , Linguistics (2000)
- Ph.D., Stanford University , Linguistics (2006)

Teaching

COURSES

2026-27

- Advanced Sociolinguistic Field Methods: LINGUIST 251B (Aut)
- Interactional Phonetics Research Lab: LINGUIST 257L (Aut, Win, Spr)
- Language, Gender, & Sexuality: LINGUIST 156 (Spr)
- Language, Gender, and Sexuality: LINGUIST 256 (Spr)
- Sociophonetics: LINGUIST 157, LINGUIST 257 (Win)

2025-26

- Interactional Phonetics Research Lab: LINGUIST 257L (Aut, Win, Spr)
- Language, Gender, & Sexuality: FEMGEN 156X, LINGUIST 156 (Aut)
- Language, Gender, and Sexuality: LINGUIST 256 (Aut)
- Sociolinguistic Field Methods: LINGUIST 251F (Aut)
- Variation and Social Meaning: LINGUIST 258A (Win)

2024-25

- Interactional Phonetics Research Lab: LINGUIST 257L (Aut, Win, Spr)
- Sociophonetics: LINGUIST 157, LINGUIST 257 (Spr)
- Variation and Social Meaning: LINGUIST 258A (Aut)

2023-24

- Interactional Phonetics Research Lab: LINGUIST 257L (Spr)

STANFORD ADVISEES

Doctoral Dissertation Reader (AC)

Adolfo Hermosillo, Taiga Ikedo, Harumi Maeda

Doctoral Dissertation Advisor (AC)

Evelyn Fernandez-Lizarraga, Yin Lin Tan

Doctoral Dissertation Co-Advisor (AC)

Grace Brown, Marie Tano

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Voice Quality and Identity** *ANNUAL REVIEW OF APPLIED LINGUISTICS*
  Podesva, R. J., Callier, P.
  2015; 35: 173-194

- **Sound recordings: Acoustic and articulatory data** *Research Methods in Linguistics*
  Podesva, R. J., Zsiga, E.
  edited by Podesva, R. J., Sharma, D.
  Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.2013
- **Research Methods in Linguistics**
  Podesva, R. J., Sharma, D.
  Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.2013
- **Introduction** *Research Methods in Linguistics*
  Podesva, R. J., Sharma, D., Sharma, D.
  edited by Podesva, R. J.
  Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.2013
- **Gender and the social meaning of non-modal phonation types** *Proceedings of the Berkeley Linguistics Society*
  Podesva, R. J.
  2013: 427–448
- **Variation and agency** *English in the World: History, Diversity, Change*
  Podesva, R. J.
  edited by Seargeant, P., Swann, J.
  Abingdon: Routledge.2012: 323–329
- **Condoleezza Rice and the sociophonetic construction of identity** *Style-Shifting in Public: New Perspectives on Phonological Variation*
  Podesva, R., Lew, L. H., Brenier, J., Starr, R., Lewis, S.
  edited by Hernandez-Campoy, J. M., Cutillas-Espinosa, J. A.
  Amsterdam: John Benjamins.2012: 65–80
- **Recency, resonance, and the structuring of phonological style in political speeches** *Style-Shifting in Public: New Perspectives on Phonological Variation*
  Podesva, R. J., Callier, P., Jamsu, J.
  edited by Hernandez-Campoy, J. M., Cutillas-Espinosa, J. A.
  Amsterdam: John Benjamins.2012: 101–117
- **Salience and the Social Meaning of Declarative Contours: Three Case Studies of Gay Professionals** *JOURNAL OF ENGLISH LINGUISTICS*
  Podesva, R. J.
  2011; 39 (3): 233-264
- **SOCIOPHONETICS AND SEXUALITY: TOWARD A SYMBIOSIS OF SOCIOLINGUISTICS AND LABORATORY PHONOLOGY** *AMERICAN SPEECH*
  Eckert, P., Podesva, R. J.
  2011; 86 (1): 6-13
- **THE CALIFORNIA VOWEL SHIFT AND GAY IDENTITY** *AMERICAN SPEECH*
  Podesva, R. J.
  2011; 86 (1): 32-51
- **Sociophonetics and Sexuality**
  Podesva, R. J., Eckert, P.
  2011
- **Style, indexicality, and the social meaning of tag questions** *LANGUAGE IN SOCIETY*
  Moore, E., Podesva, R.
  2009; 38 (4): 447-485
- **Three sources of stylistic meaning** *Proceedings of the Symposium About Language and Society – Austin 15*
  Podesva, R. J.
  2008: 134–43

- **Phonation type as a stylistic variable: The use of falsetto in constructing a persona** *JOURNAL OF SOCIOLINGUISTICS*
  Podesva, R. J.
  2007; 11 (4): 478-504
- **Sharing resources and indexing meanings in the production of gay styles** *The Language and Sexuality Reader*
  Podesva, R. J., Roberts, S. J., Kibler, K. C.
  edited by Cameron, D., Kulick, D.
  London: Routledge.2006: 141–150
- **Intonational variation and social meaning: Categorical and phonetic aspects** *Penn Working Papers in Linguistics (Selected Papers from New Ways of Analyzing Variation 34)*
  Podesva, R.
  2006: 189–202
- **What will people say? Speech system design and language/cultural differences** *Proceedings of the Automatic Speech Recognition and Understanding Workshop*
  Kristin, P., Podesva, R. J.
  2004: 624–629
- **Sharing resources and indexing meanings in the production of gay styles** *1st Conference of the International-Gender-and-Language-Association (IGALA)*
  Podesva, R. J., Roberts, S. J., Campbell-Kibler, K.
  UNIV CHICAGO PRESS.2002: 175–189
- **Language and Sexuality: Contesting Meaning in Theory and Practice**
  edited by Kibler, C., Kathryn, Podesva, R. J., Roberts, S. J., Wong, A.
  Stanford: CSLI Publications.2002
- **Constraints on geminates in Buginese and Selayarese** *19th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*
  Podesva, R. J.
  CASCADILLA PRESS.2000: 343–356
- **The phonetic realization of singletongeminate contrasts in three languages of Indonesia** *Proceedings of the International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*
  Abigail, C., Ham, W., Podesva, R. J.
  1999: 587–590
- **Acoustic investigation of the vowel systems of Buginese and Toba Batak** *Proceedings of the International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*
  Podesva, R. J., Smith, N. A.
  1999: 535–538
- **An acoustic analysis of Buginese consonants** *Texas Linguistic Forum (Exploring the Boundaries between Phonetics and Phonology)*
  Podesva, R. J.
  1998: 147–159