



## Penelope Eckert

Albert Ray Lang Professor, Emerita

Linguistics

 Curriculum Vitae available Online

### Bio

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#### BIO

The goal of my research is to understand the social meaning of linguistic variation. In order to do this, I pursue my sociolinguistic work in the context of in-depth ethnographic fieldwork, focusing on the relation between variation, linguistic style, social identity and social practice.

Gender has been the big misunderstood in studies of sociolinguistic variation - in spite of the fact that some of the most exciting intellectual developments over the past decades have been in theories of gender and sexuality ... so I have been spending a good deal of time working on language and gender as well.

Since adolescents and preadolescents are the movers and shakers in linguistic change, I concentrate on this age group, and much of my research takes place in schools. The institutional research site has made me think a good deal about learning and education, but particularly about the construction of adolescence in American society.

#### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Professor Emeritus, Linguistics

#### ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

- Faculty Member, Linguistic Institute, University of Michigan, (2013-2013)
- Faculty Member, Linguistic Institute, University of Colorado, (2010-2010)
- Faculty Member, Linguistic Institute, Stanford University, (2007-2007)
- Faculty Member, Linguistic Institute, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), (2005-2005)
- Faculty Member, Linguistic Institute, Harvard, (2005-2005)
- Visiting Professor, Uppsala University, (2005-2005)
- Faculty Member, Doctoral Summer School, University of Bern, (2003-2003)
- Visiting Professor, Department of Linguistics, University of Lancaster, (2002-2002)
- Senior Fellow, Institute for Research on Learning, (1999-2000)
- Faculty Member, Doctoral Summer School. University of Oslo, (1999-1999)
- Faculty Member, Linguistic Institute, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, (1999-1999)
- Faculty Member, Linguistic Institute, Cornell University, (1997-1997)
- Professor (by courtesy), Department of Cultural and Social Anthropology, Stanford University, (1994- present)

- Faculty Member, Australian Linguistic Institute, La Trobe University, (1994-1994)
- Distinguished Visiting Scholar, Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, (1992-1992)
- Visiting Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of California at Santa Cruz, (1992-1992)
- Faculty Member, Linguistic Institute, University of California at Santa Cruz, (1991-1991)
- Visiting Associate Professor, School of Education University of California, Berkeley, (1990-1990)
- Senior Research Scientist, Institute for Research on Learning, Menlo Park, California, (1988-1999)
- Faculty Member, Linguistic Institute, Stanford University, (1987-1987)
- Associate Professor, Department of Linguistics, University of Illinois at Chicago, (1985-1993)
- Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University, (1985-1985)
- Visiting Scholar, Park School, Baltimore, (1982-1982)
- Instructor, Assistant Professor, Research Scientist, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan, (1973-1985)
- Visiting Instructor, Department of Linguistics, Drew University, (1973-1973)
- Professor, Department of Linguistics, (1944- present)

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

- Albert Ray Lang Professorship in Humanities and Sciences, Stanford University (2012)
- Fellow, Linguistic Society of America (2011)
- Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences (2011)
- Skomp Lecturer, Department of Anthropology. Indiana University (2011)
- Walker Ames Scholar, University of Washington (2008)
- Doctor Philosophiae Honoris Causa, Copenhagen University (2005)
- Resident Fellow, Rockefeller Foundation Study Center (1999)

## **BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

- Member, Committee on Graduate Study, Stanford University (2011 - present)
- Member, Faculty Senate Committee on Committees, Stanford University (2007 - 2009)
- Chair, Faculty Senate Committee on Committees, Stanford University (2008 - 2009)
- Member, Administrative Panel on Human Subjects in Non-medical Research, Stanford University (1997 - present)
- Chair, Administrative Panel on Human Subjects in Non-medical Research, Stanford University (2000 - present)
- Director, Program in Feminist Studies, Stanford University (2001 - 2008)
- Member, Policy Board, Institute for Research on Women and Gender, Stanford University (2001 - 2007)
- Resource Faculty member, Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity (2005 - present)
- Resource Faculty Member, Symbolic Systems (2007 - present)
- Member, Steering Committee, Faculty Women's Caucus, Stanford University (1999 - 2004)
- Member, Program Committee, Program in Feminist Studies, Stanford University (2000 - 2001)
- Associate Editor, Language Variation and Change
- Member, Editorial Board, Gender and Language
- Member, Editorial Board, Journal of Sociolinguistics
- Member, Editorial Board, J. Benjamins book, Studies in Language Variation
- Member, Advisory Board, Oxford University Press book series, Language and Gender Studies

- Reviewer of grants, articles and manuscripts, Language, Language Variation and Change
- Reviewer of grants, articles and manuscripts, Language in Society
- Reviewer of grants, articles and manuscripts, Journal of Child Development
- Reviewer of grants, articles and manuscripts, Journal of Sociolinguistics
- Reviewer of grants, articles and manuscripts, Oxford University Press
- Reviewer of grants, articles and manuscripts, Rutgers University Press
- Reviewer of grants, articles and manuscripts, Blackwell
- Reviewer of grants, articles and manuscripts, Cambridge University Press
- Reviewer of grants, articles and manuscripts, National Science Foundation
- Reviewer of grants, articles and manuscripts, Spencer Foundation
- Member, Ethics Committee, Linguistic Society of America (2007 - 2009)
- Member, Committee on Ethnic Diversity in Linguistics, Linguistic Society of America (1999 - 2001)
- Member, Nominating Committee, Linguistic Society of America (1992 - 1995)
- Member, Committee on the Status of Women in Linguistics, Linguistic Society of America (1989 - 1991)
- Chair, Committee on the Status of Women in Linguistics, Linguistic Society of America (1990 - 1990)
- Chair, Committee on the Status of Women in Linguistics, Linguistic Society of America (1991 - 1991)
- President, International Gender and Language Association (2000 - 2003)
- Member, Social Science Network, National Center for Women and Information Technology (2004 - 2007)
- Member, Board of Advisors, Anita Borg Institute for Women and Technology (1998 - 2008)
- Member, Committee on Academic Programs and Policies, San Mateo, CA (1992 - 1998)
- Faculty Member, Carnegie Consortium for the Scientific Practice of Science Education (1990 - 1993)
- Member, International Gender and Language Association
- Member, Linguistic Society of America
- Member, American Anthropological Association
- Member, Society for Linguistic Anthropology

## **PROGRAM AFFILIATIONS**

- Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
- Symbolic Systems Program

## **PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION**

- PhD, Columbia University , Linguistics (1978)
- MA, Columbia University , Linguistics (1969)
- BA, Oberlin College , French (1963)

## **LINKS**

- Penelope Eckert - Linguistics: <http://web.stanford.edu/~eckert/>

## **Teaching**

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### **STANFORD ADVISEES**

**Doctoral Dissertation Reader (AC)**

Evelyn Fernandez-Lizarraga

## Publications

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### PUBLICATIONS

- **Meaning is change** *JOURNAL OF PRAGMATICS*  
Eckert, P.  
2026; 253: 72-75
- **Signs of difference: Language and ideology in social life (Book Review)** *LANGUAGE*  
Book Review Authored by: Eckert, P.  
2025; 101 (3)
- **William (Bill) Labov (1927-2024)** *LANGUAGE IN SOCIETY*  
Eckert, P.  
2025; 54 (3): 409-415
- **Syntax and Social Meaning: A Conversation With Emma Moore** *JOURNAL OF SOCIOLINGUISTICS*  
Eckert, P.  
2025
- **Social meaning** *THEORETICAL LINGUISTICS*  
Eckert, P.  
2024; 50 (1-2): 63-70
- **Affect and iconicity in phonological variation** *LANGUAGE IN SOCIETY*  
D'Onofrio, A., Eckert, P.  
2021; 50 (1): 29–51
- **Gender and the Third Wave of variation study** *GENDER AND LANGUAGE*  
Eckert, P.  
2021; 15 (2): 242-248
- **THE LIMITS OF MEANING: SOCIAL INDEXICALITY, VARIATION, AND THE CLINE OF INTERIORITY** *LANGUAGE*  
Eckert, P.  
2019; 95 (4): 751–76
- **The individual in the semiotic landscape** *GLOSSA-A JOURNAL OF GENERAL LINGUISTICS*  
Eckert, P.  
2019; 4 (1)
- **Cans and cants: Computational potentials for multimodality with a case study in head position** *JOURNAL OF SOCIOLINGUISTICS*  
Voigt, R., Eckert, P., Jurafsky, D., Podesva, R. J.  
2016; 20 (5): 677-711
- **THE LOW VOWELS IN CALIFORNIA'S CENTRAL VALLEY** *AMERICAN SPEECH*  
Onofrio, A. D., Eckert, P., Podesva, R. J., Pratt, T., Van Hofwegen, J.  
2016; 91: 11-32
- **The emergence of adolescent language** *Jugendsprachen: Stilisierungen, Identitäten, mediale Ressourcen*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Kotthoff, H., Mertzlufft, C.  
Frankfurt: Peter Lang.2013
- **Research Ethics in Linguistics** *Cambridge Handbook in Research Methods in Linguistics*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Podesva, R., Sharma, D.  
2013

- **Language and Gender**  
Eckert, P., McConnell-Ginet, S.  
New York: Cambridge University Press.2013
- **Three Waves of Variation Study: The Emergence of Meaning in the Study of Sociolinguistic Variation** *ANNUAL REVIEW OF ANTHROPOLOGY, VOL 41*  
Eckert, P.  
2012; 41: 87-100
- **SOCIOPHONETICS AND SEXUALITY: TOWARD A SYMBIOSIS OF SOCIOLINGUISTICS AND LABORATORY PHONOLOGY** *AMERICAN SPEECH*  
Eckert, P., Podesva, R. J.  
2011; 86 (1): 6-13
- **LANGUAGE AND POWER IN THE PREADOLESCENT HETEROSEXUAL MARKET** *AMERICAN SPEECH*  
Eckert, P.  
2011; 86 (1): 85-97
- **Language and Sexuality. (introduction to special volume)** *American Speech*  
Eckert, P., Podesva, R.  
2011
- **Where does the social stop?** *Selected papers from the 5th International Conference on Language Variation in Europe (ICLaVE 5)*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Parrott, J. K., Quist, P., Gregersen, F.  
2011: 13–29
- **Who's there? Social anthropology and interactional linguistics** *Handbook of language and space*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Auer, P., Schmidt, J.  
The Hague: Mouton de Gruyter.2010: 163–78
- **Variation and the indexical field** *JOURNAL OF SOCIOLINGUISTICS*  
Eckert, P.  
2008; 12 (4): 453-476
- **Where do ethnolects stop?** *Sociolinguistics Symposium 2006*  
Eckert, P.  
SAGE PUBLICATIONS LTD.2008: 25–42
- **Ethnography and linguistic variation** *The New Sociolinguistics Reader*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Coupland, N., Jaworski, A.  
Palgrave/McMillan.2008
- **Symbols of category membership** *A cultural approach to interpersonal communication*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Goodman, J. E., Monaghan, L.  
Oxford: Blackwell.2006: 224–42
- **Putting communities of practice in their place** *Journal of Gender and Language*  
Eckert, P., McConnell-Ginet, S.  
2006; 1: 27-37
- **Communities of practice** *Encyclopedia of Language and Linguistics*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Brown, K.  
Elsevier.2006: 683–5

- **Communities of practice in sociolinguistics - What is the role of power in sociolinguistic variation?** *JOURNAL OF SOCIOLINGUISTICS*  
Eckert, P., Wenger, E.  
2005; 9 (4): 582-589
- **Messing with style** *Creativity in everyday language. Maidenhead*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Maybin, J., Swann, J.  
Open University Press.2005
- **The stylistic construction of social groups** *Communication in Adolescence*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Thulor, C., Williams, A.  
New York: Peter Lang.2005
- **Consent as an ongoing process** *Protecting Human Subject*  
Eckert, P.  
2005: 3-4
- **Adolescent language** *Language in the USA. New York*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Finegan, E., Rickford, J.  
Cambridge University Press.2004
- **Variation and a sense of place** *Sociolinguistic Variation: Critical Reflections*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Fought, C.  
Oxford University Press.2004
- **Elephants in the room** *Journal of sociolinguistics*  
Eckert, P.  
2004; 7 (3): 392-7
- **The meaning of style** *Salsa 11. Texas Linguistics Forum. 47*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Chiang, W., Chun, E., Mahalingappa, L., Mehus, S.  
2004
- **The good woman** *Language and woman's place: Text and commentaries*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Bucholtz, M.  
New York: Oxford University Press.2004: 165-170
- **Sociolinguistics and authenticity: An elephant in the room - Elephants in the room** *Conference on Elephants in the Room*  
Eckert, P.  
WILEY-BLACKWELL PUBLISHING, INC.2003: 392-97
- **Language and adolescent peer groups** *JOURNAL OF LANGUAGE AND SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY*  
Eckert, P.  
2003; 22 (1): 112-118
- **Social variation in America** *AMERICAN SPEECH*  
Eckert, P.  
2003: 99-121
- **Language and Gender**  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Eckert, P., Rickford, J.  
New York: Cambridge University Press.2003

- **Language and gender in adolescence** *Handbook of Language and Gender*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Holmes, J., Meyerhoff, M.  
Oxford: Blackwell.2003
- **Social Variation in America** *Needed research in American dialects (Publication of the American Dialect society #88)*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Preston, D. R.  
Durham: Duke University Press.2003
- **Demystifying sexuality and desire** *1st Conference of the International-Gender-and-Language-Association (IGALA)*  
Eckert, P.  
UNIV CHICAGO PRESS.2002: 99–110
- **Getting real in the golden state** *Language magazine*  
Eckert, P., Mendoza-Denton, N.  
2002: 29-34
- **Demystifying sexuality and desire** *Language and sexuality: Contesting meaning in theory and practice*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Campbell-Kibler, K., Roberts, S., Wong, A.  
CSLI Publications.2002: 99–110
- **Style and social meaning** *Style and Sociolinguistic Variation*  
Eckerte, P.  
edited by Eckert, P., Rickford, J.  
New York: Cambridge University Press.2001: 119–126
- **Style and Sociolinguistic Variation**  
edited by Eckert, P., Rickford, J.  
New York: Cambridge University Press.2001
- **Introduction** *Style and Sociolinguistic Variation*  
Rickford, J., Eckert, P.  
edited by Eckert, P., Rickford, J.  
New York: Cambridge University Press.2001: 1–18
- **Linguistic Variation as Social Practice**  
Eckert, P.  
Oxford:Blackwell.2000
- **Supporting Community Involvement in the Digital Age** *Civic Responsibility and Higher Education*  
Eckert, P., Henschel, P.  
edited by Ehrlich, T.  
Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Phoenix: Oryx Press.2000
- **New generalizations and explanations in language and gender research** *LANGUAGE IN SOCIETY*  
Eckert, P., McConnell-Ginet, S.  
1999; 28 (2): 185-201
- **Learning at work** *Proceedings of joint international conference of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and the United States Department of Education*  
Greeno, J., Eckert, P., Sachs, P., Stucky, S., Wenger, E.  
1999: 6–8
- **Entitled to know** *Thinking Practices*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Greeno, J., Goldman, S.  
Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum.1999

- **Vowels and nail polish: The emergence of linguistic style in the preadolescent heterosexual marketplace** *Proceedings of the 1996 Berkeley Women and Language Conference*  
Eckert, P.  
1998
- **Gender, social engagement, and linguistic style** *Nordiske Konference om Sprog og Køn. København*  
Eckert, P.  
1997
- **The Whole Woman: Sex and Gender Difference in Variation** *Sociolinguistics: A Reader and Coursebook*.  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Coupland, N., Jaworski, A.  
Palgrave.1997
- **Why ethnography?** *Ungdomssprak i Norden*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Kotsinas, U., Stenstrom, A., Karlsson, A.  
Stockholm: Stockholm University.1997: 52–62
- **Gender and sociolinguistic variation** *Readings in Language and Gender*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Coates, J.  
Oxford: Blackwell.1997
- **Age as a sociolinguistic variable** *The Handbook of Sociolinguistics*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Coulman, F.  
Oxford: Blackwell.1996
- **The Whole Woman: Sex and Gender Differences in Variation** *The Matrix of Language: Contemporary Linguistic Anthropology*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Brenneis, D., Macaulay, R.  
Boulder: Westview Press.1996: 116–37
- **(Ay) goes to the City: reminiscences of Martha's Vineyard** *Festschrift for William Labov*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Baugh, J., Guy, G., Schiffrin, D.  
Amsterdam and Philadelphia: John Benjamins.1996
- **Adolescent Trajectory and Forms of Institutional Participation** *Pathways Through Adolescence: Individual Development in Relation to Social Contexts*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Crockett, L., Crouter, A.  
Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum.1995: 175–96
- **Constructing meaning, constructing selves: Snapshots of language, gender and class from Belten High** *Gender Articulated: Language and the Culturally Constructed Self*  
Eckert, P., McConnell-Ginet, S.  
edited by Buchholtz, M., Hall, K.  
Routledge.1995: 469–507
- **Cooperative Competition in Adolescent Girl Talk** *Gender and Conversational Interaction*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Tannen, D.  
Oxford University Press.1993: 91–122
- **Communities of Practice: Where Language, Gender and Power all Live** *Proceedings of the 1992 Berkeley Women and Language Conference*  
Eckert, P., McConnell-Ginet, S.  
edited by Hall, K., Buchholtz, M., Moonwomon, B.

1992: 89–99

- **THINK PRACTICALLY AND LOOK LOCALLY - LANGUAGE AND GENDER AS COMMUNITY-BASED PRACTICE** *ANNUAL REVIEW OF ANTHROPOLOGY*  
Eckert, P., MCCONNELLGINET, S.  
1992; 21: 461-490
- **Think Practically and Look Locally: Language and Gender as Community-Based Practice** *The Women and Language Debate*  
Eckert, P., McConnell-Ginet, S.  
edited by Roman, C., Juhasz, S., Miller, C.  
New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press. 1992: 432–460
- **New Ways of Analyzing Sound Change**  
edited by Eckert, P.  
New York: Academic Press. 1991
- **Social Polarization and the Choice of Linguistic Variants** *New Ways of Analyzing Sound Change*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Eckert, P.  
New York: Academic Press. 1991: 213–232
- **Quantitative Studies of Linguistic Variation** *International Encyclopedia of Linguistics*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Bright, W.  
Oxford: Oxford University Press. 1991
- **The Cornell Lectures**  
edited by Davison, A., Eckert, P.  
Washington DC: Linguistic Society of America. 1990
- **COOPERATIVE COMPETITION IN ADOLESCENT GIRL TALK** *DISCOURSE PROCESSES*  
Eckert, P.  
1990; 13 (1): 91-122
- **Adolescent Social Categories, Information and Science Learning** *Toward a Scientific Practice of Science Education*  
Greeno, J., Eckert, P.  
edited by Gardner, M., Reif, F., Schoenfeld, A.  
Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum. 1990: 203–217
- **The Interaction between Social and Professional Networks** *The Cornell Lectures*  
Davidson, A.  
edited by Eckert, P.  
Linguistic Society of America. 1990: 142–54
- **The Whole Woman: Sex and Gender Differences in Variation** *Language Variation and Change*  
Eckert, P.  
1989; 1: 245-67
- **Jocks and Burnouts: Social Identity in the High School**  
Eckert, P.  
New York: Teachers College Press. 1989
- **Sound Change and Adolescent Social Structure** *Language in Society*  
Eckert, P.  
1988; 17: 183-207
- **THE RELATIVE VALUES OF VARIABLES** *15TH ANNUAL CONF ON NEW WAY OF ANALYZING VARIATION IN LANGUAGE ( NWAV-XV )*  
Eckert, P.  
STANFORD LINGUISTICS ASSOC. 1987: 101–110

- **Sociolinguistics** *Handbook for Grant Proposal Preparation*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Peters, A. M., Menn, L., Chapin, P. G., Aguera, H. C.  
Washington, DC: Linguistic Society of America.1986: 5
- **Grammatical Constraints in Phonological Change: Unstressed \*a in Southern France** *Orbis*  
Eckert, P.  
1985; 31: 169-89
- **Age and Linguistic Change** *Age and Anthropological Theory*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Keith, J., Kertzer, D.  
Cornell University Press.1984: 219–233
- **The Paradox of Regional Language Movements** *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development*  
Eckert, P.  
1983; 4: 289-300
- **BEYOND THE STATISTICS OF ADOLESCENT SMOKING** *AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PUBLIC HEALTH*  
Eckert, P.  
1983; 73 (4): 439-441
- **Clothing and Geography in a Suburban High School** *Researching American Culture*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Kottak, C. P.  
Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.1982: 139–144
- **Notes on Pronominal Strategies in a Bilingual Community** *Variation Omnibus*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Sankoff, D., Cedergren, H.  
Edmonton: Linguistic Research Inc.1982: 499–504
- **SOCIOLINGUISTICS - HUDSON,RA (Book Review)** *LANGUAGE IN SOCIETY*  
Book Review Authored by: Eckert, P.  
1981; 10 (2): 259-261
- **Hedging the Standard English Bet** *Forum*  
Eckert, P.  
1981; 3: 7-8
- **L'Imposition de la Diglossie** *Lengas: Revue de Sociolinguistique*  
Eckert, P.  
1981; 9: 1-8
- **The Structure of a Long–Term Phonological Process: The Back Vowel Chain Shift in Soulatan Gascon** *Locating Language in Time and Space*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Labov, W.  
New York: Academic Press.1980: 179–219
- **Communication across Cultural Groups** *Cross Cultural Communication in the Schools*  
Eckert, P.  
edited by Moody, C. F.  
Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Program for Educational Opportunity.1980: 3–14
- **Clothing and Geography in a Suburban High School** *Michigan Discussions in Anthropology*  
Eckert, P.  
1980; 6: 45-48
- **CENTRAL ESKIMO SONG DUELS - A CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS OF RITUAL AMBIGUITY** *ETHNOLOGY*

Eckert, P., Newmark, R.  
1980; 19 (2): 191-211

● **DIGLOSSIA - SEPARATE AND UNEQUAL LINGUISTICS**

Eckert, P.  
1980; 18 (11-1): 1053-1064