

Victor B. D'Avella

Oriental Institute
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Oxford, OX1 2LE
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EMPLOYMENT HISTORY	Departmental Lecturer in Sanskrit Oriental Institute, University of Oxford	October 2020–Present
	Postdoc Researcher in the project “Texts Surrounding Texts” funded by the ANR and DFG.	March 2019–September 2020
	Postdoc Researcher in the project “NETamil” funded by the ERC.	June 2014–March 2019
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	Lecturer: Sanskrit III: Introduction to Sanskrit Drama: <i>Mālatīmādhava</i> of Bhavabhūti. 57-423.2 – Universität Hamburg, Hamburg.	Summer 2020
	Lecturer: Introduction to the Literatures of Modern Indian. 57-437 – Universität Hamburg, Hamburg.	Summer 2020
	Lecturer: Introduction to Prakrit. 57-438 – Universität Hamburg, Hamburg.	Winter 2019–20
	Lecturer: Introduction to the Literatures of Modern Indian. 57-437 – Universität Hamburg, Hamburg.	Winter 2019–20
	Instructor: Introduction to Telugu Classical Tamil Summer Seminar, Hamburg, Germany.	August 2019
	Lecturer: Sanskrit III: Readings in Alankārasāstra: <i>The Kāvyaḍarśa</i> of Daṇḍin. 57-423.2 – Universität Hamburg, Hamburg.	Summer 2018
	Lecturer: Sanskrit I: Einführung in das Sanskrit. 57-421.1 – Universität Hamburg, Hamburg.	Summer 2018
	Lecturer: Sanskrit I: Einführung in das Sanskrit. 57-421.1 – Universität Hamburg, Hamburg.	Winter 2017

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Instructor: Guided Readings in the <i>Tolkāppiyam</i> . Classical Tamil Summer Seminar, Pondicherry, India.	August 2016
Instructor: Guided Readings in the <i>Ĵānakīharāṇa</i> . 2 Week Winter Sanskrit Retreat in Huahin, Thailand.	February 2016
Lecturer: First-Year Sanskrit III. SANS 10300 – University of Chicago, Chicago, IL.	Spring 2014
Lecturer: Second-Year Sanskrit. SANS 20100 – University of Chicago, Chicago, IL.	Autumn 2013
Lecturer: Intermediate Sanskrit. SASLI – University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.	Summer 2013
Lecturer: Second-Year Sanskrit. SANS 20300 – University of Chicago, Chicago, IL.	Spring 2013
Lecturer: First-Year Sanskrit. SANS 10100 – University of Chicago, Chicago, IL.	Autumn 2012
Course Assistant: Second-Year Sanskrit. SANS 20100 – University of Chicago, Chicago, IL.	Autumn 2011
Lecturer: First-Year Sanskrit. SANS 10300 – University of Chicago, Chicago, IL.	Spring 2010
Teaching Assistant: Elementary Sanskrit. ELEM SANS I & II – Columbia University, New York, NY.	Fall 2008 & Spring 2009
Teaching Assistant: Religions of India. REL 210 – Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.	Fall 2008
Teacher: GED Math. Community Outreach, Columbia University, New York, NY.	Spring 2008
Teacher: English as a second language. Aspect Education, New York, NY.	Summer 2005

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EDUCATION	PhD University of Chicago. • South Asian Languages and Civilizations. • Dissertation Title: <i>Creating the Perfect Language: Sanskrit Grammarians, Poetry, and the Exegetical Tradition.</i>	2018
	MA University of Chicago. • South Asian Languages and Civilizations.	2014
	MPhil University of Oxford. • General Linguistics & Comparative Philology. • Dissertation Title: <i>Paippalāda Atharvaveda 10.1-15: Critical Edition and Commentary.</i>	2007
	B.A. cum laude New York University. • Classics and Linguistics. • Dissertation Title: <i>A Critical Edition of the pseudo-Aristotelean Text De ventorum situ et nominibus.</i>	2005

PRESENTATIONS

Guided Readings in the <i>Abhayapradānasāra</i> . <i>Tamil and Maṇipravāḷa Texts around Veṅkaṭanātha</i> Austrian Academy of Sciences Vienna, Austria, January 1–11, 2020.	January 2020
“Formal Translations: the advent of <i>citrakāvya</i> in Tamil”. 10 th International Coffee Break Conference Turin, October 1–3, 2019.	October 2019
Guided Readings in the <i>Abhayapradānasāra</i> . NETamil Workshop on Vedānta Deśikan's <i>Cillarai Rahasyaṅkaḷ</i> . Pondicherry, February 18–22, 2019.	February 2019

- “Navigating between Sanskrit and Classical Tamil while reading the *Vīracōḷiyam* and the Tamil *Taṇṭi*”. December 2018
Laboratoire d'Histoire des Théories linguistiques
Séance scientifique, December 8, 2018.
- “Haradatta Miśra’s Introduction to Sanskrit Grammar”. December 2018
9th International Coffee Break Conference
Oxford December 4–6, 2018.
- “Washing the Wild Elephant: Haradatta’s Approach to Sanskrit Grammar”. November 2018
Invited guest lecture: Sapienza Università di Roma
November 21, 2018.
- “The Limits of a Language: Readings in the *Taṇṭiyalānkāram* and the *Manucaritramu*”.
Invited guest lecturer: Università degli Studi di Napoli
“L’Orientale”, November 21, 2018.
- Four Lectures on Sanskrit Grammar and Poetics: March 2018
1. “Introductin to the concept of *jñāpaka*, ‘hint.’”
2. “Grammar in *alānkāraśāstra* and Vāmana’s ‘hint’ in *cakṣIN*.”
3. “Reactions to Vāmana’s ‘hint.’”
4. “Non-Pāṇinian Grammars Quoted and Discussed by Commentators on Poetry.”
- “Vyākaraṇa Week”, Università degli Studi di Napoli
“L’Orientale”, March 19–23, 2018.
- “The *Amarakośa* and the *Tivākaram*”. September 2017
9th NETamil Workshop: Glosses–Lexicography
EFEO, Pondicherry, India, September 11, 2017.
- “Compounding in the *Tolkāppiyam* and *Vīracōḷiyam*”. August 2017
14th International Conference On The History of
The Language Sciences, Paris, August 28, 2017.

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- “The *Vīracōliyam*’s Case System”. November 2016
Journées d’étude “Grammaires étendues”
Extended Grammars Workshop, Université Paris
Diderot, Paris, France, November 3, 2016.
- “Copying into Print: the End of the *Tolkāppiyam*
Manuscript Tradition”. October 2016
Workshop: *Textual and Material Craftsmanship:*
What does copying a manuscript mean?
University “L’Orientale” and the University of
Hamburg, Naples, Italy, October 7, 2016.
- “The *Vīracōliyam* and the 23 *upakāra*kas”. February 2016
4th NETamil Workshop: Multilingualism
EFEO, Pondicherry, India, February 3, 2016.
- “Hemacandra’s Linguistic Synthesis and the
Definition of Poetry”. May 2015
“Jains and the Others: Understanding Religious Identities”
International Graduate Student Conference on Jain Studies
Yale University, New Haven, CT, May 2, 2016.
- “The *Tolkāppiyam Collatikāram* and
its Commentaries”. February 2015
3rd NETamil Workshop: Commentary Idioms
EFEO, Pondicherry, India, February 2, 2015.
- “Sāyaṇa’s ‘Pāṇini and The Veda’”. March 2013
223rd Meeting of the American Oriental Society,
Portland, OR, March 17, 2013.
- “Translating and Transforming Grammar:
Compounding in the *Tolkāppiyam*”. October 2012
41st Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI,
October 12, 2012.

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“Decoding a Poem: The commentarial tradition on the Devishataka of Anandavardhana”. October 2011
40th Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, October 14, 2011.

“Grammatically Poetic: The Governance of Poetic Language in Alamkara Shastra”. October 2010
39th Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, October 16, 2010.

“On the Purity of Poetry”. April 2010
The Seventh South Asia Graduate Student Conference, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, April 16, 2010.

“*kāṇi punaḥ śabdānuśāsanasya prayojanāni* or ‘Grammar, what is it good for?’” February 2010
TAPSA Seminar, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, January 14, 2010.

“Warring Grammarians: Pāṇinian Scholarship through the ages”. Spring 2008
Indological Graduate Research Seminar, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK, May 23, 2008.

GRANTS & AWARDS

Erasmus+ Mobility Grant. 2020 (?)

- For teaching at a partner university within the EU.
- Course: “The Conceptualization of Sanskrit Compounds in the *Samāsacandrikā* and Related Texts”.

Università degli Studi di Napoli “L’Orientale”,
March 9–20, 2020.
[Delayed on account of the coronavirus]

Grant for Language Study in India. Winter 2011
COSAS, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL.

- Sanskrit with Vidvān H. V. Nagarajarao, Mysore.
- Tamil at the EFEO, Pondicherry.

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FLAS for AIIS Summer Language Study. Madurai, Tamil Nadu, India.	Summer 2010
Year Long FLAS for Tamil. University of Chicago, Chicago, IL.	2009–2011
Graduate Aid Initiative Fellowship. University of Chicago, Chicago IL.	2009–2014
Grant for Language Study in India <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sanskrit with Vidvān H. V. Nagaraja Rao, Mysore.	Summer 2008
MEALAC, Columbia University, New York, NY.	
Faculty Fellowship in MEALAC. Columbia University, New York, NY.	2007–2009
Lionel Casson Prize for outstanding thesis in Classics. New York University, New York, NY.	2005
Latin Translation Award. New York University, New York, NY.	2005
Raniri Travel Grant for Manuscript Research in Berlin. New York University, New York, NY.	Summer 2003
Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Program. Hamburg, Germany.	2000–2001

PUBLICATIONS

Articles

“ <i>Kāraka</i> Theory in the <i>Vīracōliyam</i> and its Sanskrit Antecedents.” <i>Histoire Epistémologie Langage</i> , 39.2: 65–88.	2017
“The Beginnings of the Tamil Commentarial Idiom,” in (eds.) Anandakichenin, Suganya and D'Avella, Victor, <i>The Commentary Idioms of the Tamil Learned Traditions</i> .	2019

- “The theorization of Tamil Compounds,” 2020
in (eds.) Aussant, Émilie and Jean-Luc Chevillard,
Extended Grammars, pp. 43–58. Münster:
Nodus Publikationen.
- “Orbiting Material in Manuscripts of Tamil
Grammatical Texts,” in (eds.) Wilden, Eva
Suganya Anandakickenin, *Colophons, Prefaces,
Satellite Stanzas: Paratextual Elements and their
Role in the Transmission of Indian Texts*, pp. 223–280.
Indian and Tibetan Studies 10. Hamburg: Department of
Indian and Tibetan Studies, Universität Hamburg.
- “Recreating Daṇḍin’s Styles in Tamil,” 2020
Cracow Indological Studies, 22(2), pp. 17–41.
- “Copying into Print: the End of the Tolkāppiyam
Manuscript Tradition,” in (eds.) Brita, Antonella,
Giovanni Ciotti, Florinda De Simini and Roselli Amneris,
Copying Manuscripts: Textual and Material –Craftsmanship,
pp. 507–526. Napalo: Università degli Studi di Napoli “L’Orientale”.
- “The Viracōliyam: A Tamil Grammar through the
Eyes of Sanskrit,” in (eds.) Ciotti, Giovanni and Erin
McCann, *Linguistic and Textual Aspects of Multilingualism
in South India and Sri Lanka*. Collection Indologie 147/
NETamil Series 8. Pondicherry: École française
d’Extrême-Orient/Institut Français de Pondichéry, 327–410.
- “The Relative Participle and the Limits of Sanskrit,” 2021
in (eds.) Ciotti, Giovanni and Erin McCann, *Linguistic
and Textual Aspects of Multilingualism in South India
and Sri Lanka*, pp. 453–524. Collection Indologie 147/
NETamil Series 8. Pondicherry: École française
d’Extrême-Orient/Institut Français de Pondichéry.

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Books *The Commentary Idioms of the Tamil Learned Traditions,* 2020
(eds.) Anandakichenin, Suganya and D'Avella, Victor B.
Collection Indologie n°141/NETamil Series n°5.
Pondicherry: EFEO/IFP, 2020.

A Study of Grammatical Case in Tamil: In Progress
Annotated Translation from the Iḷampūraṇam.

LANGUAGES High Level of Proficiency:
• English (native speaker)
• German (high proficiency in reading, writing, and speaking)
• Sanskrit (high reading proficiency, basic speaking and writing)

Reading Proficiency:
• Ancient Greek
• Classical Telugu (intermediate reading proficiency)
• French
• Hindi (basic reading proficiency)
• Italian
• Latin
• Pali
• Prakrit
• Tamil (very good reading proficiency in Classical and Modern)

**COMPUTER
SKILLS** • L^AT_EX
• Word
• XML