



# MARIA IRENA SZAWERNA

Linguist, Computational Linguist, PhD Researcher

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## SKILLS

Linguistics   Python  
NLP   Data annotation  
Machine learning   GitHub  
Teaching English  
Microsoft Office    $\LaTeX$   
Discord bots   Translation  
Data analysis   LLM

## STRENGTHS

Working solo and in a team  
Attention to detail  
Timeliness   Quality orientation  
Desire to learn and improve

## NON-ACADEMIC INTERESTS

Foreign languages   Teaching  
Knitting   Crochet   Cinema  
Literature   Computer games  
Cooking   Travelling   Animals  
Photography   Tabletop RPG

## LANGUAGES

Polish: **Native**  
English: **C2**  
Swedish: **C1**  
German: **B1/B2**  
Latin: **Basic**

## HIGHER EDUCATION

PhD (Language Technology) | **University of Gothenburg**

📅 Oct 2023 – ongoing    📍 Gothenburg, Sweden

- Working on pseudonymization within the "Mormor Karl" project
- Supervisors: Dr Elena Volodina, Dr Simon Dobnik

MA (Language Technology) | **University of Gothenburg**

📅 Sep 2021 – Jun 2023    📍 Gothenburg, Sweden

- Final grade: VG
- Thesis: *IŻ SWÓJ JĘZYK MAJĄ! An exploration of the computational methods for identifying language variation in Polish* under the supervision of Dr Aleksandrs Berdicevskis

MA (Major: English Linguistics) | **Heidelberg University**

📅 Oct 2019 – Oct 2022    📍 Heidelberg, Germany

- Final grade: 1.1
- Thesis: *Get thee to a nunnery: The use of 2nd person singular pronouns in William Shakespeare's As You Like It and Hamlet* under the supervision of PD Dr Sandra Mollin
- Recipient of the prestigious DAAD scholarship (2020/21)

BA (English Studies) | **University of Wrocław**

📅 Oct 2016 – Jun 2019    📍 Wrocław, Poland

- GPA: 4.9+
- Thesis: *The influence of storytelling games on linguistic creativity: Experiment design* under the supervision of Dr Dorota Klimek-Jankowska
- ERASMUS+ exchange at Heidelberg University, Heidelberg, Germany (2017/18)
- Recipient of yearly merit-based scholarships (2016 – 2019)

## WORK EXPERIENCE

PhD Student | **Språkbanken Text, University of Gothenburg**

📅 Oct 2023 – ongoing    📍 Gothenburg, Sweden

- Working within a research infrastructure project on my thesis
- Organizational work on various events
- Working on the Språkbanken infrastructure

## CERTIFICATES



### C2 Proficiency (CPE)

The highest level of Cambridge English proficiency tests, passed with the score of 222 (ID: 193PL0858005)



### Tisus

The official Swedish language test granting the right to study in Swedish, estimated at B2/C1 depending on the skill in question



### Associate Data Scientist

A DataCamp certification confirming the knowledge and skills in the field of Data Science (ID: DSA0014785330634)



### 120-hour TESOL/TEFL Certificate

Teaching English as a foreign language course (ID: WTA22210070)

## ACHIEVEMENTS AND HONORS



### DAAD scholarship (2020/21)

A prestigious merit-based scholarship for foreign students in Germany



### ERASMUS+ scholarship (2017/18)

A scholarship for an academic exchange



### University scholarships (2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19)

Yearly scholarships awarded for outstanding grades



### English Language Olympiad (2015, 2016)

One of the finalists and winners of the 39<sup>th</sup> and 40<sup>th</sup> National English Language Olympiad, respectively

### Teaching Assistant | University of Gothenburg



Spring Terms 2023, 2024



Gothenburg, Sweden

- Assisting during lab sessions and with designing as well as grading the assignments for the *LT2222 Machine learning for statistical NLP: introduction* course

### Independent Collaborator | BASTA project, University of Wrocław



Jun 2023



Wrocław, Poland

- Solving issues in the existing Python scripts to enable them to work for Belarussian (although the changes have not been accepted in the master branch of the repository, they are being utilized in the project)

### Student Representative | University of Gothenburg



Sep 2021 – Jun 2023



Gothenburg, Sweden

- Communication between the teachers and the students of the MLT program
- Participation in program staff meetings and providing feedback

### English language teacher | CJO Moose Wrocław



Spring 2017, 2018/19



Wrocław, Poland

- Teaching English in one-on-one or small group settings

## PUBLICATIONS



### The 13th Workshop on Natural Language Processing for Computer Assisted Language Learning (2024)

- Co-author: *Jingle BERT, Jingle BERT, Frozen All the Way: Freezing Layers to Identify CEFR Levels of Second Language Learners Using BERT*



### The 2024 Joint International Conference on Computational Linguistics, Language Resources and Evaluation & the MWE-UD workshop (2024)

- Main author: *Pseudonymization Categories across Domain Boundaries*
- Co-author: *Synthetic-Error Augmented Parsing of Swedish as a Second Language: Experiments with Word Order*



### The 18th Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics & the CALD-Pseudo workshop (2024)

- Main author & presentation: *Detecting Personal Identifiable Information in Swedish Learner Essays*
- Co-author: *Did the Names I Used within My Essay Affect My Score? Diagnosing Name Biases in Automated Essay Scoring*
- Co-organizer: *Proceedings of the Workshop on Computational Approaches to Language Data Pseudonymization (CALD-pseudo 2024)*
- Main author & poster presentation: *Can Stanza be Used for Part-of-Speech Tagging Historical Polish?*