

Lauren Zentz

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Education

- 2012 **Ph.D., Language, Reading, and Culture**
University of Arizona (Tucson, AZ)
Dissertation: *Global Language Identities and Ideologies in an Indonesian University Context* (Advisor: Dr. Perry Gilmore)
- 2006 **M.A., Sociolinguistics**
University of Ottawa (Ottawa, Ontario, Canada)
Thesis: *“C’est ça je travaille dessus”: Orphaned Prepositions and Relativization in Canadian French.* (Advisor: Dr. Shana Poplack)
- 2004 **B.A., Linguistics**
Minor: Teaching English as a Second Language
B.A., French
B.S., Health Sciences
University of Florida (Gainesville, FL)

Academic Positions

- 2025 (September 1)-present: Chair, Department of English, University of Houston
- 2022-present: Professor of Applied Linguistics, Department of English, University of Houston
- 2019-present: Affiliate Faculty, Anthropology Program, Department of Comparative Cultural Studies, University of Houston
- 2018-2022: Associate Professor of Applied Linguistics, Department of English, University of Houston
- 2012-2018: Assistant Professor of Applied Linguistics, Department of English, University of Houston

Research Interests

Language socialization
Identity
Morality
AI
Social media communication
State formation and nationalism

Publications

Books

- Zentz, L. (under review). *Echo Chambers and Epistemological Bubbles: Communicative Flirtations with the End of Democracy*.
- Zentz, L. (2021). *Narrating Stance, Morality, and Political Identity: Building a Movement on Facebook*. Routledge.
- Zentz, L. (2017). *Statehood, Scale, and Hierarchy: History, Language, and Identity in Indonesia*. Multilingual Matters.

Articles/Chapters

- Zentz, L. (in press). Navigating pre-authorial constraints on Facebook: the “Seven As”. Giaxoglou, K. & Tagg, C (eds.) *Routledge Handbook of Language and Social Media*.
- Zentz, L. (2023). Grassroots scaling up: Navigating “algorithmic scales” in a technopolitical landscape. *Language in Society*. June.
- Zentz, L. (2021). #LadiesWeGotYou: Stances of Moral-Political Alignment in the Formation of Group Identity On Facebook. *Journal of Sociolinguistics*. DOI: 10.1111/josl.12507.
- Zentz, L. (2021). “I AM HERE AND I MATTER”: Virtue signaling and moral-political stance in progressive activists’ Facebook posts. *Narrative Inquiry*. <https://doi.org/10.1075/ni.20117.zen>.
- Zentz, L. (2021). Nation and nationalism. In *The International Encyclopedia of Linguistic Anthropology*. Wiley.
- Zentz, L. (2021). Conversational maxims and conversational implicature. In *The International Encyclopedia of Linguistic Anthropology*. Wiley.
- Zentz, L. (2021). Public/Private. In *The International Encyclopedia of Linguistic Anthropology*. Wiley.
- Zentz, L. (2020). Semiotics, indexicality, and English in Indonesia. In Giri, R.A, Sharma, A., & D’Angelo, J. (eds.). *Functional Variations in English: Theoretical Considerations and Practical Challenges*, pp. 195-208. London: Springer.
- Zentz, L. (2019). Moving languages: syncretism and shift in Central Java. In Goebel, Z., Cole, D., & Mann, H. (eds.), *Contact Talk: The Discursive Organization of Contact and Boundaries*, pp. 53-71. Routledge.
- Zentz, L. (2019). ‘Episode hari ini disponsori oleh Nü Green Tea’ [Today’s episode is sponsored by Nü Green Tea]: Rapport and virtuoso humor in group interviews. In Goebel, Z. (ed.), *Rapport and the Discursive Co-Construction of Social Relations in Fieldwork Settings*, pp. 33-52. De Gruyter.
- Poplack, S., Dion, N. & **Zentz, L.** (2019). L’anglicisme syntaxique : Produit inévitable du contact des langues?. *Circula : revue d’idéologies linguistiques* 10. (Special issue: *A-t-on toujours peur des anglicismes? Colloque sur la perception actuelle des anglicismes au Québec et dans l’espace francophone*)
- Gilmore, P., O’Connor, B.H. & **Zentz, L.** (2016). Taking “language fun” seriously. In Hornberger, N. & Baker, C. (eds.). *Honoring Richard Ruiz and his Work on Language Planning and Bilingual Education*, pp. 205-211. Multilingual Matters.

- Zentz, L. (2016). English on the rise: access and resources in internationalization. In Wickstrom, B.A & Gazzola, M. (eds.). *The Economics of Language Policy*, pp. 433-468. MIT Press.
- O'Connor, B. & Zentz, L. (2016). Theorizing mobility in semiotic landscapes: comparative evidence from South Texas and Central Java. *Linguistic Landscape* 2(1), 26-50.
- Zentz, L. (2015). The porous borders of language and nation: English in Indonesia. *Language Problems and Language Planning* 31(1): 50-69.
- Zentz, L. (2015). 'Love' the local, 'use' the national, 'study' the foreign: Shifting Javanese Language Ecologies in (Post-)Modernity, Postcoloniality, and Globalization. *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology* 24(3): 339-359.
- Zentz, L. (2014). 'Is English also the place where I belong?': linguistic biographies and expanding communicative repertoires in Central Java. *International Journal of Multilingualism* 12(1): 68-92.
- Poplack, S., Zentz, L. & Dion, N. (2012). What counts as (contact-induced) change. *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition* 15(2): 247-254.
- Poplack, S., Zentz, L. & Dion, N. (2012). Phrase-final prepositions in Quebec French: An empirical study of contact, code-switching and resistance to convergence. *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition* 15(2): 203-225.

Scholarly Publications/Feature Articles

- Zentz, L. (2021). What's at stake: The moral politics of rationalist democracy. Column in *Diggit Magazine*. Published 11/17/2024. <https://www.diggitmagazine.com/whats-stake-moral-politics-rationalist-democracy>
- Zentz, L. (2021). Why(,) Facebook? Activism, censorship, and democracy. Column in *Diggit Magazine*. Published 12/03/2021. <https://www.diggitmagazine.com/academic-papers/facebook-moderation-context>
- Zentz, L. (2021). Capitol riots, echo chambers, and democracy. Column in *Diggit Magazine*. Published 01/18/2021. <https://www.diggitmagazine.com/column/capitol-riots-echo-chambers-and-democracy>
- Editorial board (2018). **Lauren Zentz** on digital culture in 2018 and 2019. In *Diggit Magazine*. <https://www.diggitmagazine.com/interviews/lauren-zentz-digital-culture>
- Goebel, Z. (2017). Goebel interviews **Lauren Zentz** on her new book. In Camp Anthropology Blog. <https://campanthropology.org/2017/08/07/goebbel-interviews-lauren-zentz-on-her-new-book/>.
- Zentz, L. (2017). The importance of situating work within deeper historical contexts. <https://channelviewpublications.wordpress.com/2017/08/03/the-importance-of-situating-work-within-deeper-historical-contexts/>
- Zentz, L. (2016). Five pillars and one language: Monolingual hegemony and national ideology in Indonesia. Proceedings of the 24th World Congress of Political Science.
- Zentz, L. (2016). Moving languages: syncretism and shift in Central Java. In Goebel, Z., Cole, D. & Mann, H. (eds.) *Papers from the Symposium: Margins, Hubs, and Peripheries in a Decentralizing Indonesia*, 162 Special Issue, pp. 51-66. *Tilburg Papers in Cultural Studies*.
- Zentz, L. (2015). Moving languages: syncretism and shift in Central Java. In *Papers from the Symposium: Margins, Hubs, and Peripheries in a Decentralizing Indonesia*, Zane

Goebel, Deborah Cole, and Howard Mann (eds.). *Tilburg Papers in Cultural Studies*, Paper 141.

- Zentz, L. (2015). The more things change the more they stay the same? Exploring a century of Indonesian language planning discourses. *Tilburg Papers in Cultural Studies*, Paper 133. https://www.tilburguniversity.edu/upload/58848031-fbc2-4742-b796-834f28532871_TPCS_133_Zentz.pdf.
- Zentz, L. (2014) The more things change the more they stay the same? Exploring a century of Indonesian language planning discourses. Presented at the 23rd World Congress of Political Science, Montréal, QC, Canada, 07/21/2014.
- Zentz, L. (2012). Linguistic biographies, expanding repertoires, and motivation in Global English language education. *Tilburg Papers in Cultural Studies*, Paper 17. <http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/research/institutes-and-research-groups/babylon/tpcs/paper17.pdf>.
- Zentz, L. (2012). “Love” the local, “use” the national, “study” the foreign: Shifting Javanese Language Ecologies in (Post-)Modernity, Postcoloniality, and Globalization. Runner-up, Society for Linguistic Anthropology Graduate Student Paper Competition.

Book Reviews

- Zentz, L. (2016). Review of *Dialogue in Multilingual and Multimodal Communities* by Koike, D.A and Blyth, C.S. (eds.). *Multimodal Communication* 5(1): 75-77.
- Zentz, L. (2012). Review of *The Sociolinguistics of Globalization* by Jan Blommaert. *Anthropology & Education Quarterly* 43: 229–231.
- Zentz, L. (2012). Review of *Englishes Around the World: An Introduction* by Edgar W. Schneider. *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology* 22(3): 265-267.

Invited Presentations

- Invited workshop: Ethics and Data Collection in Social Media Research: Navigating Private, Public, and Automated Spaces. American Association of Applied Linguistics, March 2024, Houston, TX.
- Communicative Repertoires: English Language Learners navigating their expanding communicative resources. Invited lecture, English Language Education Program Webinar Series, Universitas Kristen Satya Wacana, September 20, 2020.
- How much English? Maintaining National Purity in Globalization. Plenary Speaker, Asia-Pacific Research in Social Sciences and Humanities Conference, Universitas Indonesia, November 7-9, 2016.
- Nationalism, Language Learning, and Language Policy in Indonesia. Invited lecture at Universitas Indonesia, Depok, Indonesia, November 10, 2016.
- How much English? Maintaining national purity in Globalization. Invited lecture at Atma Jaya University, Jakarta, Indonesia, November 11, 2016.
- ‘Episode hari ini disponsori oleh Nü Green Tea’ [Today’s episode is sponsored by Nü Green Tea]: Rapport and virtuoso humor in group interviews. Paper presented at Invited Symposium: Conceptualizing Rapport, LaTrobe University, Melbourne, Australia, July 17-20, 2016.
- Discourse Analysis and Language & Identity in Indonesia: A Two-Part Talk. Invited lecture at Houston Community College, 03/26/15

- Indonesia. Invited lecture for undergraduate course Art in the Muslim World, Instructor: Sehba Sarwar, 09/08/14
- “Is English also the place where I belong?” Communicative and Linguistic Repertoires. Invited lecture for graduate course Sociolinguistics, Instructor: Chatwara Duran, 10/15/14
- Language ecologies and linguistic resources in shift: the case of Indonesia. Invited presentation at Pusat Kajian Bahasa dan Budaya (Center for the Study of Language and Culture), Atma Jaya University, Jakarta, Indonesia, 06/26/2013.
- Discourse analysis: a really broad overview, and then a few targeted examples. Invited lecture for ENGL4300: Introduction to the Study of Language, University of Houston, 04/23/2013.
- Diglossic dreams and shifting realities: language shift, correction and blame in Central Java, Indonesia. Invited presentation at Babylon Center for Studies of the Multicultural Society, Tilburg University, 06/06/2012.
- Concepts in Bakhtin. Invited workshop at Babylon Center for Studies of the Multicultural Society, Tilburg University, 05/23/2012.
- “Love” the local, “use” the national, “study” the foreign: modernity, postcoloniality, and globalization in contemporary Indonesia.” Invited presentation at Babylon Center for Studies of the Multicultural Society, Tilburg University, 05/16/2012.

Conference Presentations

- Why(,) Facebook? Activism, censorship and democracy. Society for Linguistic Anthropology Annual Conference, Boulder, CO, 04/07/22.
- *Chair, Organizer*: Online Encounters I: Identity and (Re)appropriation; Online Encounters I: Stance and Entextualization. Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Vancouver, BC, 11/20/2019.
- Zentz, L. Facebooking an activist identity in a Texan organizing community. Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Vancouver, BC, 11/20/2019.
- *Discussant*: Our Language, Our Life: Language Policy, Institutions and Resistance. Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, San Jose, CA, 11/15/2018.
- Poplack, S., **Zentz, L.** & Dion, N. L’impact des anglicismes sur la structure grammaticale du français parlé. Colloque sur la perception des anglicismes au Québec et dans l’espace francophone. Université de Sherbrook, 05/2018.
- Five pillars and one language: Monolingual hegemony and national ideology in Indonesia. Presented at the 24th World Congress of Political Science, Poznań, Poland, July 25, 2016.
- *Chair*: Monolingual Hegemony and National Ideology in the Globalized Development State. Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Denver, CO, 11/19/2015.
- Pancasila and One Nation-One Land-One Language: the ideological unification of postcolonial Indonesia. Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Denver, CO, 11/19/2015.
- Moving languages: syncretism and shift in Central Java. Presented at The Sociolinguistics of Globalization Conference, Hong Kong, 06/05/2015.
- Moving people, transporting texts: a comparative case study of linguistic landscapes and language policy on the Texas-Tamaulipas border and Central Java, Indonesia. Presented

at Multidisciplinary Approaches to Language Policy and Planning, Calgary, AB, Canada, 09/05/2014.

- Legislative ideologies at “the top”, and their implementational consequences: the case of Indonesia. Presented at the 17th AILA World Congress, Brisbane, QL, Australia.
- The more things change the more they stay the same? Exploring a century of Indonesian language planning discourses. Presented at the 23rd World Congress of Political Science, Montréal, QC, Canada, 07/21/2014.
- *Co-chair*: Mediating Private and (Counter)Public Discourse: Genre, Addressivity, and the Semiotics of (not) Belonging. Zentz, L. & Taylor, C. (organizers). Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Chicago, 11/23/2013
- “They don't have the English to get them work”: Constructing an Indonesian Public's Language Needs. Presented at The Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Chicago, 11/23/2013.
- *Kongres Bahasa* (The Language Congress): A top-down exploration of Indonesian language policy. Presented at Multidisciplinary Approaches to Language Policy and Planning, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, 09/07/2013.
- English on the rise: access and resources in internationalization. Presented at the Venice Summer Institute on the Economics of Language Policy, hosted by CESifo Group Munich at Venice International University, 07/26/2013.
- Properly Javanese: a case study of language shift in Central Java. Presented at the International Symposium on the Languages of Java, Padang, Sumatera, Indonesia, 06/07/2013.
- The multilingual state?: a case study of language shift in Central Java, Indonesia. Presented at the annual conference of the American Association for Applied Linguistics, Dallas, TX, 03/16/2013.
- “Love” the local, “use” the national, “study” the foreign: shifting Javanese language ecologies in (post-)modernity, postcoloniality, and globalization. Presented on the Society for Linguistic Anthropology Graduate Student Paper Award Panel, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, CA, 11/17/2012.
- *Discussant and co-chair*, The things that they carry: Signs, significance, and semiosis across borders. Panel presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, CA, 11/14/2012.
- Language ecologies, policies, and shift in a globalizing Indonesia. Presented at the Sociolinguistics Symposium 19, Berlin, Germany, 08/23/2012.
- Legacies of Modernity, Postcoloniality, and Globalization: Language Policy in Indonesia. Presented at the Symposium on Language and the United Nations, New York City, 05/01/2012.

Research Experience

- 2017-present
 - 2024-present, *Social Media and AI at the Edge of Democracy*, currently in pilot phase, examining moral discourses around AI and social media platforms as discussed on various news media outlets.
 - University of Houston AI Working Group
 - 2022, Certificate of Completion, Enhancing Teaching Practices course, Association of College and University Educators

- *The Discourses of Internet Political Organization*, research being conducted with activist communities in Texas, USA, and on mass media and social media spaces (primarily Facebook and Twitter). Book published related to this work: *Narrating Stance, Morality, and Intertextual Identities: Building a Movement on Facebook* (Routledge). Book in progress related to this work: *Echo Chambers and Epistemological Bubbles: Corporate Media, Neoliberal Governance, and Communicative Flirtations with the End of Democracy*.
- 2016-2020
 - *Digital and Physical Inroads to Sustaining Scholarly-Community Rapport: Toward a Research Collective on Writing, Community, and Global Culture*. Collaborative research project funded by Hobby Center for Public Policy and CLASS Research Progress Grants. We are investigating stories of Houstonians' lives, immigrants' adaptations to living in Houston and the US, and city policies that affect immigrant and minority communities' livelihoods.
 - Pilot fieldwork, Havana, Cuba. May 28-June 13, 2016. Early stage in investigating Houston-Havana transnationalism in a time of political change.
 - Vice President, Executive Board, Voices Breaking Boundaries
- 2015-2016
 - Vice President, Executive Board, Voices Breaking Boundaries
 - Cougar Chairs Leadership Program
- 2014-2015
 - Translator, *Anthologi Puisi Indonesia (Kumpulan Pilihan Yayasan Lontar): Melacak Sejara Bangsa di Abad Ke-20 Melalui Puisi*. Editors, John H. McGlynn, Dorothea Rosa Herliany, Deborah Cole
 - Executive Board Member, Voices Breaking Boundaries
- 2013-2014
 - Continuing independent fieldwork focused on language and education policies, Jakarta and Salatiga, Central Java, Indonesia
- 2010-2012
 - Visiting Scholar, Babylon Center for Studies of the Multicultural Society, Tilburg University
 - Graduate Research Assistant, Family and Community Case Studies, First Things First External Evaluation Team, Tucson, Arizona
- 2009-2010
 - Dissertation Fieldwork as an Ethnographer and Teacher-Researcher, English Department, Universitas Kristen Satya Wacana: Salatiga, Indonesia. Working Title: *Global Language Identities and Ideologies in an Indonesian University Context*.
- 2007-2008
 - Field Research for COTIM Language and Culture immersion program, Salatiga, Indonesia, Universitas Kristen Satya Wacana
- 2005-2006
 - Sociolinguistics Laboratory Research Assistant, University of Ottawa
Role: Data mining and coding for Variation Analysis of language contact between French and English speakers in the region of Ottawa-Hull, Canada.

Teaching Activities

- 2025, Faculty Presenter, Teaching AI in the University Classroom: Inputs, Outputs, and Context, English Department Annual Teaching Conference, 01/09/25
- 2024, AI and Morality, Presented to UH AI Working Group, 10/28/24
- 2024, Faculty Presenter, AI in the Classroom, English Department Annual Teaching Conference, 01/11/24
- 2022, Faculty Facilitator, Enhancing Teaching Practices course, Association of College and University Educators course taught to faculty at University of Houston
- 2022, Provost's Faculty Advisory Board for *Envisioning the Classroom of the Future*, University of Houston
- 2021-present, Internship Coordinator, English Department, University of Houston
- 2021, Faculty Engagement and Development's "Improving your teaching evaluations" panel, University of Houston, October 18
- 2020, Provost's Faculty Advisory Board for Online Teaching (*UH Power On*), University of Houston
- 2020, English Department Liaison for Online Teaching Development, University of Houston
- 2019, Ad hoc committee on developing online MA, English Department, University of Houston
- 2017, Department Approval for the reinstatement of a BA Concentration in Applied Linguistics and a Minor in Applied Linguistics

Courses Taught

- 2024-5
 - Topics in Language Socialization: Morality
 - Topics in Language Socialization: AI & Morality
- 2012-2023, University of Houston
 - Graduate level
 - News Media, Social Media, and Democracy, online course (Sp '23)
 - Language Socialization: Online Socialization in an Era of Disinformation, online course
 - Bakhtin & the Internet, online course
 - Socializing the Nation in the Internet Age, online course
 - Discourse Analysis
 - Introduction to Applied Linguistics
 - Language in Postcoloniality and Globalization
 - Undergraduate level
 - News Media, Social Media, and Democracy, online course (Sp '23)
 - Language Socialization: Online Socialization in an Era of Disinformation, online course
 - Bakhtin & the Internet, online course
 - Socializing the Nation in the Internet Age, online course
 - Introduction to the Study of Language, face to face and online
 - Introduction to Sociolinguistics, face to face, online, and "HyFlex"

- Empirical and Theoretical Approaches to Syntax
- Language Socialization, face to face and online
- Grammar and Usage, face to face and online
- 2010-2012, University of Arizona
 - Instructor
 - Language, Culture and Race in Education, University of Arizona

Professional Development

- 2023
 - Women's Academic Leadership Academy, University of Houston
- 2015-2016
 - Cougar Chairs Leadership Academy, University of Houston

Service and Academic Societies

- 2021-25
 - UH English Department Annual Teaching Conference Committee and Presenter
 - Lower Division Studies Committee, English Department
 - Personnel Committee, English Department
 - Planning Committee, English Department
 - Elections, Rules, and Grievances Committee, English Department
 - Faculty Advisory Board for Children's Learning Centers, University of Houston
 - Reviewer, *New Media Studies*
 - Reviewer, *International Journal of the Sociology of Language*
 - Reviewer, *Language and Communication*
 - Reviewer, *International Journal of Multilingualism*
 - Reviewer, *Discourse Studies*
 - Book reviewer, *Interface Between English Language Education Policies and Practices*, Springer
- 2020
 - Personnel Committee, English Department
 - Textbook review, *Introducing Language and Society*, Cambridge University Press
 - Book review, *Language Policy Apparatus*, Oxford University Press
 - Article Reviewer, *Journal of Sociolinguistics*
 - Article Reviewer, *NUSA: Linguistic studies of languages in and around Indonesia*
 - Program Reviewer, American Association for Applied Linguistics
 - CLASS Scholarship Committee, University of Houston
- 2014-2019
 - Editorial Team, *Anthropology and Education Quarterly*
 - Chair, Dissertation Award Committee, Council on Anthropology and Education, American Anthropological Association
 - Member-at-large, Council on Anthropology and Education, American Anthropological Association
 - Board Member, RC50 The Politics of Language, International Political Sciences Association
 - Research Network on Multilingual Diversity in a Changing Indonesia
 - Fulbright Review Committee, University of Houston

- Executive Board Member, Voices Breaking Boundaries
- Steering Committee, Empire Studies Collective, English Department, University of Houston
- Upper Division Committee, English Department, University of Houston
- Graduate Studies Committee, English Department, University of Houston
- Planning Committee, English Department, University of Houston
- Book reviewer, *Learning Batak, Language and Power in New Order Indonesia*. SEAP Publications, Cornell University Press.
- Book proposal review, *Interface Between ELT Policy and Practice: From Global to Local*, Palgrave MacMillan
- Journal Referee for *Linguistic Landscape*
- Journal Referee for *Applied Linguistics*
- Journal Referee for *Anthropology and Education Quarterly*
- Abstract Referee for the Council on Anthropology and Education
- Abstract Referee for the American Educational Research Association
- Copy Editor, *Borderlines*, Voices Breaking Boundaries
- Mentor, Texas Performance Standards Project, Carnegie Vanguard High School
- 2013-2014
 - Upper Division Committee, English Department, University of Houston
 - Journal Referee for *Language Policy*
 - Journal Referee for *Anthropology and Education Quarterly*
 - Abstract referee for the Annual Meeting of the American Association for Applied Linguistics
 - Faculty Liaison to the Graduate Student Committee, Council on Anthropology and Education, American Anthropological Association
- 2012-2013
 - Lower Division Committee, English Department, University of Houston
 - External grader, Language Training Center, Satya Wacana Christian University, Salatiga, Central Java, Indonesia
 - Journal Referee, *Applied Linguistics*
 - Proposal Review Committee, Council on Anthropology and Education section of the American Anthropological Association
 - Award Committee, Outstanding Teaching Fellow Award for Excellence in Core Curriculum Teaching 1303, English Department, University of Houston
 - Faculty Liaison to the Council on Anthropology and Education Graduate Student Committee
 - Lower Division Committee, English Department, University of Houston
- 2010-2012
 - Graduate Student Representative to the Council on Anthropology and Education section of the American Anthropological Association
 - External Reviewer, Tilburg Papers in Cultural Studies, Tilburg University, The Netherlands
 - Member, Arizona Editorial Team for *Anthropology and Education Quarterly* Scholarly Journal (2008-2012)
 - Co-chair, Inaugural Arizona Anthropology and Education Exchange, University of Arizona

Honors/Awards

- 2024-5
 - Social Media and AI at the Edge of Democracy. NEH Dangers and Opportunities of Technology Grant. Under consideration (Submitted August 2024, award announced April 2025)
- 2021-23
 - UH Teaching Innovation Grant, \$8000
 - Department of English Houston Research Professorship, 2 years course reduction + \$3000 research stipend, University of Houston
- 2020
 - \$2,300 CLASS Project Completion Grant, University of Houston
- 2017
 - \$6,000 Research Progress Grant, CLASS, University of Houston
- 2016
 - \$10,000 Grant from Hobby Center for Public Policy, University of Houston
 - Runner-up, Ton Vallen Award, Babylon Center for the Study of Superdiversity, Tilburg University, Netherlands. Awarded October 2016. (Article submitted: Zentz, L. (2015). “Love” the local, “use” the national, “study” the foreign: Shifting Javanese Language Ecologies in (Post-)Modernity, Postcoloniality, and Globalization. *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology* 24(3): 339–359.)
 - Houston Visiting Scholar Grant for hosting Darcy Alexandra. Department of English, University of Houston. Awarded September 2016.
 - Project Completion Grant, University of Houston
- 2015
 - New Faculty Research Grant, University of Houston
- 2014
 - Houston Visiting Scholar Grant for hosting Curtis Acosta. Department of English, University of Houston. Awarded February 2014.

Professional Memberships & Research Networks

- Affiliate with UNC’s Center for Information, Technology and Public Life, 2022-present
- Multilingual Diversity in a Changing Indonesia Research Network, 2015-present
- American Anthropological Association, 2007-present
 - Council on Anthropology and Education
 - Society for Linguistic Anthropology
 - Language and Social Justice Committee
- American Association for Applied Linguistics, 2010-2016, 2018-2019
- International Association for Applied Linguistics, 2014-2018
- International Political Studies Association, 2014-2019
 - Research Committee 50: The Politics of Language (board member, 2016-2019)
- Modern Language Association, 2010-2012
- American Educational Research Association, 2010-2012
- International Studies Association, 2008-2010

International Experience

- 2016
 - Invited presentations at Asia-Pacific Research in Social Sciences and Humanities Conference, Universitas Indonesia; English Department, Universitas Indonesia; and Atma Jaya University. Jakarta, Indonesia, November 6-13, 2017.
 - Conference: International Political Science Association, Poznan, Poland, July 23-28, 2016.
 - Invited presenter, Conceptualizing Rapport Symposium, LaTrobe University, Melbourne, Australia, July 17-20, 2016.
 - Pilot fieldwork, Havana, Cuba. May 28-June 13, 2016.
- 2012-2013
 - Continuing fieldwork, Jakarta and Central Java, Indonesia
 - Conference: The Economics of Language Policy, Venice, Italy
- 2011-2012
 - Visiting Scholar, Babylon Center for Studies of the Multicultural Society, Tilburg University: Tilburg, The Netherlands.
- 2009-2010
 - Teacher-Researcher, English Department, Universitas Kristen Satya Wacana (Satya Wacana Christian University): Salatiga, Java, Indonesia.
- 2008-2009
 - Advanced Indonesian Abroad Summer Immersion Program, Consortium for the Teaching of Indonesian and Malay. Universitas Kristen Satya Wacana (Satya Wacana Christian University): Salatiga, Java, Indonesia.
- 2005-2006
 - Department of Linguistics, Masters' Degree Program. University of Ottawa: Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.
- 2004-2005
 - English Language Teacher, French Public Elementary Schools. Gien, France.
- 2000-2001
 - UF en Provence, University of Florida Summer Immersion Program: Avignon, France.