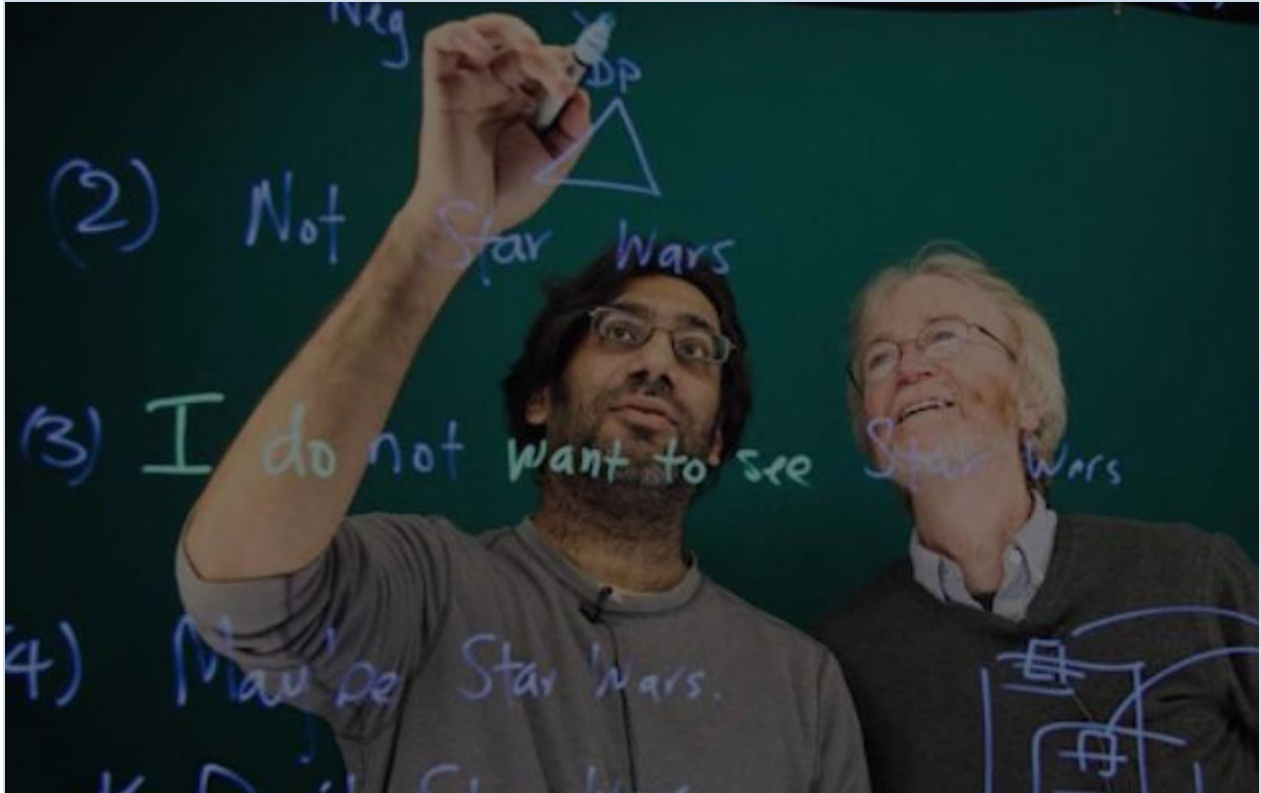




CORE COMMITMENT TO TEACHING AND RESEARCH



FROM THEORY AND BEYOND

The core commitment of the Department of Linguistics at UCSC is and always has been to teaching and research in theoretical linguistics. This is why our [alumni](#) now fill so many prominent positions in linguistics departments around the nation and the world.

But our concern with questions of language goes far beyond theory.

Faculty members, undergraduates, and graduate students have a long history of engagement with minority language communities and their struggles, and that involvement continues today with a focus on the [Irish language](#), with the [Chamorro language](#) of the Northern Mariana Islands, and with the [Northern Paiute](#) community of eastern California. Graduate students today are engaged in literacy projects with young Mixtec speakers in Watsonville and are embarking on a long-term engagement with Zapotec communities in Oaxaca, Mexico and in Central California.

A more recent development of a very different kind has been faculty and student engagement with efforts in the technology sector to develop more sophisticated ways of integrating natural language into the technologies that we more and more depend on in our daily lives. This new engagement has garnered significant media attention: [click here for an enlightening article and](#)

video

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1156 High Street
Santa Cruz CA 95064

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