

Biographical Sketch

Dr Alexandre Sévigny,

Assistant Professor (until June 30, 2006),

Dept of Communication Studies & Multimedia

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Dr. Alexandre Sévigny is a graduate of York University (BA) and the University of Toronto (MA - 1996, PhD-2000), and also spent a year as a *pensionnaire étranger* at the École Normale Supérieure in Paris, France (1998-9). Dr. Sévigny was awarded a SSHRC post-doctoral fellowship to co-author the *Metallic Reference Dictionary of Migmaq* (July 2005) and a Chateaubriand Postdoctoral Fellowship in Cognitive Science at the École Normale Supérieure (Paris, France). He is currently co-investigator on a 3-year SSHRC Standard Research Grant to build a digital archive of the Migmaq language and culture. He has been a professor of Communication Studies and French Linguistics at McMaster University since July 1, 2001 and in that time has published 15 scholarly articles and book chapters, co-authored a dictionary, co-edited a special issue of *Linguistica Atlantica*, and been contracted by Oxford UP to write a Communications textbook. He is currently writing a monograph outlining his theory of natural language comprehension, called Discourse Information Grammar, which should be completed in August of 2006. He is co-founder (with Dr. Karin Humphreys) of the proposed *McMaster Institute for the Cognitive Science of Language* and designed and co-founded (with Dr. Karin Humphreys) a completely new, interdisciplinary Undergraduate *Program in Linguistic Cognitive Science* involving the Faculties of Humanities, Science and Health Science at McMaster University. He is also the chair of committee designing an MA/PHD in *Linguistic Cognitive Science* at McMaster University. He was the first professor to be hired into the Communication Studies Program at McMaster and has been heavily involved in its growth and development, serving as Undergraduate Coordinator for the last 4 years and sitting on the committees that led to creation of a new department through the merger of the Communication Studies Program and the Multimedia Program at McMaster University. He sits on the University Planning Committee and the University Budget Committee of McMaster University. He is also a competitive fencer and has trained several championship fencers, including one Canadian National Team member. He was appointed to the honorific position of *Associate Member* of the Dept of Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour in recognition of his devotion to Cognitive Science. He has been granted tenure by McMaster University and will be, as of July 1st, 2006, an *Associate Professor*, jointly appointed to the Dept of Communication Studies & Multimedia, and the Dept of French.

Areas of Research Interest

- **Linguistics & Cognitive Science:** formal linguistic theory, semantics, Discourse Information Grammar, Relevance Theory, lexicography, computational lexical semantics, cognitive pragmatics, knowledge representation, communication disorders.
- **Communication Studies:** communication theory, language and discourse, critical linguistics, electronic publishing, intellectual property, cognitive cultural studies