

Heather J. Brookes, PhD

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Areas of Professional Expertise

Gesture, Interactional Linguistics, Youth Language, Ethnography of Communication, Child Language Development, Sociocultural Linguistics, Linguistic Anthropology

Education

2000 Ph.D. Stanford University, USA.

1990 M.A. Lancaster University, UK.

1987 B.A.(Hon) University of the Witwatersrand, SA.

1985 B.A. University of Stellenbosch, SA.

Awards

1. Newton Prize Finalist: UK-South Africa, 2020.
2. South African National Research Foundation rated scholar.
3. SPORE Series Winner, Science prize for the development of online resources in education, awarded by the journal *Science*, American Association for the Advancement of Science, 2010.

Professional Position

2021 – **Associate Professor** and Chair, Department of General Linguistics, University of Stellenbosch.

2021 - **Director**, Child Language Development Node, Department of General Linguistics, University of Stellenbosch.

Publications

1. Stam, G., **Brookes, H.** and Ngumbela, U. (in press) What Speech and Gesture Illustrate About the Thinking-for-Speaking Patterns of Child isiXhosa Speakers Learning English. In Amanda Brown & Søren W. Eskildsen *Multimodality and Multilingual Interaction Across Epistemologies*. Routledge
2. Mahura, O., Pascoe, M. and **Brookes, H.** (in press) Setswana speech development. In McLeod, S. (ed). *The Oxford handbook of speech development in languages of the world*. Oxford University Press.
3. **Brookes, H.** (in press) Variation in gesture: A sociocultural linguistic perspective. In Cienki A (ed). *The Cambridge Handbook of Gesture Studies*. Cambridge: CUP.
4. **Brookes, H.**, Makaure, P., Yalala, S., Danvers, H., Mossmer, M, Little, F. Ludidi, B. Ndhambi, M. and Southwood, F. (2024) Mean Length of Utterance: A study of early language development in four Southern Bantu languages. *Journal of Child Language*. doi: 10.1017/S0305000923000685.

5. Mesthrie, R. and **Brookes, H.J.** (2021). Language practices and language change among transnational migrants to South Africa, 1990-2020 – a survey. *Revista da Anpoll*
6. Southwood, F., White, M.J. **Brookes, H.**, Pascoe, M., Ndhambi, M., Yalala, S., Mahura, O., Mössmer, M., Oosthuizen, H., Brink, N., and Alcock, K.J. (2021) Sociocultural factors affecting vocabulary development in young South African children. *Frontiers in Psychology, Section Educational Psychology*.
7. **Brookes, H.J.** (2021) Rethinking youth language practices in South Africa: An interactional sociocultural perspective. In Mesthrie, R., Hurst-Harosh, E., and Brookes H.J. (eds.) *Youth Language Practices and Urban Language Contact in Africa*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
8. Makukule, I. and **Brookes, H.J.** (2021) The changing status of English in the linguistic and identity practices of black male township youth in South Africa. *World Englishes* 40 (1) 52-62.
9. **Brookes, H.J.** (2019) Youth language in South Africa: The role of English in South African *tsotsitaals*. In Hickey, R. (ed.) *English in a multilingual South Africa: The linguistics of contact and change*. Pp 176-195, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
10. **Brookes, H.J.** and Le Guen, O. (2019) Gesture and Anthropological Perspective: An Introduction. *Gesture* 18(2-3): 119-141.
11. Ovendale, A., **Brookes, H.J.**, Colletta, JM. and Davis, Z. (2018) The role of gestural polysigns and gestural sequences in teaching mathematical concepts: The case of halving. *Gesture* 17(1): 128-158.
12. **Brookes, H.J.** (2018) Gestures and gesturing on the African continent. In Agwuele, A. and Bodomo, A. (eds.) *Handbook of African Linguistics*. Pp 427-437, Oxford: Routledge.
13. **Brookes, H.J.** and Kouassi, R. (2018) The language of youth in Africa: A sociocultural linguistic analysis. In Agwuele, A. and Bodomo, A. (eds.) *Handbook of African Linguistics*. Pp 391-408, Oxford: Routledge.
14. **Brookes, H.J.** (2015) The social nature of cognitive–semiotic processes in the semantic expansion of gestural forms. *Conference Proceedings Gesture and Speech, Nantes, France* <http://hal.univ-nantes.fr/hal-01195646/document>: 55-60.

15. **Brookes, H.J.** (2014) Urban youth languages in South Africa: A case study of Tsotsitaal in a South African township. *Anthropological Linguistics* 56(3-4): 356-388.
16. **Brookes, H.J.** and Lekgoro, T. (2014) A social history of urban male youth 'varieties' in Stirtonville and Vosloorus, South Africa. *Southern African Linguistics and Applied Language Studies* 32(2): 149-159.
17. Maribe, T. and **Brookes, H.J.** (2014) *Vela, re a ringa*: 'Of course, we speak [boys' talk]: the role of tsotsitaal in the performance of black, lesbian, youth identities. *Southern African Linguistics and Applied Language Studies* 32(2): 199-214.
18. **Brookes, H.J.** (2014) Gesture in the communicative ecology of a South African township. In Seyfeddinipur, M. and Gullberg, M. (eds.) *Visible Utterance in Action. Festschrift for Adam Kendon*. Pp 59-74, Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
19. **Brookes, H.J.** (2014) Gestures in South Africa. Chapter 73. In Müller, C., Cienki, A., Fricke, E., Ladewig, S.H., McNeill, D. and Bressemer, J. (eds.) *Body-Language-Communication: An International Handbook on Multimodality in Human Interaction. Vol. 2*. Pp 1147-1153, Berlin/Boston: De Gruyter Mouton.
20. **Brookes, H.J.** and Nyst, V. (2014) Gesture in the Sub-Saharan region. Chapter 74. In Müller, C., Cienki, A., Fricke, E., Ladewig, S.H., McNeill, D. and Bressemer, J. (eds.) *Body-Language-Communication: An International Handbook on Multimodality in Human Interaction. Vol. 2*. Pp 1154-1161, Berlin/Boston: De Gruyter Mouton.
21. **Brookes, H.J.** (2014) Gestures and taboo: A cross-cultural perspective. Chapter 115. In Müller, C., Cienki, A., Fricke, E., Ladewig, S.H., McNeill, D. and Bressemer, J. (eds.) *Body-Language-Communication: An International Handbook on Multimodality in Human Interaction. Vol. 2*. Pp 1523-1530, Berlin/Boston: De Gruyter Mouton.
22. **Brookes, H.J.**, Colletta, J.M. and Ovendale, A (2013) Polysigns and information density in teachers' gestures. *Conference Proceedings Tilburg Gesture Research Meeting*. <http://tiger.uvt.nl/list-of-accepted-papers.html> : 1-4.
23. **Brookes, H.J.** (2011) Amangama Amathathu 'Three Letters': The emergence of a quotable gesture. *Gesture* 11(2): 194-218.
24. Gray, C., Loubser, S., Kriel, C., Mercer, M. and **Brookes, H.J.** (2010) Immunology for clinicians: A 'Trojan Horse' approach. *Science* 325(5999): 1613-1614.
25. Varga, C. and **Brookes, H.J.** (2008) Preventing Mother-to-Child HIV transmission among South African adolescents. *Journal of Adolescent Research* 23(2): 172-205.

26. Varga C. and **Brookes, H.J.** (2008) Factors influencing teen mothers' enrolment and participation in prevention of Mother-to-Child HIV transmission services in Limpopo Province, South Africa. *Qualitative Health Research* 18: 786-802.
27. **Brookes, H.J.** (2005) What gestures do: Some communicative functions of quotable gestures in conversations among black urban South Africans. *Journal of Pragmatics* 37: 2044-2085.
28. Bentley, C. and **Brookes, H.J.** (2005) The great leap sideways: Gender, culture and rights after 10 years of democracy in South Africa. *Agenda* 2-13.
29. **Brookes, H. J.** (2004) A first repertoire of South African quotable gestures. *Linguistic Anthropology* 14(2): 186-224.
30. **Brookes, H.J.** and Higson-Smith, C. (2004) Responses to gender based violence in schools. In Richter, L., Dawes, A. and Higson-Smith, C. (eds.) *Sexual Abuse of Young Children in Southern Africa*. Pp 110-129, Cape Town: HSRC Press.
31. Valdes, G., **Brookes, H.J.** and Chavez, C. (2003) Bilinguals and bilingualism. In Valdes, G. *Expanding Definitions of Giftedness: The Case of Young Interpreters from Immigrant Communities*. Pp 25-62, Mahwah, New Jersey: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.
32. **Brookes, H.J.** (2001) *O clever 'He's streetwise.'* When gestures become quotable: The case of the *Clever* gesture. *Gesture* 1(2): 167-184.
33. Roach, A., Wyman, L, **Brookes, H.J.**, Heath, S.B. and Valdes, G. (1999) Leadership giftedness: Models revisited. *Gifted Child Quarterly* 43(1): 13-24.
34. **Brookes, H.J.** (1995) 'Suit, tie and a touch of juju': A critical discourse analysis of news on Africa in the British press. *Discourse and Society* 6(4): 461-494.
35. Brookes, D.W., Motala, E. and **Brookes, H.J.** (1994) Technology education. What is it and why is it necessary? In Levy, S. (ed.) *Projects Speak For Themselves: Science and Mathematics Education in the Transition*. Pp 104-107, Johannesburg. Sharon Levy.

Edited Journals

36. **Brookes, H.J.** and Le Guen, O. (eds.) (2019) Special Edition - The Anthropology of Gesture, *Gesture*, 18(2).
37. **Brookes, H.J.** and Le Guen, O. (eds.) (2019) Special Edition - The Anthropology of Gesture, *Gesture*, 18(3).

38. Bentley, K. and **Brookes, H.J.** (eds.) (2005) Gender, Culture and Rights. *Agenda Special Focus*

Books

39. **Brookes, H.J.** (In Press) *Gesture in the Performance of Everyday Life*. Gesture series. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

40. Mesthrie, R., Hurst-Harosh, E., and **Brookes H.J.** (eds.) (2021) *Youth Language Practices and Urban Language Contact in Africa*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

41. Chisholm, L., Hoadley, U., Kivilu, M., **Brookes, H.**, Prinsloo, C., Kgobe, A., Mosia, D., Narsee, H. and Rule, S. (2005) *Educator Workload in South Africa*. Cape Town: HSRC Press.

42. **Brookes, H.J.**, Shisana, O. and Richter, L. (2004) *The National Household HIV Prevalence and Risk Survey of South African Children*. Cape Town: HSRC Press.