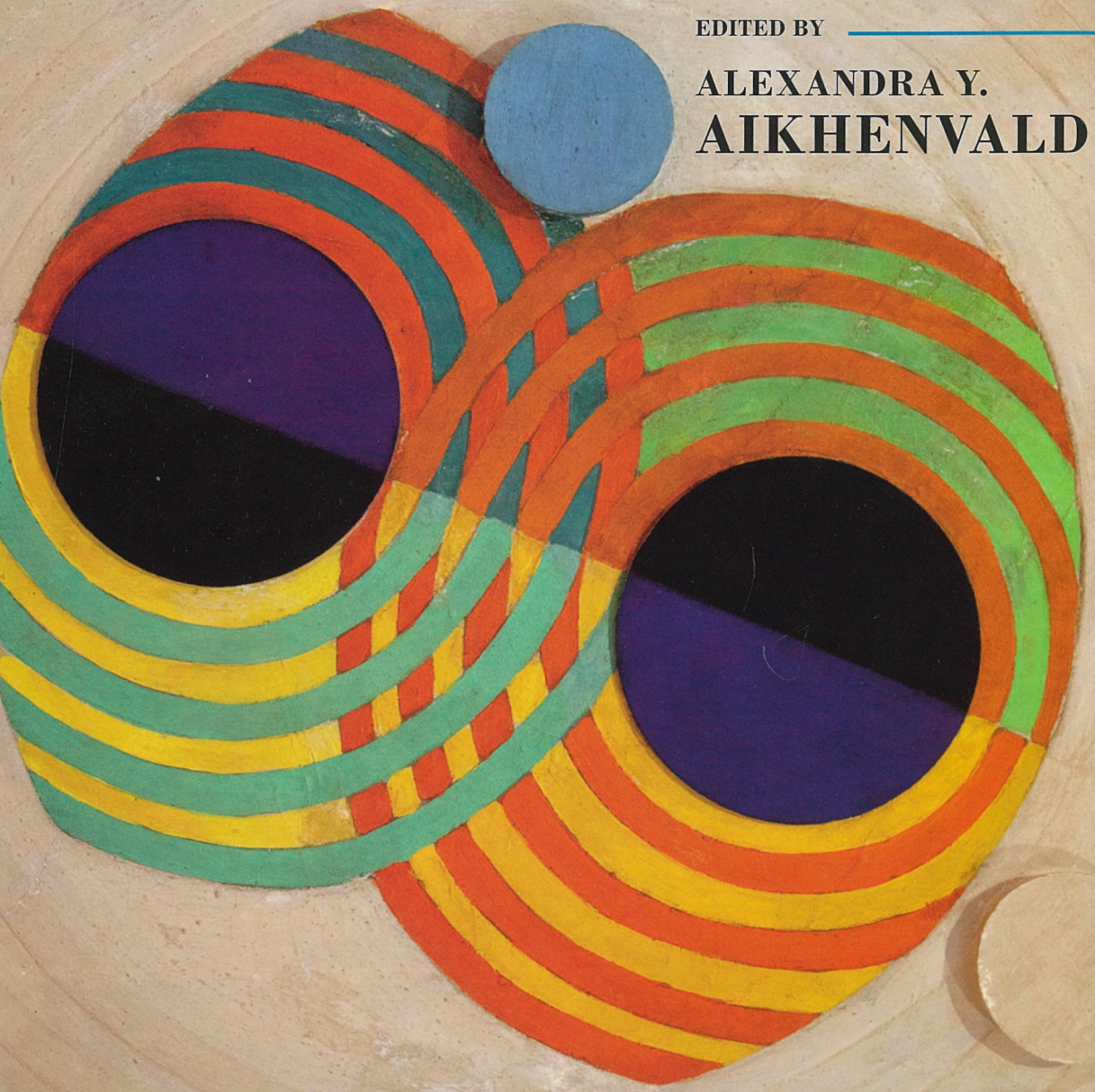


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**EVIDENTIALITY**

THE OXFORD HANDBOOK OF  
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ALEXANDRA Y. AIKHENVALD

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## PREFACE

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EVIDENTIALITY—OR grammatical encoding of information source—is a topic which fascinates linguists, anthropologists, and even journalists and the general public. This volume aims at providing a framework and state-of-the art view of evidentiality in its various guises, in the light of recent achievements and current developments in the field of linguistics. We place special focus on the analysis of evidentiality systems in the world's languages within a typological perspective, thus contributing to the appreciation of linguistic diversity. The majority of contributors are experts in inductively based linguistic analysis of grammatical structures of individual languages. This empirical focus is one of the highlights of the volume.

I owe the idea of putting this book together to Julia Steer, of Oxford University Press. Without her unflinching support and assistance at every stage, this project would not have been possible. Vicki Sunter and Karen Morgan, of OUP, have also been immensely helpful at every stage. I am grateful to all the contributors to this volume, for their chapters, comments, and scholarly interaction throughout the creation of this volume. R. M. W. Dixon provided comments and on-going support (in addition to insights on various languages of his expertise). Many thanks go to Professor Nola Alloway, Dean of the College of Arts, Society, and Education at James Cook University, and the Division of Tropical Environment and Society, for their moral and financial support. The work on this volume was partially supported by the Australian Research Council Discovery Project 'How languages differ and why', and my Australian Laureate Fellowship 'How gender shapes the world: a linguistic perspective'. We all owe a special debt of gratitude to Brigitta Flick, Angela Lansdown, and Jolene Overall, for meticulous editorial assistance, checking the manuscripts, and formatting them. Adella Edwards did a remarkable job helping many contributors prepare their maps. The JCU library, under the leadership of Heather Gordon, provided all the necessary resources. Special thanks go to Bronwen Forster and Carolyn Tredrea. The efficient interlibrary loan system worked like clockwork—many many thanks indeed to Lyn Clarke, Janine Meakins, Bridie Soo, and many other friends and colleagues at JCU library. A very big 'thank you' goes to Jolene Overall for her assistance and support at the Language and Culture Research Centre. And last but not least—our eternal debt is to speakers of languages with evidentials who shared their remarkable knowledge and insights with us, linguists, and fieldworkers. This volume is a homage to them all.

Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald  
Language and Culture Research Centre,  
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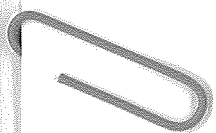




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devising learner-L1-informed approaches to ESOL/ELL teaching, and developing effective adult heritage-learner curricula for Maliseet, Mi'kmaw, and Abenaki revitalization efforts. He is now finishing a three-year NSF/NEH DEL-funded project to finalize and publish a legacy manuscript dictionary of Penobscot, while also continuing to focus on improving L2 pedagogical strategies for Eastern Algonquian and other indigenous North American languages.

Hannah Sarvasy received her PhD in 2015 from James Cook University. She has conducted immersion fieldwork on Nungon (Papuan), Kim and Bom (Atlantic; Sierra Leone), and Tashelhit Berber. Her publications include *A Grammar of Nungon: A Papuan Language of Northeast New Guinea* (Brill, 2017), an edited journal issue on Finisterre Papuan languages, and articles and book chapters on topics in Nungon grammar, fieldwork methodology, Bantu linguistics, and ethnobiology, as well as Kim and Bom language primers. She has taught at UCLA and is currently Research Fellow at the Centre of Excellence for the Dynamics of Language at the Australian National University, where she runs a longitudinal study of child language acquisition of Nungon.

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little-studied Tibetic languages (Taipei: ILAS, 2014). His forthcoming publications include a Proto-Tani phonological reconstruction (co-authored with Mark Post), a survey of Tibetic languages spoken in Khrochu County of Sichuan Province and a collection of annotated spoken texts in Tshobdun Rgyalrong.

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He is widely recognized as an advocate for academic acceptance of American Sign Language in universities in the United States. He also has taught signed language interpreting for many years and most recently has begun to demonstrate the application of Cognitive Linguistics to interpreting theory. He is author of several books and articles, including *The Phonetics of Fingerspelling* (1992); *Gesture and the Nature of Language* (with David F. Armstrong and William C. Stokoe, 1994); *Learning to See: Teaching American Sign Language as a Second Language* (with Phyllis Perrin Wilcox, 1997); and several edited collections.

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