



# Ben De Slagmulder

## Contact

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📅 01/01/1998

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## Research areas

Historical linguistics    Corpus linguistics  
Contact linguistics    Formal syntax  
Variation and change    Germanic languages



## Personal skills

Solution-oriented    Team player  
Proactive    Analytical

## Language skills

Dutch    Native  
English, German, Swedish    Advanced  
French, Danish    Intermediate  
Norwegian, Icelandic    Basic

## ICT skills

Word      
Excel      
Powerpoint      
Sharepoint      
Outlook      
ELAN      
LaTeX    

## Profile

I'm a 28-year-old early career linguist interested in the history and diachrony of the Germanic languages, particularly syntactic variation and change from a formal perspective. I am known for being approachable, responsible, and detail-oriented and I enjoy working with others as much as I value independent research. I am excited to take the next step in my academic journey.

## Education

○ 2025 - 2019

Ghent University | Belgium

### M.A. Historical Linguistics and Literature

M.A. thesis: *Old Swedish and Middle Low German contact-induced word order change in medieval Kalmar*. Supervisors: Prof. Jóhanna Barðdal, Prof. Anne Breitbarth. Graduated summa cum laude (84.2%).

○ 2024 - 2016

Ghent University | Belgium

### B.A. Linguistics and Literature: German-Swedish

B.A. thesis: *Fornsvensk och medellågtysk språkkontakt och syntaktisk förändring i det medeltida Kalmar*. Supervisors: Prof. Jóhanna Barðdal, Prof. Anne Breitbarth. Graduated cum laude (74.4%).

○ 2019 - 2018

Stockholm University | Sweden

### Erasmus exchange: Scandinavian languages

Courses: Scandinavian languages and Swedish language history, Low German language in Sweden, Swedish language in the Middle Ages, German literature. Average grade: A-B

○ 2016 - 2010

Sint-Aloysiuscollege Ninove | Belgium

### General Secondary Education: Latin-Mathematics

## Job experience

○ 2026 - present

Ghent University | Belgium

### Research assistant

Pre-doctoral training: NonCanCase database, research articles, conference participation.  
PI: Prof. Jóhanna Barðdal

○ 2024

Ghent University | Belgium

### Student job: European research policy

Research and administrative support, agenda management, event organization

○ 2020

Ghent University | Belgium

### Research internship & student job: Spoken Corpus of Southern Dutch Dialects

Transcription, correction, and thematic annotation of dialect recordings in the GCND corpus using ELAN software

## References

Rik Van de Walle

Pro-Rector

Ghent University

[rik.vandewalle@ugent.be](mailto:rik.vandewalle@ugent.be)

Gita Deneckere

Dean of the Arts and Philosophy Faculty

Ghent University

[gita.deneckere@ugent.be](mailto:gita.deneckere@ugent.be)

Jóhanna Barðdal

Professor in Scandinavian linguistics

Ghent University

[johanna.barddal@ugent.be](mailto:johanna.barddal@ugent.be)

## Research activities

○ 2026 | 16-17 April  
Pavia University | Italy

### Conference: *Perspectives on Germanic Syntax*

Presentation: *Contact-induced word order change in Old Swedish and Middle Low German.*

○ 2021 | 11-12 November  
Lund University | Sweden

### Conference: *Svenska Språkets Historia 16*

Presentation: *En knäck i s-kurvan? Från OV till VO till OV igen: Fornsvensk och medellågtysk språkkontakt i det medeltida Kalmar.*

## Extracurricular

○ 2026  
Gothenburg University | Sweden

### Advanced grammatical analysis: the generative perspective (7,5 ECTS)

○ 2026  
Stockholm University | Sweden

### Viking-age runes in Denmark and Norway (7,5 ECTS)

○ 2023 - 2021  
Leiden University | the Netherlands

### Summer School in Languages and Linguistics

2023 courses (2 ECTS): Reconstructing Proto-Germanic, contact linguistics, Old Dutch  
2022 courses (2 ECTS): Germanic etymology, writing systems, Old English, Runic inscriptions  
2021 courses (2 ECTS): Hittite, Old Frisian, Indo-European culture, historical linguistics

○ 2021 - 2020  
Ghent University | Belgium

### Advanced Academic English (3 ECTS)

○ 2020 - 2019  
Ghent University | Belgium

### Icelandic (5 ECTS)

○ 2020 - 2019  
Stockholm University | Sweden

### Viking-age texts (7,5 ECTS), Academic Swedish (7,5 ECTS)

## Academic service

○ 2024 - 2022  
Ghent University | Belgium

### Member of the Executive Board

Representing ca. 50.000 students as a board member

○ 2022 - 2018  
Ghent University | Belgium

### Member of the Arts and Philosophy Faculty Council

Student wellbeing survey compilation and processing, supporting research-active students

## Volunteer activities

- 2022 - 2021  
Ghent University Student Council | Belgium  
**President**  
Policy development, General Assembly presidency, daily management and team leader
- 2020  
Ghent | Belgium  
**Center for Historical Languages**  
Help organizing lecture series
- 2020 - 2019  
Faculty of Arts and Philosophy Student Council | Belgium  
**President**  
Policy development, General Assembly presidency, daily management and team leader