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Education

Northeastern University   **Boston, MA**
PhD in Psychology   Anticipated May 2026
  • Master's Thesis Defense   March 2022

University of Delaware   **Newark, DE**
PhD in Linguistics   Transferred to Northeastern

University of Rochester   **Rochester, NY**
Bachelor of Arts degree in Linguistics, Minor in ASL   May 2020
  • GPA: 3.84
  • Cluster in Chemistry, Calculus, Engineering, and Computer Science
  • Take 5 in English

BridgeTEFL   **Online**
TEFL/TESOL Basic Certification   August 2019

Awards, Honors, and Publications

Graduate
Papers
  • "Pragmatics and social cognition in learning and remembering words", co-first author, under review at Journal of Memory and Language, pre-print available at:
  • "Pragmatic inferences supported by theory of mind affect how children acquire and remember word meanings", first author, under preparation
  • "Word Learning through Pragmatic Inference in Children with Autism: a Web-Based Eye-Tracking Study", first author, under preparation
Awards
  • Paula Menyuk Award Recipient, 46th Boston University Conference
  • University Graduate Scholar Award, University of Delaware
Conferences
  • "Word Encoding and Retrieval in Children with Autism: A Web-Based Eye-Tracking Study ", first author/presenter, talk at 2023 American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention
  • "Word Learning through Pragmatic Inference in Children with Autism: a Web-Based Eye-Tracking Study", first author/presenter, talk at 48th Boston University Conference on Language Development 2023
  • "The Neurobiology of Auditory Statistical Learning is More Domain-Specific Early in Life", second author, symposium talk at the Cognitive Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting 2023
  • "No Advantage of Pragmatic Inference for Vocabulary Retention in Children with Autism", first author/presenter, poster at Meeting on Language in Autism 2023
  • "Dissociation Between Linguistic and Nonlinguistic Statistical Learning in Children with Autism", second author, talk at Meeting on Language in Autism 2023
  • "Less-is-more: a developmental fMRI study on auditory statistical learning", second author, talk at 47th Boston University Conference on Language Development 2022
  • "Greater learning-induced plasticity in children than adults during linguistic SL", second author, poster at Society for the Neurobiology of Language Conference 2022
  • "Pragmatic inference and social cognition in acquiring (and remembering) word meanings", first author/presenter, talk presented at 46th Boston University Conference on Language Development 2021

- "Pragmatic Complexity and the Development of Social Cognition in Children's Word Learning and Retention", first author/presenter, poster presented at SRCD's 2021 Meeting
- "Pragmatic inference facilitates word retention in school-aged children", first author/presenter, short talk presented at 34th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing

Undergraduate
- Acceptance into University of Rochester's Take 5 Program
- Dean's List (7 semesters)
- National Merit Scholarship Recipient

Additional
- Girl Scout Gold Award Recipient
- Young Woman of Distinction Award
- Presidential Volunteer Service Award

Invited Lectures

Within-Lab Teaching Presentations
- Designing for Autistic Individuals: Research from AASPIRE (1 hour), Fall 2022, Language Acquisition and Brain Lab
- White Matter Connectivity: A Diffusion MRI Overview (1 hour), Spring 2023, Language Acquisition and Brain Lab

Work Experience

Graduate
Language Acquisition and Brain Lab   **Newark, DE/Boston, MA**
Graduate Research Assistant   August 2020-Present
- Lead Researcher on VERAS pilot project
  - Behavioral and MRI
  - Autistic adults
- Co-Lead Researcher on SMILE project
  - Behavioral and Eye-Tracking
  - Autistic children
- Co-Lead Researcher on LESSO project
  - Behavioral
  - Deaf adults
- Lead Researcher on MIND-child project
  - Behavioral
  - Typically-developing children
- Researcher on MIND-adult project
  - Behavioral
  - Neurotypical adults
- Researcher on BLAST project
  - Behavioral and MRI
  - Autistic children
- Supervise and coordinate undergraduate RAs on preparation, administration, and scoring of projects
- Supervise undergraduate RAs on conceptualization through preparation of small individual projects
- Score assessments, run data analysis and draw conclusions, present findings in posters, talks, and papers, administer experiments as necessary, handle pipeline of MRI data for relevant experiments.

Lab in Cognition: Memory   **Boston, MA**

TA   September 2023-Present

Quantitative Methods   **Boston, MA**
TA   September 2022-December 2022

Undergraduate
Quantitative Semantics Lab   **Rochester, NY**
Lab Assistant   January 2019 - May 2020
  • Write computer programs and applications for statistical data analysis
  • Determine what linguistic variables are relevant and how best to quantify them

Language and Psycholinguistics   **Rochester, NY**
TA   September 2018 - December 2018, September 2019 - December 2019

Language Development   **Rochester, NY**
TA   January 2019 - May 2019, January 2020 - May 2020

Relevant Coursework
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Graduate
Seminar in Developmental Theories
Special Topics in Psychology: Human Electroencephalography
Proseminar in Social Psychology
Seminar in Clinical Neuroscience
  • "Lateralization of white matter tracts predicting speech and tone statistical learning in autistic vs typically developing children" (presentation)
Proseminar in Biology of Behavior
Special Topics in Psychology: Grant Writing
  • "VERAS: Vocabulary Encoding and Retention in Autism via Social Cognition" (grant)
Proseminar in Perception
Quantitative Methods I & II
Special Topics in Psychology: Advanced Seminar in Communication Sciences and Disorders on Language Processing
  • "Pragmatics vs syntax: at what level do we see language processing difficulties in children with autism spectrum disorder?" (paper)
Brain and Language
  • "Social cognition and language: a meta-analysis" (paper and presentation)
Introduction to Autism and Severe Disabilities
Experimental Linguistics
  • "Word learning in spoken vs. sign language in ASD adults" (preregistration)
ABCD's ReproNim Course Session I & II
  • "Relationship between statistical learning and language skills in children from a brain connectivity perspective" (presentation)
Phonology I & II
  • "Addressing the atypical [æ]: an experimental grant exploring the vowel categorizations of Nez Perce's vowel system" (paper & presentation)
Independent Study

Undergraduate
Linguistics (only courses with research component)
Senior Seminar
  • "Predicate Structure" from *A Grammar of Khasi* (paper & presentation)
Language Use and Understanding
  • "Effects of Exposure to Figurative Language on Later Interpretation of Sentences: A Pilot Study" (paper & presentation)

Phrase Structure Grammar
- "HPSG and Non-Manual Markers in ASL, with Emphasis on their Role in Sentence Type Alteration" (paper & presentation)

Formal Semantics
- "Negative Polarity Items and Psycholinguistics" (paper & presentation)

Language and Advertising
- "Analysis of Femininity and Masculinity in Contemporary Advertising" (presentation), "Distinct Approaches to Illness in Advertising" (presentation), "Advertisement Success through Ethnic Appeal" (presentation)

Language Development
- *"An Examination of Child-Child vs Child-Adult Speech"* (paper & presentation), *"A Review of the Literature on Theory of Mind and Autism"* (paper)

Intro to Language Sound Systems
- "Phonetics of Haullaga Quechua" (paper)

Intro to Linguistic Analysis
- *"Puns and their Relation to Linguistic Humor Theory"* (presentation)

Brain and Cognitive Science Courses
Lab in Cognitive Neuroscience
Transcription/Data Analysis
Language Use and Understanding
Language and Psycholinguistics
Language Development

Skills

- Proficient in MS Word, Powerpoint, Excel, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe In-Design, and Praat
- Proficient in EEGLAB, HAPPE, SPM12, Fitlins, QSIPrep, pyAFQ, and PsychoPy; able to design, run, and process/analyze behavioral, EEG, and fMRI experiments (including eye-tracking, event-related potential, frequency power and oscillations, micro-states, task-related contrast activation, multi-voxel pattern analysis, diffusion tensor imaging)
- Proficient in Python Programming and R, including Shiny app construction, basic knowledge of Bash, Matlab, and Web Design
- Proficient in Gorilla experimental design
- Basic knowledge of navigating and analyzing large datasets such as the ABCD dataset
- Proficient in experimental administration to a variety of populations, including children, autistic, and Deaf individuals
- Proficient in ASL and Spanish, basic understanding of Latin
- Knowledgable on techniques and resources to ensure that data, especially neuroimaging data, is reproducible
- Experience in researching, presenting, and teaching material
- Experience in editing and writing of all genres