

# Francis Mollica

416 Meliora Hall  
Rochester, NY 14627  
✉ mollicaf@gmail.com

## Education

- 2014 **PhD Brain and Cognitive Sciences**, *University of Rochester*, Rochester, NY.
- 2010–2014 **BA Linguistics**, *University at Buffalo*, Buffalo, NY.  
Language and Cognition Concentration
- 2010–2014 **BS Psychology**, *University at Buffalo*, Buffalo, NY.

## Honors and Awards

- 2016 **Honorable Mention**, *NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program*.
- 2015 **Student Travel Award**, *Cognitive Science Society*.
- 2015 **Honorable Mention**, *NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program*.
- 2014 **Outstanding Senior Award**, *Dept. of Linguistics, University at Buffalo*.
- 2012 **Grace W. Capen Academic Award**, *University at Buffalo*.

## Funding

- 2015 **Discover Grant**, *University of Rochester*.
- 2010–2014 **Provost Scholarship**, *University at Buffalo*.
- 2010–2014 **Johnson Controls Foundation Scholarship**.

## Journal Publications

- Mollica, Francis and Steven T Piantadosi. (in press) *How data drives early word learning: a cross-linguistic waiting time analysis*. *Open Mind*.
- Martí, Louis, Francis Mollica, Steven T Piantadosi, and Celeste Kidd. (in prep) *Superficial cues determine human certainty*.
- Register, Jenna, Francis Mollica, and Steven T Piantadosi. (in prep) *Verification of most is flexible and sensitive to context*.

## Conference Proceedings

- Mollica, Francis and Steven T Piantadosi. (in prep) *An information theoretic buffer supports sentence processing*.

---

Mollica, Francis and Steven T Piantadosi. (submitted) *A rational constructivist account of the characteristic to defining shift*.

2016

---

Martí, Louis, Francis Mollica, Steven T Piantadosi, and Celeste Kidd. "What determines human certainty?" In: *Proceedings of the 38th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*. Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society., pp. 698–703.

2015

---

Mollica, Francis and Steven T Piantadosi. "Towards semantically rich and recursive word learning models." In: *Proceedings of the 37th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*. Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society., pp. 1607–1612.

2015

---

Mollica, Francis, Steven T Piantadosi, and Michael K Tanenhaus. "The perceptual foundation of linguistic context." In: *Proceedings of the 37th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*. Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society., pp. 1613–1618.

---

## Conference Talks

2015

---

Mollica, Francis and Steven T Piantadosi. *Characterizing data-driven word learning: A cross-linguistic analysis*. More on Development. Columbus, OH.

2015

---

Mollica, Francis, Steven T Piantadosi, and Michael K Tanenhaus. *The perceptual foundation of linguistic context*. Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society.

---

## Conference Posters

2015

---

Mollica, Francis, Steven T Piantadosi, and Michael K Tanenhaus. *The perceptual foundation of linguistic context*. The 28th CUNY Sentence Processing Conference. Los Angeles, CA.

2016

---

Galette, Claude, Francis Mollica, and Rajeev Raizada. *Unconverging the representation of ambiguous words*. 30th Anniversary National Conference on Undergraduate Research. Asheville, NC.

---

## Teaching

2017

---

**BCS 153: Cognition**, *Teaching Assistant*, Spring, University of Rochester.

2016

---

**BCS 310: Senior Seminar**, *Co-Instructor*, Fall, University of Rochester.

2016

---

**Building the Language Machine: An Intro to Computational Linguistics**, *Instructor*, Summer, Rochester Scholars Program.

2016

---

**BCS 153: Cognition**, *Teaching Assistant*, Spring, University of Rochester.

2015

**The Language Scientist: Linguist, Psychologist, Computer Scientist**, *Instructor*, Summer, Rochester Scholars Program.

2013

**LIN 207: Language, Society and the Individual**, *Teaching Assistant*, Fall, University at Buffalo.

2013

**PSY 207: Psychological Statistics**, *Teaching Assistant*, Summer, University at Buffalo.