

Weijia Cao

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🌐 <https://weijiacao.github.io/>

EDUCATION

New York University, New York, NY, United States

2021 – 2023

M.A. in Experimental Psychology

Emphasis on Cognitive Neuroscience

Advisor: David Poeppel, Ph.D.

Thesis: *Memory for taxonomic and thematic conceptual relations*

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, United States

2017 – 2021

B.A. in Psychology & B.A. in Statistics (double-major)

Minor in French

University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, United States

2016

Summer Sessions

Enrolled coursework: Introduction to Philosophy of Mind, Introductory Psychology

RESEARCH POSITIONS

Poeppel Lab, New York University, New York, NY, United States

2021 – 2023

Research Assistant, *Advisor: David Poeppel*

- Led and conducted studies focused on understanding memory for linguistic information and cross-modal stimuli
- Collaborated on behavioral and human electrophysiological (MEG) experiments to study music perception and cognition
- Collaborated on behavioral and human electrophysiological experiments to study real-time somatosensory feedback in speech production using auditory feedback perturbation

Cognitive Development & Media Lab, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, United States

Research Assistant, *Advisor: Heather Kirkorian*

2020 – 2021

- Calibrated and analyzed eye gaze and visual fixation data
- Collaborated on behavioral experiments to study the relationship between children's cognitive development and media interactivity

AWARDS & HONORS

Master's Research Conference Second Place Finish, New York University

2022

Germaine Mercier Scholarship, University of Wisconsin-Madison

2021

Larkin Burl Price Memorial Scholarship, University of Wisconsin-Madison

2020

Undergraduate Scholarship for Summer Study, University of Wisconsin-Madison

2019

Fall 2018 Dean's List, University of Wisconsin-Madison

2019

SELECTED CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS

Thematic relations outperform taxonomic relations in a cued recall task (submitted)

2023

Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Sydney, NSW, Australia.

The mnemonic basis of taxonomic and thematic conceptual relations (accepted)

International Conference on Learning and Memory, Huntington Beach, CA, United States.

2023

The mnemonic basis of taxonomic and thematic conceptual relations

Master's Research Conference, New York, NY, United States.

2022

The effect of interactivity on toddler's object retrieval: Comparing the live and video situations

Undergraduate Symposium, Madison, WI, United States.

2021

MANUSCRIPTS

Cao, W., Raccach, O., Chen, P., & Poeppel, D. (In prep). The mnemonic basis of taxonomic and thematic conceptual relations.

Raccach, O.*, Seltenreich, M.*, **Cao, W.**, & Poeppel, D. (In prep). Scale-driven perceptual abilities determine scale selection cross-culturally.

SKILLS & OTHER

Programming: Python, PsychoPy, PsychoJS, PyTorch, MATLAB, NumPy, scikit-learn, GitHub

Data Analysis: R, SPSS, MS Excel, Regression Analysis

Neuroimaging: MEG

Visual Fixation Coding: Datavyu, GazeTag

Language: English, Chinese, French (proficient)

Technical coursework: Mathematical Tools for Neural and Cognitive Science, Probability, Applied Regression Analysis, Nonparametric Statistics, Machine Learning and Statistical Pattern Classification, Deep Learning and Generative Models

Technical course projects: Deep-Learning Based Speech Emotion Recognition (CNN, RNN, Transformer Neural Networks), Machine-Learning Based Authorship Identification in Web Fictions (kNN, C4.5 Decision Tree, Random Forests, Multinomial Naive Bayes, Bagging)

Other: Musical instruments (gu zheng, recorder), video editing (Adobe Premiere), audio editing (Audacity, Adobe Audition)

**OUTREACH &
SERVICE**

Teaching Assistant, *Advanced Psychological Statistics*

New York University, New York, NY, United States

2023

Chair of Event Planning Department, *Yuan-Shan Study Society*

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, United States

2019 – 2021

Student Member and Volunteer Language Tutor, *Chinese Language and Culture Club*

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, United States

2017 – 2018