

Ruben Alfredo Sanchez

Linguistics & Neuroscience Researcher

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Dr. Katharine Graf Estes
Center for Mind and Brain
202 Cousteau Place
Davis, CA 95618

July 5, 2016

Language Development Junior Specialist

Dear Dr. Katharine Graf Estes,

I would welcome the opportunity to contribute to the linguistic research being performed at your lab. I earned a B.A. in Linguistics and a B.S. in Cognitive Science from U.C.S.C. where I was also involved in conducting multiple phonetic research studies. I designed behavioral experiments, created stimuli, analyzed data, and presented findings.

My interest in Cognitive Neuroscience stems from a background in clinical diagnostics, comparative medicine, and behavioral research. I strongly believe that interdisciplinary collaborations are one of the primary motivators behind novel insights that lead to effective solutions. I have lead focus groups and workshops in which the diverse backgrounds of the members contributed to the teams reaching their goals.

Taking a graduate level phonetic course that I thoroughly enjoyed as an undergrad and earning an 'A' has helped solidify my motivation for a Ph.D. My primary research interests involve integrating phonetic perception methodologies with brain imaging technologies such as fMRI and MEG in order to investigate neuronal circuitry in multilinguals. I have participated in journal clubs where articles were reviewed and results were presented and discussed. My desire for efficiency led me to seek out a system for annotating and organizing the articles. As a result, I became familiar with reference software such as Mendeley, Zotero, Colwiz, and Qiqqa.

Other relevant courses I have completed include biology, chemistry, organic chemistry, and neuroscience. Currently I am taking an online refresher on medical neuroanatomy. Via pharmaceutical and clinical research I have obtained experience handling a variety of species such as mice, rats, guinea pigs, and rabbits. I observed and documented physical and behavioral changes as well as administered treatments. I am comfortable working with laboratory equipment as well as with software in a command line interface such as Linux.

I take my organizational tools quite seriously. I make use of enterprise level project management and time management software in order to maintain a handle on coursework, meetings, committees, and the various independent projects that I am involved with. A brief sample of some of the tools that I bring with me are the use of Gantt charts, Kanban boards, and Pomodoro techniques. Of course, things do not always go according to plan. Due to that, I also bring with me contingency plans, patience, and understanding. As well as a bit of humor. How many neuroscientists does it take to fix a lightbulb? Contact me to find out.

Sincerely,

Ruben Alfredo Sanchez

Attached: resume