Wesley Orth (816)-500-8635 ● wesleyorth2022@u.northwestern.edu

Education

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY — EVANSTON, IL
Doctor of Philosophy, Linguistics — **Anticipated Spring 2022**

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER — ROCHESTER, NY
Bachelors of Science, Brain and Cognitive Science — **Spring 2017**
Bachelors of Arts, Linguistics — **Spring 2017**

- Cumulative GPA 3.89/4.00

Presentations

Wesley Orth, Amanda Pogue, Chigusa Kurumada (2017). The role of context and information in the interpretation of scalar adjectives. CUNY Conference on Sentence Processing.

Wesley Orth, Amanda Pogue, Chigusa Kurumada (Accepted). Contextual factors in child adjective comprehension. National Conference on Undergraduate Research.

Madeline Clark, Graeme McGuire, Najia Khaled, Miriam Kohn, Cameron Morgan, **Wesley Orth**, Anthony Vaccaro, Solveiga Armoskaite (2016). Let's talk X. Dimensions of D Workshop.

Awards and Honors

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY — EVANSTON, NY

- Data Science Fellowship — **Spring 2017**

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER — ROCHESTER, NY

- Professors' Choice Award for Undergraduate Research — **Spring 2017**
- Discover Grant for Undergraduate Research — **Spring 2016**
- Research and Innovation Grant for Undergraduate Research — **Fall 2013**
- Stephen Harrison GRADE Scholarship
- Dean's List all eligible semesters — **Fall 2013-Spring 2017**

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA — LEE'S SUMMIT, MO

- Eagle Scout Award — **Winter 2012**

Laboratory and Research Experience

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER — ROCHESTER, NY
Kinder Lab – Research Assistant — **Summer 2016 - Spring 2017**

- Supervisors: Prof. Chigusa Kurumada and Prof. Scott Grimm
- Created an original study to investigate aspects of adjective learning

- Worked with children to investigate child language acquisition
- Devised stimuli and analyzed data relevant to a variety of projects in acquisition

Human Language Processing Lab – Research Assistant **Winter 2016 - Spring 2017**

- Supervisor: Prof. Tim Florian Jaeger
- Programed eye-tracker experiments in Python using pygaze and psychopy packages
- Examined current research in adaptation and speech processing
- Developed visual and auditory stimuli for use in experiments investigating syntactic and phonetic adaptation

Laboratory and Research Experience Continued

Morphosyntax Research Group **Fall 2015 - Fall 2016**

- Supervisor: Solveiga Armoskaite
- Analyzed syntactic, pragmatic and prosodic properties in idiomatic "talk" constructions
- Created program to scan for instances of "talk" constructions on twitter and export tweet text for analysis
- Presented a Poster at Dimensions of D workshop

Research Projects

Adjective Learning and Scalar Accommodation **Summer 2016 - Present**

- Independent study through the University of Rochester Kinder Lab
- Pitched a research proposal to investigate the learning of scalar adjectives in children
- Developed an experiment to investigate comprehension of several adjective types
- Prepared visual stimuli through use of image editing software
- Created an online form of the study for adults using Qualtrics and Mechanical Turk

Pupilometry **Summer 2016 – Fall 2016**

- Research through Human Language Processing Lab to investigate arousal response to syntactic structures
- Created program using Python to access eye-tracker pupil diameter measurement capability
- Tested various display types to understand how the eye responds to kinds of visual stimuli
- Performed data analysis and visualization on pupil reactions using collected data and R

Ambiguous Sentence Processing **Winter 2016 – Fall 2016**

- Research through Human Language Processing Lab to investigate eye movements in reaction to ambiguous sentences with corresponding displays
- Created Python script to run experiments and collect data with an eye-tracker
- Created audio stimuli of the sentences to use along with visual display in the experiment

Haskell Implementation of Mass/Count Semantics **Fall 2015**

- Project as a part of the course Computational Semantics

- Interpreted competing semantic accounts for the semantic behavior of mass and count nouns
- Devised a system in Haskell to perform model based, truth value semantic operations
- Combined formal work in semantics with Haskell system to create a detailed implementation of mass/count behavior as well as plural and part-whole relations

Role of Acoustic Information in the Feature Hierarchy **Fall 2015**

- Research as a part of Lab in Development and Learning
- Proposed experiment to investigate children's use of sound symbolism in object classification
- Adapted force choice paradigm to test acoustic information against shape bias in categorization
- Networked with a local day-care to run children in the experiment

Relevant Course Work

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER ROCHESTER, NY

- Language Courses: Formal Semantics, Phrase Structure Grammar, Language Use and Understanding , Language Development , Computational Semantics, Syntactic Theory

- Cognitive Science Courses: Lab in Development and Learning, Language and Psycholinguistics, Cognition, Language and the Brain, Perception and Action

- Statistics and Programming Courses: Data Science for Linguists, Applied Statistics for the Physical and Biological Sciences, The Art of Programming

Advising and Teaching Experience

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER ROCHESTER, NY

Computer Science Workshop Leader **Fall 2015-Fall 2016**

Facilitated weekly group learning sessions for an introductory computer science course

- Cultivated the use of group problem solving strategies to address problems in computer science
- Discussed good practice for programming in Python and standards of syntax and notation

Conference Chaperone **Summer 2015**

- Provided supervision for over 200 students attending the 2015 International Baccalaureate Student World Conference
- Supported at a variety of community outings and functions as point of contact for students
- Worked directly with a community of ten students to promote networking and cultural exchange

Pre-College Counselor **Summer 2015**

- Created exciting and relevant programming activities for high-school aged students
- Provided residential advisor services for a group of over two-hundred students
- Performed clerical duties for the university admissions office
- Supervised off-campus fieldtrips, move-in and move-out days, and other activities

Linguistics Workshop Leader **Spring 2015**

- Coached students to develop effective teamwork and learning strategies
- Trained in latest best practice for teaching and facilitating group learning
- Presented real problems and practical solutions to problems in linguistics

Peer Career Advisor **Fall 2014 – Spring 2017**

- Guided students through career development, resume writing, networking and other career related topics
- Produced resources for students and utilize online databases
- Delivered several presentations on career preparedness for undergraduate students

Skills and Qualifications

- Experienced with use of Python, R, and Haskell
- Proficient in use of Mechanical Turk, Qualtrics, Praat, and language corpus analysis
- Knowledgeable in experimental design, methods, and statistics
- Understanding of human cognition and language demonstrated by lab work and courses