Allyson Ettinger

Research Assistant Professor
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Contact

Address: Toyota Technological Institute at Chicago
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Education

University of Maryland, College Park
PhD - Linguistics, 2013–2018
With Certificate in Neuroscience and Cognitive Science
Advisors: Philip Resnik, Colin Phillips
Focus: *Development and evaluation of sentence composition models for NLP; computational modeling of sentence comprehension in human brain*

Johns Hopkins University-Nanjing University Center for Chinese and American Studies, Nanjing China
Graduate Certificate in Chinese and American Studies, June 2011

Brandeis University
BA, Summa Cum Laude, May 2010
Double Major in Linguistics and Psychology, with Highest Honors in Linguistics
Cumulative GPA 4.0/4.0

Publications

2017 **Ettinger, A.**, Rao, S., Daumé III, H., & Bender, E. M. Towards Linguistically Generalizable NLP Systems: A Workshop and Shared Task. *Proceedings of the First Workshop on Building Linguistically Generalizable NLP Systems.*

2016 **Ettinger, A.**, Elgohary, A., & Resnik, P. Probing for semantic evidence of composition by means of simple classification tasks. *Proceedings of the First Workshop on Evaluating Vector Space Representations for NLP, ACL 2016.* **Recipient of Best Proposal Award.**

2016 **Ettinger, A.**, Resnik, P., & Carpuat, M. Retrofitting sense-specific word vectors using parallel text. *Proceedings of NAACL-HLT 2016.*

2016 **Ettinger, A.**, Feldman, N.H., Resnik, P., & Phillips, C. Modeling N400 amplitude using vector space models of word representation. *Proceedings of the 38th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society.*

2016 **Ettinger, A.** & Linzen, T. Evaluating vector space models using human semantic priming results. *Proceedings of the First Workshop on Evaluating Vector Space Representations for NLP, ACL 2016.*

2015 Rao, S., **Ettinger, A.**, Daumé III, H., & Resnik, P. (2015). Dialogue focus tracking for zero pronoun resolution. *Proceedings of NAACL-HLT 2015*, 495-503.

2014 **Ettinger, A.**, Linzen, T., & Marantz, A. The role of morphology in phoneme prediction: Evidence from MEG. *Brain and Language 129*, 14-23.

2015 **Ettinger, A.** & Malamud, S. Mandarin utterance-final particle ba in the conversational scoreboard. *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 2014.*

Presentations

2017 *Building and evaluating meaning representations for NLP.* Invited talk at Tohoku University in Sendai, Japan.

2017 *Drawing cognitive insights from NLP: Assessing the usefulness of engineering models in modeling human language processing.* Invited talk at Tohoku University in Sendai, Japan.

2013 *Mandarin utterance-final particle ba in the conversational scoreboard.* [with Sophia Malamud]. Presented at 19th International Congress of Linguists, Geneva, Switzerland, and Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.

2012 *Mandarin utterance-final particle ba and conversational goals.* [with Sophia Malamud]. Presented at NYU Semantics Discussion Group Meeting, New York, NY.

2010 *Linguistic construction of gender and generations in Hmong-American communities.* [with Mai Youa Moua, James Stanford]. Presented at Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD.

Teaching Experience

- **LING449R** *Meaning in Language: Brains and Machines*

  - Conceived and designed course from scratch, teaching a class of 16 undergraduates from computer science and linguistics

- **CMSC289J/LING499J** *Computational Approaches in Language Science*

  - Teaching assistant, with design and instructional responsibilities for a five-class segment on meaning and vector space models

- **LING240** *Language and Mind*

  - Teaching assistant

Service

- **Organizer**, Workshop on Building Linguistically Generalizable NLP Systems, EMNLP 2017

- **Organizer**, Student Research Workshop, ACL 2017

- **Chair**, Research Training Committee, UMD Language Science Center (2016-2017)

- **Chair,** Annual Winter Storm graduate training workshop, UMD Language Science Center (2014-2016)

Reviewing

- EMNLP (2018)

- Workshop on Analyzing and Interpreting Neural Networks for NLP (2018)

- Society for Computation in Linguistics (2017, 2018)

- European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (2017)

- Workshop on Evaluating Vector Space Representations for NLP (2017)

Mentorship

- Mentored undergraduate research assistant (Fall 2016 - Spring 2017)

- Mentored high school lab intern (NYU, 2012)

Natural Languages

- **English**: native

- **Mandarin Chinese**: fluent

- **Spanish**: proficient

- **French, German, Modern Standard Arabic**: reading and communicative knowledge

Selected Work Experience

2011-2013   **Lab Manager/Research Assistant**, KIT/NYU MEG Research Lab, New York NY.

2009-2010   **Researcher**, Dartmouth Linguistics and Cognitive Science Program, Hanover NH/Boston MA.

2008-2010   **Annotation Judge/Annotator**, Brandeis Computer Science Department, Waltham MA.

Honors and Awards

- Best Proposal Award, Workshop on Evaluating Vector Space Representations for NLP, ACL 2016

- National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship recipient, 2014

- Member Phi Beta Kappa Academic Honor Society, Brandeis University Chapter

- Justice Louis D. Brandeis full-tuition scholarship, Brandeis University, 2006-2010

- Presidential Scholar, U.S. Presidential Scholars Program, 2006