Annie Helms

Richmond, CA · Email · GitHub · LinkedIn · ResearchGate · Website

EDUCATION

Dec 2023	**Ph.D. in Romance Linguistics**, Graduate Certificate in Applied Data Science University of California, Berkeley
May 2018	**B.S. in Chemistry, Double Major in Spanish** Baylor University; GPA: 4.0

EXPERIENCE

Phi Beta Kappa Graduate Fellow - Dissertation Research (2023)

- Trained native speakers in remote data collection protocol to elicit speech and perceptual judgments in English, Spanish, and Catalan from 70 trilingual speakers
- Evaluated spoken and auditory acoustic cue-weightings of lexical stress in English, Spanish, and Catalan across relative language dominance using Bayesian multilevel modeling, logit models, and PCA

Sole instructor for courses at UC Berkeley (2019-2022)

- Taught and developed lesson plans for Spanish 1 (Fall 2019, Spring 2020), Spanish 2 (Fall 2020, Spring 2021), Spanish 3 (Fall 2021), Introduction to Hispanic Linguistics (Fall 2022)

Coursework and research with ML and NLP (2021-2022)

- Utilized Git to collaborate with other students on projects in Python with social science applications using ML algorithms such as classifiers and neural networks with TensorFlow
- Analyzed legislators' tweets using NLP in Python through topic modeling and sentiment analysis with the goal of creating a classifier to predict party affiliation and used regex and text analysis to evaluate the role of discourse context frequency in historical phonological change in Spanish

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2023	Medium shifting and intraspeaker variation in conversational interviews. *Language Variation and Change, 34*(3), 305−329. Co-authored with Isaac Bleaman and Katie Cugno.
2022	Utilizing density-controlled vowel space area to examine the role of language dominance in the acquisition of Spanish and English vowel reduction patterns. Talk presented at New Sounds 2022 in Barcelona – GitHub repo.
2022	Influence of orthography in production and perception of /b/ in US Spanish. *Journal of Experimental Phonetics, 31*, 9−29. Co-authored with Gabriella Licata and Rachel Weiher.

SKILLS

Technical	Python, R, Git, Praat, LaTeX, Emacs, Tandem-Straight, Qualtrics, HTML, PsychoPy, Voicesauce
Industry	Audio processing, forced alignment with acoustic models, ML, NLP, data analysis, phonetic transcription, speaker normalization, research design, phonetics and phonology
Languages	English (*Native*), Spanish (*Advanced*), Catalan (*Intermediate*), French (*Beginner*), Latin (*Reading*)