

# Annie Helms

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## EDUCATION

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- 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

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### 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, neural networks, trees and ensembles, and clustering
- 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

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- 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

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- Technical Python, TensorFlow, R, Git, Praat, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, 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*)