Nicholas Bamshad Aoki

Curriculum Vitae
as of January 15, 2025

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Phonetics/phonology, speech perception, psycholinguistics, speaking style variation, sociolinguistics, human-computer interaction

EDUCATION

2021-   **University of California Davis,** Davis, CA
              Doctor of Philosophy in Linguistics
              Cumulative GPA: 4.00/4.00

2021   **University of Chicago**, Chicago, IL
              Master of Arts in Digital Studies of Language, Culture, and History
              Cumulative GPA: 4.00/4.00
              Thesis: Do Hillary Clinton and Kamala Harris Imitate the Accent of their Audience at Campaign Rallies?

2021   **University of Chicago**, Chicago, IL
              Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics, Minor in Statistics
              Cumulative GPA: 3.95/4.00
              College Honors: Phi Beta Kappa, Student Marshal, *summa cum laude*

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

2025   **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. When multiple talker exposure is necessary for cross-talker generalization: Insights into the emergence of sociolinguistic perception. Forthcoming at *Glossa Psycholinguistics.*

2024   Vonessen, J., **Nicholas B. Aoki**, Michelle Cohn and Georgia Zellou. Comparing perception of L1 and L2 English by human listeners and machines: Effect of interlocutor adaptations. *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America, 155*(5), 3060-3070. https://doi.org/10.1121/10.0025930

2024   **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. Being *clear* about clear speech: Intelligibility of hard-of-hearing-directed, non-native-directed, and casual speech for L1- and L2-English listeners. *Journal of Phonetics, 104*, 101328. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wocn.2024.101328

2023   **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. Visual information affects adaptation to novel talkers: ethnicity-specific and ethnicity-independent learning of L2-accented speech. *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America, 154*(4), 2290-2304. https://doi.org/10.1121/10.0021289

2022   **Aoki, Nicholas B.**, Michelle Cohn and Georgia Zellou. The clear speech intelligibility benefit for text-to-speech voices: Effects of speaking style and visual guise. *JASA Express Letters, 2*(4), 045204. https://doi.org/10.1121/10.0010274

Refereed Conference Proceedings

2023   **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. When clear speech does not enhance memory: Effects of speaking style, voice naturalness, and listener age. *Proceedings of Meetings on Acoustics, 51*(1), 060002. https://doi.org/10.1121/2.0001766

2023   **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. Speakers talk more clearly when they see an East Asian face: Effects of visual guise on speech production. In Radek Skarnitzl & Jan Volín (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences* (pp. 2294-2298). Guarant International. https://guarant.cz/icphs2023/45.pdf

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

2024   **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. Apparent talker and speaking style variation facilitate generalization of L2-accented speech: Teasing apart numerosity and heterogeneity accounts of perceptual learning. First review completed at *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics* [Decision: Revise and Resubmit].

2024   Bamshad, M., Xie, K., Rasheed, R., Holt, K., Assabil-Bentum, G. and **Nicholas B. Aoki**. Exposure to subtle dominance cues in assymetric power relationships activates the stress response and affects decision-making. Submitted to *Frontiers in Psychology*.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

2024   **Aoki, Nicholas B.**, Santiago Barreda and Georgia Zellou. Effects of speaking rate on intelligibility and perceived vocal effort.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2025   **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. When multiple talker exposure is necessary for cross-talker generalization: Social co-variation facilitates the emergence of sociolinguistic perception. *99th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America*. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States.

2024   Baldwin, B., **Nicholas B. Aoki**, and Georgia Zellou. "Country Talk" in California's Napa Valley. *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 52*. Miami Beach, Florida, United States.

2024   **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. When multiple talker exposure is necessary for cross-talker generalization: Social co-variation facilitates the emergence of sociolinguistic perception. *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 52*. Miami Beach, Florida, United States.

2024   **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. Effects of speaking style and apparent talker variability on perceptual adaptation to L2-accented speech. *10th Annual UC Davis Symposium on Language Research*. Davis, California, United States.

2024   **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. Ethnicity-specific and -independent learning: Effects of guise on adaptation to novel foreign-accented talkers. *98th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America*. New York City, New York, United States.

2023   **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. When speaking clearly does not enhance comprehension: Comparing intelligibility of hard-of-hearing- and non-native-directed speech for native and non-native listeners. *185th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America*. Sydney, Australia.

2023   **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. Ethnicity-specific and -independent learning: Effects of guise on adaptation to novel foreign-accented talkers. *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 51*. New York City, New York, United States.

2023   **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. Speakers talk more clearly when they see an Asian face: Effects of visual guise on speech production. *20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*. Prague, Czech Republic.

2023   **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. Comparing intelligibility and recognition memory of human and text-to-speech voices. *184th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America*. Chicago, Illinois, United States.

2023   **Aoki, Nicholas B.**, Masoud Jasbi, and Georgia Zellou. Under-informative utterances can be more accepted from digital devices than humans. *97th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America*. Denver, Colorado, United States.

2022   **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. Hey Alexa, are you a Valley Girl? Effects of social information on the perception of text-to-speech voices. *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 50*. San Jose, California, United States.

2022   **Aoki, Nicholas B.**, Michelle Cohn, and Georgia Zellou. The Clear Speech Intelligibility Benefit for TTS Voices: Effects of Speech Style and Guise. *The 18th Conference on Laboratory Phonology*, Virtual.

2021	**Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Alan C. L. Yu. Do Hillary Clinton and Kamala Harris Imitate the Accent of Their Audiences? Analysis and Interpretation of Stylistic Variability. *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 49,* Virtual.
2021	**Aoki, Nicholas B.**, Henry Mackall, and Alan C. L. Yu. Does Variation in Speech Production Impact Acoustic Cue Weighting in Speech Perception? *2021 University of Chicago Undergraduate Research Symposium*, Virtual.
2020	**Aoki, Nicholas B.**, Jacob B. Phillips, Daniel Chen, and Alan C. L. Yu. Convergence of the lot-thought merger in the U.S. Supreme Court. *94th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America*, New Orleans, Louisiana, United States.

MEDIA APPEARANCES

2023	Setzer, Kat. Student Paper Competition: Chicago [19:49-30:53]. Across Acoustics [Official Podcast of the Acoustical Society of America]. https://acrossacoustics.buzzsprout.com/1537384/14065240-student-paper-competition-chicago

AWARDS AND HONORS

2024	Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award, UC Davis [Nominee]
2024	Phi Kappa Phi, UC Davis
2023	Proceedings of Meetings on Acoustics Student Paper Competition Winner, Acoustical Society of America, $300
2023	"Down Under Funder" Travel Grant, Acoustical Society of America, $1,000
2023	Steven Lapointe Award, UC Davis Department of Linguistics, $850
2023	Student Award, International Phonetic Association, GBP 600
2022	Travel Award, UC Davis Graduate Student Association, $250
2022-2023	Graduate Research Mentorship Fellowship, UC Davis, $48,900
2021-2022	Provost's Fellowship in the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, UC Davis, $59,802
2021	Latin Honors (summa cum laude), Univ. of Chicago
2021	Leonard Bloomfield Prize in Linguistics, Univ. of Chicago
2020	Phi Beta Kappa (Early Induction), Univ. of Chicago
2020	Student Marshal, Univ. of Chicago
2020	College Summer Research Fellow, Univ. of Chicago, $5,000
2019-2020	College Research in the Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities Scholar, Univ. of Chicago $5,000
2019	Jeff Metcalf Internship, Univ. of Chicago
2019	Dean's Fund for Undergraduate Research Award, Univ. of Chicago, $1,271

2019   Liew Family College Research Fellow, Univ. of Chicago, $1,000

2017-2021   Dean's List, Univ. of Chicago

2017-2021   National Merit Scholarship, $8,000

TEACHING

Teaching Assistant

LIN 171 – Introduction to Psycholinguistics (Winter 2024)

LIN 103A – Linguistic Analysis I: Phonetics, Phonology, Morphology (Fall 2024)

LIN 001/001Y – Introduction to Linguistics (Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Summer Session I 2024, Summer Session II 2024, Winter 2025)

RESEARCH MENTORSHIP

2024-   Bayleigh Baldwin, "Sociolinguistic variation in Napa Valley" (Undergraduate Honors Thesis), UC Davis [Co-Mentor with Georgia Zellou]

SERVICE

Reviewing

Ad-hoc Journal Reviewing: Journal of the Acoustical Society of America (2022, Co-Reviewer with Georgia Zellou; 2024, Solo Reviewer)

Conference Abstract Reviewing: UC Davis Cluster on Language Research Symposium (2022, 2023, 2024)

Organized Sessions and Symposia

2023   UC Davis Cluster on Language Research Symposium (co-organized with Roxanne Elliott and Ana Ortega Pérez)

Other Service

2024-   Website Manager, UC Davis Phonetics Laboratory

2023-2024   Website Manager, UC Davis Linguistics Department [Creator of Position]

2023-2024   UC Davis Graduate Student Association Representative

2022-2023   Sacramento Public Library Adult Literacy Program Tutor

2021-   UC Davis Cluster on Language Research Committee

2021-2022   UC Davis Graduate and Professional School Events Grant Review Board

2020-2021   Univ. of Chicago Senior Class Gift Committee

2017-2021   Univ. of Chicago Phoenix Tutoring (President, Session Coordinator, Tutor)

LANGUAGES

English (L1 or "native"), French (advanced), Spanish (advanced), Japanese (intermediate), Farsi (beginning)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Proficient in: R, Python, Praat, Qualtrics, LaTeX, HTML, CSS, FAVE, ProsodyPro, WebMAUS, MS Word, MS Excel, Zoom

Knowledge of: MySQL, JavaScript, ELAN, E-Prime, eye-tracking, electroencephalography (EEG)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2024-	Phi Kappa Phi
2023-	Acoustical Society of America
2023-	International Phonetic Association
2022-	Association for Laboratory Phonology
2020-	Linguistic Society of America
2020-	Phi Beta Kappa

REFERENCES

Dr. Georgia Zellou
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Dr. Fernanda Ferreira
Professor of Psychology
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