

# Nicholas Bamshad Aoki

Curriculum Vitae  
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ResearchGate: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Nicholas-Aoki-2>

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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*

- 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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. Under review at *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics*.
- 2024 **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. When multiple talker exposure is necessary for cross-talk generalization: Social co-variation facilitates the emergence of sociolinguistic perception. Under review at *Glossa Psycholinguistics*.

### **MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION**

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

### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

- 2024 **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. Effects of speaking style and apparent talker variability on perceptual adaptation to L2-accented speech. *10<sup>th</sup> 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. *98<sup>th</sup> 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. *185<sup>th</sup> 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 50*. 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. *20<sup>th</sup> 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. *184<sup>th</sup> 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. *97<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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. *94<sup>th</sup> 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 001/001Y – Introduction to Linguistics (Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Summer 2024)

## SERVICE

### *Reviewing*

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

**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  
 2021-2022 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**  
 Professor of Linguistics  
 University of California, Davis  
[gzellou@ucdavis.edu](mailto:gzellou@ucdavis.edu)

**Dr. Fernanda Ferreira**  
Professor of Psychology  
University of California, Davis  
[fferreira@ucdavis.edu](mailto:fferreira@ucdavis.edu)

**Dr. Santiago Barreda**  
Associate Professor of Linguistics  
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**Dr. Alan C. L. Yu**  
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