Nicholas Bamshad Aoki

Curriculum Vitae
as of April 1, 2025

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

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

EDUCATION

2021-   **University of California Davis,** Davis, California, United States
Doctor of Philosophy in Linguistics
Cumulative GPA: 4.00/4.00
Dissertation: The Emergence of Sociolinguistic Perception

2021   **University of Chicago**, Chicago, Illinois, United States
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, Illinois, United States
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 AND MANUSCRIPTS

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. *Glossa Psycholinguistics, 4*(1). https://doi.org/10.5070/g6011.21217

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://tinyurl.com/y6kdnvc9

Manuscripts Under Review

2025   Bamshad, M., Xie, K., Rasheed, R., Holt, K., Assabil-Bentum, G. and **Nicholas B. Aoki**. Exposure to subtle dominance cues in asymmetric power relationships activates the stress response and affects decision-making. Under first revision at *Frontiers in Psychology* [Decision: Revise and Resubmit].

2025   **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. Apparent talker variability and speaking style similarity facilitate comprehension of novel L2-accented talkers: Evidence for numerosity accounts of cross-talker generalization. Under first review at *Language and Speech*.

Manuscripts In Preparation

2025   **Aoki, Nicholas B.**, Santiago Barreda and Georgia Zellou. Equivalent effects of speaking rate on intelligibility for L1- and L2-English listeners.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND GUEST LECTURES

2025 **Aoki, Nicholas B.** From qualifying paper to journal article: Tips and tricks for successful publication. Guest lecture at Proseminar [LIN 201]. University of California Davis, Davis, California, United States. February 24.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

[* = Undergraduate trainee supervised by NBA]

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

2025   Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award, UC Davis [Nominee]

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, Spring 2025)

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, Spring 2025)

RESEARCH MENTORSHIP

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

SERVICE

Ad-hoc Journal Reviewing

2025	Speech Communication
2024	Journal of the Acoustical Society of America
2022	Journal of the Acoustical Society of America (co-review with Georgia Zellou)

Conference Abstract Reviewing

2022-2024	UC Davis Cluster on Language Research Symposium

Organized Sessions and Symposia

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

Other Service

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 Professor of Linguistics University of California, Davis gzellou@ucdavis.edu	**Dr. Fernanda Ferreira** Professor of Psychology University of California, Davis fferreira@ucdavis.edu
Dr. Santiago Barreda Associate Professor of Linguistics University of California, Davis sbarreda@ucdavis.edu	**Dr. Alan C. L. Yu** Professor of Linguistics University of Chicago aclyu@uchicago.edu