Darby Grachek Ph.D. candidate

August 2025
grachek@usc.edu
https://darbygrachek.github.io/

Education

University of Southern California Los Angeles, CA
Ph.D. in Linguistics 2021 - present
- Advisor: Stephanie Shih

Michigan State University East Lansing, MI
M.A. in Linguistics 2018 - 2021
- Advisor: Karthik Durvasula
- Thesis: Understanding Acceptability Judgements: Grammatical Knowledge vs. Lexical Search

Michigan State University East Lansing, MI
B.A. in Linguistics, Second degree in Japanese, Minor in TESOL 2016 - 2019

Publications

1. **Grachek,** Darby. (2025). Connection Between Lexical Processing and Phonological Regularity: A Comparison Between English and Turkish. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 47.

2. **Grachek,** Darby. (2025). A Link Between Phonology and the Lexicon: Morphophonological Exceptionality and Decomposition in English Stress Shift. *Proceedings of the Annual Meetings on Phonology*, 1(1).

3. **Grachek,** Darby and **Kaiser,** Elsi. (2024). Phonological Learning Is Asymmetrical Between Prefixes and Suffixes. *Proceedings of the Linguistic Society of America*, 9 (1). 5743.

Conference Presentations

Connection Between Lexical Processing and Phonological Regularity: A Comparison Between English and Turkish
Poster at Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci) July 2025

Lexical decomposition variables predict phonological exceptionality: Evidence from English and Turkish
Talk at Southern California Annual Meeting on Phonology (SCAMP) April 2025

A link between phonology and the lexicon: Morphophonological exceptionality and decomposition in English stress shift
Poster presentation at Annual Meeting on Phonology (AMP) Nov. 2024

Phonological Learning Is Asymmetrical Between Prefixes and Suffixes
Poster presentation at Linguistic Society of America (LSA) Annual meeting Jan. 2024

Phonological Learning Is Asymmetrical Between Prefixes and Suffixes
Poster presentation at Annual Meeting on Phonology (AMP) Oct. 2023

Weight-sensitive prosodification of prefixes in Karuk (with Elango Kumaran)
Poster presentation at Morris Halle @ 100 Sep. 2023

Competition Between Past and Perfect(with Kerry Berres, Jett Hampton, Sarah Jones, Hollie Nusbaum, and Sarah Sirna)
Poster presentation at Undergraduate Research and Arts Forum (UURAF) April 2019

Playing with the Perfect (with Kerry Berres, Jett Hampton, Sarah Jones, Hollie Nusbaum, and Sarah Sirna)
Poster presentation at MSU Undergraduate Linguistics Conference (MSULC) April 2019

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS	
• **Nominated for Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award**, USC Dornsife	Oct, 2024
• **Summer Research Fellowship**, USC East Asian Resource Center	April, 2023

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

LING 210: Intro. to Linguistics | Teaching Assistant Jan. 2025 - May 2025
University of Southern California **Instructor:** Deniz Rudin

LING 115: Language in Society | Teaching Assistant Aug. 2024 - Present
University of Southern California **Instructor:** Andrew Simpson

LING 115: Language in Society | Teaching Assistant Jan. 2024 - May 2024
University of Southern California **Instructor:** Mary Byram-Washburn

LING 210: Intro. to Linguistics | Teaching Assistant Aug. 2023 - Dec. 2023
University of Southern California **Instructor:** Deniz Rudin

LING 115: Language in Society | Teaching Assistant Aug. 2022 - May 2023
University of Southern California **Instructor:** Andrew Simpson

LIN 230: Languages of the World | Teaching Assistant June 2020 - Aug. 2020
Michigan State University **Instructor:** Deogratias Ngonyani

EPIC: English Partners in Communication | Student Teacher Jan. 2018 - May 2018
Michigan State University

MENTORING

USC Linguistics Department | Peer Mentor Aug. 2022 - May 2023
University of Southern California

MSU Phono Group | Undergraduate thesis supervisor Nov. 2021 - May 2021
Michigan State University

MSU College of Arts and Letters | Advising Assistant Aug. 2020 - May 2021
Michigan State University

MSU Child Language Acquisition Lab | Research Assistant Aug. 2019 - June 2020
Michigan State University

SKILLS

Spoken Languages: English (native), Japanese (intermediate).
Research Languages: English, Japanese, Khalkha (Mongolic), Rukiga (Bantu)
Technical: R, Praat, PCIbex, ELAN, PsychoPy/Pavlovia

ACADEMIC SERVICE

USC Graduate Students in Linguistics | Colloquium Chair Aug. 2023 - May 2024
USC Working Papers in Linguistics | Co-editor/organizing committee 2021 - 2024
USC Graduate Students in Linguistics | Social Chair Aug. 2022 - May 2023
MSU Linguistics Student Organization | Undergraduate Liaison Aug. 2020 - May 2021