

Marisabel Cabrera (Isa)

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Research Interests

- Probing the representational commitments that linguistic (phonological) theories make through experimental and computational investigations.
- Interfaces of phonological processes and representations with morphology and the lexicon.
- Fieldwork and language documentation.

Education

- SEP 2021 - Ph.D., *Linguistics*. University of California, Los Angeles
M.A. Thesis (ongoing): *Nasal harmony in Paraguayan Guarani: Positional effects and the representation of nasality*
Committee: Claire Moore-Cantwell, Benjamin Eischens (co-chairs), Harold Torrence, Kie Zuraw
- MAY 2021 B.A., *Linguistics*. Cornell University
Magna cum laude
Thesis: *Functional trade-offs between morphology and syntax: An empirical study*
Advisors: Marten van Schijndel, John Whitman

Fellowships, honors & awards

- MAY 2023 Graduate Summer Research Mentorship (GSRM), UCLA
Project: *Investigating cumulative constraint interactions of faithfulness constraints*
- AUG 2021 Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellowship, UCLA
- AUG 2021 Edward L. Keenan Fellowship for Mathematics and Language, UCLA
- MAR 2021 *Honorable Mention*: Graduate Research Fellowship, National Science Foundation
- APR 2020 Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship (MMUF), Cornell University
Project: *Functional trade-offs between morphology and syntax: an empirical study*

Presentations

- MAY 2021 *LASER: Linguistically Aware Subword Embeddings for Recurrent Neural Networks* (with Tristan Engst). Computational Psycholinguistics Discussions Lab (C.PsyD), Cornell University.
- APR 2021 *Functional trade-offs between morphology and syntax: an empirical study*. Cornell Undergraduate Linguistics Colloquium (CULC), Cornell University.
- APR 2021 *Functional trade-offs between morphology and syntax: an empirical study*. Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Conference.

Teaching

- Fall 2023 LING 120: *Phonology I*, TA for Benjamin Eischens - UCLA
- Spring 2023 LING 20: *Introduction to Linguistic Analysis*, TA for Stefan Keine - UCLA
- Winter 2023 LING 132: *Language Processing*, TA for Jesse Harris - UCLA

Research experience

- SEPT 2022 *Graduate Student Researcher*: Claire Moore-Cantwell - UCLA
Assisted in installing the department's new EEG (electroencephalogram) machine. Developed experimental protocols; ran pilot experiments and preliminary analyses for configuring and troubleshooting.
- JUN 2022 - *Fieldwork on Paraguayan Guarani* - Coronel Oviedo, Paraguay
Conducted in-person fieldwork on Guarani in Paraguay for six weeks during the summer of 2022. Collected data on the indigenous language in consultation with 8 native speakers. Developed a description of the nasal harmony system of the language. Advised by Harold Torrence.
- JAN 2022 *Fieldwork on Cantel K'iche'* - UCLA
Conducted virtual and in-person fieldwork on K'iche', an indigenous Mayan language spoken in Guatemala, through UCLA's Field Methods course. Described new findings on the ergative extraction constraint.
- AUG 2020 *Undergraduate Researcher*: Computational Psycholinguistics Discussions (C.PsyD) - Cornell University
Investigated the learning of morphological information of deep learning language models by assessing their performance on agreement attraction errors. Compared the performance of English, Russian, Italian, and Hebrew language models. In collaboration with Tristan Engst, advised by Marten van Schijndel.
- JAN 2020 *Undergraduate Researcher*: Language Documentation Lab - Cornell University
Organized a digital database of linguistically annotated and analyzed Cheyenne language texts and resources, in collaboration with Chief Dull-Knight College in the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation in Montana. Advised by Sarah Murray.

Work experience

- JAN 2022 *Graduate Student Researcher* - UCLA
Developed the website for the Morphology as Syntax II workshop hosted at UCLA. Aided conference presenters in their submissions and presentation logistics.
- JAN 2020 *Assistant to Abigail Cohn* - Cornell University
Developed website for linguistic conferences in Indonesia and resources about Indo-Pacific languages. Created course bibliographies and assisted in running errands.

NON-LINGUISTIC EXPERIENCE

- 2018 - 20 *The Cornell Store* - Cornell University
Fulfilled customer and department sales orders. Provided consulting and customer service on technology, computer custom configurations, device trade-ins, repairs, rentals, and software licensing.

Membership & affiliations

- 2020 - Member, Linguistic Society of America
- 2020 - Member, Association for Computational Linguistics
- AD HOC President, Secretary, Member; Puerto Rican Student Association - Cornell University
- 2018 - 20 Member, Phi Sigma Pi National Honor Fraternity
- 2017 - 22 Member, Shin Hwang and Morton Wan Piano Studios - Cornell University

Natural languages & technical skills

NATURAL LANGUAGES

Native: Spanish and English

Consultant work: Paraguayan Guarani, Cantel K'iche'

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Statistical & Computational: Python, PyTorch, R, Haskell, Matlab, Java, command line

Experimental: PCibex, EEG and ERP technique, OTSoft, OTHelp, Praat phonetic analysis

Other: \LaTeX , Microsoft Suite, WordPress

Last updated: August 10, 2023