

Marisabel Cabrera (Isa)

Department of Linguistics
University of California, Los Angeles
Los Angeles, C.A. 90095 USA

Email: isacabrera@ucla.edu

Website: isacabrera.com

Research Interests

- Probing the representational and computational commitments that phonological theories make through experimental and computational investigations.
- Interfaces of phonological processes and representations with phonetic knowledge and perception.
- Phonological learning and acquisition.
- Fieldwork and nasal harmony.

Education

SEP 2022 - **University of California, Los Angeles**
Ph.D., Linguistics (ongoing)

JUN 2022 **University of California, Los Angeles**
M.A., Linguistics
Thesis: *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 **Cornell University**
B.A. in Linguistics, *Magna cum laude*
Honors Thesis: *Functional trade-offs between morphology and syntax: An empirical study*
Advisors: Marten van Schijndel, John Whitman

Fellowships, honors & awards

APR 2024	Graduate Research Mentorship (GRM), UCLA
MAY 2023	Graduate Summer Research Mentorship (GSRM), UCLA Project: <i>Investigating cumulative constraint interactions of faithfulness constraints</i>
AUG 2021	Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellowship, UCLA
AUG 2021	Edward L. Keenan Fellowship for Mathematics and Language, UCLA
MAR 2021	<i>Honorable Mention</i> : Graduate Research Fellowship, National Science Foundation
APR 2020	Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship (MMUF), Cornell University Project: <i>Functional trade-offs between morphology and syntax: an empirical study</i>

Publications and manuscripts

MANUSCRIPTS

JUN 2023	Nasal harmony in Paraguayan Guarani: Positional effects and the representation of nasality. MA Thesis, UCLA.
----------	---

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

to appear	Jun, Sun-Ah, Jian-Leat Siah, Marisabel Cabrera & Hunter Johnson. 2023. Realizations of the tri-tonal pitch accent in Guarani. In <i>Proceedings of the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences (ICPhS)</i> .
-----------	---

Presentations

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

NOV 2024	Suffix independence in Paraguayan Guarani nasal harmony: stress, nasality, and nasalization. <i>California State University, Fresno. 21 November 2024 (upcoming)</i> .
----------	--

PEER-REVIEWED PRESENTATIONS

NOV 2024	One-shot vs. competitions phonotactics in modeling constraint cumulativity. Upcoming presentation at <i>AMP 2024</i> .
JAN 2024	Suffix independence in Paraguayan Guarani nasal harmony. Presented at <i>SSILA 2024</i> .
JAN 2024	Johnson, Hunter & Marisabel Cabrera . Wh-question formation strategies in Guarani. Presented at <i>SSILA 2024</i> .

NON-REFEREED PRESENTATIONS

JUN 2024	Cumulative phonotactics effects in probabilistic phonological grammars: issues with linearity. <i>Computational / Psycholinguistics Seminar, UCLA</i> .
----------	--

- MAY 2023 Unifying regressive and progressive nasalization in Paraguayan Guarani.
Phonology Seminar, UCLA.
- MAR 2023 Nasal harmony in Paraguayan Guarani: Analyzing regressive nasalization.
Phonology Seminar, UCLA.
- MAY 2021 Engst, Tristan & **Marisabel Cabrera**. 2021. *LASER*: Lingusitically Aware Subword Embeddings for Recurrent Neural Networks.
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 **Cabrera, Marisabel**. 2021. Functional trade-offs between morphology and syntax: an empirical study.
Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Conference.

Teaching

UCLA

- AUG 2024 Primary Instructor for *LING 132: Language Processing*
- Spring 2024 Teaching Assistant for *LING 119A: Applied Phonology*
Instructor: Sam Zukoff
Skills-based grading
- Winter 2024 Teaching Assistant for *LING 185A: Computational Linguistics I*
Instructor: Dylan Bumford
- Fall 2023 Teaching Assistant for *LING 120: Phonology I*
Instructor: Benjamin Eischens
- Spring 2023 Teaching Assistant for *LING 20: Introduction to Linguistic Analysis*
Instructor: Stefan Keine
- Winter 2023 Teaching Assistant for *LING 132: Language Processing*
Instructor: Jesse Harris
- JAN 2022 *PC Ibex Tutorial*
Computational / Psycholinguistics Seminar

Research experience

UCLA

- SEP 2022 *Graduate Student Researcher: Claire Moore-Cantwell*
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*
Conducted in-situ fieldwork on Paraguayan Guarani in Coronel Oviedo, Paraguay for six weeks during the summer of 2022. Collected data on the indigenous language in consultation with 8 native speakers; virtual fieldwork still ongoing. Advised by Harold Torrence.
- JAN 2022 *Fieldwork on Cantel K'iche'*
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.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

- AUG 2020 *Undergraduate Researcher: Computational Psycholinguistics Discussions (C.PsyD)*
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*
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

UCLA

- FEB 2024 - *Graduate Student Researcher for Megha Sundara*
Transcribing the intonational patterns of Spanish child directed speech corpora using the Spanish TOBI transcription system.
- JUN 2023 *Graduate Student Researcher for Sun-Ah Jun*
Transcribed the intonation of English spoken language data corpora using the English TOBI transcription system.
- JAN 2023 *Graduate Student Researcher for Jessica Rett*
Developed the website for the Semantics of Cancer project.
- JAN 2022 *Graduate Student Researcher for Hilda Koopman*
Developed the website for the Morphology as Syntax II workshop hosted at UCLA. Aided

conference presenters in their submissions and provided technical support during the conference.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

JAN 2020 *Undergraduate Assistant* for Abigail Cohn
Developed website for linguistic conferences in Indonesia and resources about Indo-Pacific languages. Created course bibliographies and assisted in running errands.

Service

2023 - 2024 Phonology Job Search Committee
UCLA, Department of Linguistics

2023 - 2024 Open House Committee Chair
UCLA, Department of Linguistics

2023 Abstract reviewer, Annual Conference of African Linguistics (ACAL)
UCLA, Department of Linguistics

2023- Graduate Student Association Representative
UCLA, Department of Linguistics

2021 - Climate Committee
UCLA, Department of Linguistics

AD HOC President, Secretary of the Puerto Rican Student Association
Cornell University

Membership & affiliations

2020 - Member, Linguistic Society of America

2020 - Member, Association for Computational Linguistics

2018 - 2020 Member, Phi Sigma Pi National Honor Fraternity

2017 - 2020 Member, Shin Hwang and Morton Wan Piano Studios - Cornell University

Natural languages & technical skills

NATURAL LANGUAGES

Native: Spanish and English

Fieldwork: Paraguayan Guarani, Cantel K'iche'

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Statistics & Computation: Python, R, Haskell, Matlab, Java, PyTorch, command line

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

Other: \LaTeX , WordPress, Jekyll, Microsoft Suite

Last updated: May 2024