

John R. Starr

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EDUCATION

| | | |
|-----------------|---|--------------------------|
| 2025 (Expected) | Ph.D. Linguistics (Advisor: Marten van Schijndel) Dissertation: <i>Dynamic interaction of linguistic streams during processing</i> | Cornell University |
| 2023 | M.A. Linguistics | Cornell University |
| 2020 | B.A. Linguistics, B.A. English Writing (Minor: Persian) | University of Pittsburgh |

PUBLICATIONS

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|-----------------------|---|
| revised & resubmitted | John R. Starr & Marten van Schijndel. “Losing phonotactic distinctions in context.” |
| revised & resubmitted | John R. Starr , Helena Aparicio, & Marten van Schijndel. “Rational use of phonological cues during processing: insights from rhyme” |
| 2024 | Jacob Matthews, John R. Starr , & Marten van Schijndel. “Semantics or spelling? Probing contextual word embeddings with orthographic noise.” In <i>Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics 2024</i> . [link] |
| 2023 | John R. Starr & Marten van Schijndel. “Discourse context modulates phonotactic processing.” In <i>Supplemental Proceedings of the 2023 Annual Meeting on Phonology</i> . |

EDITED VOLUMES

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| 2022 | John R. Starr , Juhyae Kim, & Burak Öney (eds.). <i>Proceedings of the 32nd Semantics and Linguistic Theory Conference (SALT32)</i> . El Colegio de Mexico (COLMEX) & the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM). |
| 2021 | Nicole Dreier, Chloe Kwon, Thomas Darnell, & John R. Starr (eds.). <i>Proceedings of the 31st Semantics and Linguistic Theory Conference (SALT31)</i> . Brown University. |

INVITED TALKS

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| 2024 | “TITLE TBD” <i>Breiss Lab</i> . University of Southern California. [Virtual] “Bust or robust? Unpacking Representational Sensitivity of Modern Vector Representations” <i>Columbia University NLP Group</i> . |
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- | “What can natural language processing tell us about human language processing?”
University of Pittsburgh Python for Linguists (PyLing).
- 2022 | “A first look at mind rhymes.” *The Berkeley Phonetics, Phonology, and Psycholinguistics Forum (PHORUM)*.

PRESENTATIONS (PEER-REVIEWED ABSTRACT)

- 2024 | **John R. Starr** & Marten van Schijndel. “Contexts let you flop and flip binomials”
The 30th *Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP) Conference*.
- | Jacob Matthews, **John R. Starr**, & Marten van Schijndel. “Semantics or spelling?
Probing contextual word embeddings with orthographic noise.” The 62nd *Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*
- 2023 | **John R. Starr** & Marten van Schijndel. “Discourse context modulates phonotactic
processing.” The 2023 *Annual Meeting on Phonology*.
- | **John R. Starr**, Helena Aparicio, & Marten van Schijndel. “The relationship
between phonological viability and syntactic complexity.” The 30th *Manchester Phonology Meeting (30mfm)*.
- | **John R. Starr**, Helena Aparicio, & Marten van Schijndel. “Salient phonological
information modulates the effect of semantic priming in prediction.” The 36th
Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP).
- | **John R. Starr**, Helena Aparicio, Marten van Schijndel, & Draga Zec.
“Phonological structure influences incremental syntactic processing.” The 36th
Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP).
- 2022 | **John R. Starr**, Helena Aparicio, & Marten van Schijndel. “Semantics reels us in: A
first look at mind rhymes.” The 35th *Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP)*.

OTHER PRESENTATIONS (NON-PEER REVIEWED ABSTRACT)

- 2024 | **John R. Starr**. “Situating phonological phenomena within events.” The 3rd
Workshop on Processing and Evaluating Event Representations (PEER).
- 2022 | **John R. Starr**, Helena Aparicio, & Marten van Schijndel. “Subversive verses alter
alternatives: Mind rhyme and its implications on covert processing.” The 1st *Workshop on Processing and Evaluating Event Representations (PEER)*.

TEACHING

Instructor of Record:

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| 2023 | Fall | LING1101: <i>How We're Laughter Crafters</i> | Cornell University |
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Teaching Assistant:

(* = Head TA)

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| 2024 | Spring | LING4424/6624 CS4744: <i>Computational Linguistics I</i> | Cornell University |
| 2023 | Spring | LING4424/6624 CS4744: <i>Computational Linguistics I</i> | Cornell University |
| 2022 | Fall | *CS5740/4740: <i>Natural Language Processing</i> | Cornell University |
| | Spring | LING1170 CS1710: <i>Introduction to Cognitive Science</i> | Cornell University |
| 2021 | Fall | LING3303: <i>Introduction to Syntax and Semantics</i> | Cornell University |
| 2020 | Spring | LING2340/1340: <i>Data Science for Linguists</i> | University of Pittsburgh |
| 2019 | Spring | LING1000: <i>Introduction to Linguistics</i> | University of Pittsburgh |

AWARDS

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| 2024, 2021 | Cornell Cognitive Science Graduate Research Award | (\$1,000) |
| 2023 | Cornell Graduate School Graduate Travel Award | (\$750) |
| | Cornell Cognitive Science Graduate Travel Award | (\$750) |
| 2020 | Sage Fellowship | (\$73,000) |
| 2020 – Present | Beinecke Scholarship | (\$34,000) |

SERVICE

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| 2023-2025 | Student Representative | LSA Executive Committee |
| 2023-Present | Writing Coach | Cornell Office of Academic Diversity Initiatives (OADI) |
| 2023-2024 | President | Cornell Linguistics Circle |
| 2022-2023 | Graduate Student Representative | Faculty search committee in phonology |
| 2021-2022 | Social Chair | Cornell Linguistics Circle |
| 2020-2022 | Organizer | Cornell University Department of Linguistics Open House |

REVIEWING

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| 2024 | Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Journal of Memory and Language, Penn Linguistics Conference |
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EMPLOYMENT

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| 2018-2020 | Linguistic Data Intern | <i>Voci Technologies</i> |
| 2019 | LORELEI Assistant | <i>Carnegie Mellon University</i> |

LANGUAGES

Native/fluent: English

Advanced: Persian

Programming: Python [pandas, NumPy, transformers, PyTorch]; R; Git

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Psycholinguistics, computational linguistics, phonology, language modeling, information theory, natural language processing, priming, dynamical modeling, poetics, humor

References available upon request.