

Jonathan Keane

Department of Linguistics
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Current position

Post-Doctoral Fellow
Center for Gesture, Sign, and Language
Department of Linguistics
The University of Chicago

Areas of specialization

Articulatory phonetics and phonology, signed languages, ASL, co-speech gesture, fingerspelling, syntax, morphology, variation, data analysis, computational approaches to linguistics

Education

- 2014 PhD (with honors) in Linguistics, University of Chicago
Dissertation title Towards an articulatory model of handshape:
What fingerspelling tells us about the phonetics and phonology of handshape in ASL.
Advisors Diane Brentari and Jason Riggle
- 2007 BA (Magna cum Laude) in Linguistics, University of Florida
BA Thesis Nominal Incorporation in English
Advisor D. Gary Miller

Awards + funding

- 2013–2015 NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant
Coarticulation and the phonetics of fingerspelling
BCS1251807
- 2013 Nominated for best student presentation at TISLR 11 for *Towards an articulatory model of handshape*
- 2013–2014 Mellon Humanities Dissertation-Year Fellowship
- 2010 Rella I Cohn fund Graduate student research funding – ASL fingerspelling data collection
- 2008– Graduate Aid Initiative University of Chicago
- 2007 University Scholars Program University of Florida

Papers + talks

Journal articles

- submitted Jonathan Keane, Zed Sevcikova, Karen Emmorey, Diane Brentari. A Theory-Driven Model of Handshape Similarity. In *Under Review*.
- submitted Diane Brentari, Jonathan Keane, Joseph Hill, Brianne Amador. Variation in American Sign Language Rhythm and Prominence: Age, Ethnicity, and Gender. In *Under Review*.
- submitted Leah C. Geer, Jonathan Keane. Learning from L2 ASL fingerspelling comprehension. In *Language Teaching Research*, vol. Special Volume on Sign Language Pedagogy.
- 2015 Diane Brentari, Alessio Di Renzo, Jonathan Keane, Virginia Volterra. Cultural, and Linguistic Sources of a Handshape Distinction Expressing Agentivity. In *Topics in Cognitive Science*, vol. 7, no 1, pp. 95–123.

Proceedings

- 2014 Leah Geer, **Jonathan Keane**. Exploring Factors that Contribute to Successful Fingerspelling Comprehension. In Nicoletta Calzolari, Khalid Choukri, Thierry Declerck, Hrafn Loftsson, Bente Maegaard, Joseph Mariani, Asuncion Moreno, Jan Odijk, Stelios Piperidis eds., *Proceedings of the Ninth International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation (LREC'14)*.
- 2013 **Jonathan Keane**, Diane Brentari, Jason Riggle. Coarticulation in ASL fingerspelling. In *Proceedings of the North East Linguistic Society*, vol. 42.

Book chapters

- 2016 **Jonathan Keane**, Diane Brentari. Fingerspelling: Beyond Handshape Sequences. In Marc Marschark, Patricia Spencer eds., *The Oxford Handbook of Deaf Studies in Language: Research, Policy, and Practice*, pp. 146–160, .
- 2015 **Jonathan Keane**, Diane Brentari, Jason Riggle. Segmentation and pinky extension in ASL fingerspelling. In Eric Raimy, Chuck Cairns eds., *The Segment in Phonology and Phonetics*, pp. 103–128, .

Conference presentations

- 2014 **Jonathan Keane**, Leah Geer. “Holds or Transitions: Which Is More Important?” Chicago Linguistics Society 50
- 2013 **Jonathan Keane**. “What handshape tells us about active versus inactive articulators” Phonology 2013
- 2013 **Jonathan Keane**, Jason Riggle, Diane Brentari. “The Timing of ASL Fingerspelling” Texas Linguistics Society 14
- 2013 **Jonathan Keane**. “Towards an articulatory model of handshape” Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research 11; London, UK
- 2013 Diane Brentari, Alessio Di Renzo, **Jonathan Keane**, Virginia Volterra. “Handshape (HS) as an Expression of Agency across Languages and Cultures” Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research 11
- 2013 **Jonathan Keane**. “Developing an articulatory model of handshape” Midwest Speech and Language Days 2013
- 2012 **Jonathan Keane**, Diane Brentari, Jason Riggle. “Handshape assimilation in ASL fingerspelling” Societas Linguistica Europaea, Loanwords as Evidence in Formal Linguistics
- 2012 **Jonathan Keane**, Diane Brentari, Jason Riggle. “Categorical vs. Gradient: What ASL fingerspelling teaches us about the phonetics-phonology interface” Texas Linguistics Society 13
- 2012 **Jonathan Keane**, Diane Brentari, Jason Riggle. “Segments in ASL fingerspelling” CUNY Phonology Forum Conference on the Segment
- 2012 **Jonathan Keane**, Diane Brentari, Jason Riggle. “Handshape and coarticulation in ASL fingerspelling” Linguistic Society of America 2012 Annual Meeting
- 2011 **Jonathan Keane**, Susan Rizzo, Diane Brentari, Jason Riggle. “Phonetic coding of fingerspelling” Building sign language corpora in North America
- 2011 **Jonathan Keane**, Erin Dahlgren, Jason Riggle. “Variation in segment duration in ASL fingerspelling” Linguistic Society of America 2011 Annual Meeting

Invited talks

- 2016 **Jonathan Keane**, Jordan Fenlon. “Quick tour of ELAN” sponsored by the Language, Variation, and Change workshop series at The University of Chicago
- 2014 **Jonathan Keane**. “Variation in fingerspelling: time, pinky extension, and what it means to be active” Gesture in Accented Language workshop at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- 2013 **Jonathan Keane**. “Variation in fingerspelling: time, pinky extension, and what it means to be active” Language Variation and Change; Language, Cognition, and Computation workshops
- 2011 **Jonathan Keane**. “Data coding of, and transition time in, ASL fingerspelling” The Language, Cognition, and

Posters

- 2016 **Jonathan Keane**, Leah Geer. “Understanding fingerspelling comprehension” Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research 12
- 2015 **Jonathan Keane**. “Similarity of Handshape: an articulatory model” ICPhs 2015; Paper accepted as a poster, but withdrawn from the conference due to a scheduling conflict
- 2015 **Jonathan Keane**. “Quantifying handshape similarity: a theory-driven approach” Midwest Speech and Language Days
- 2014 **Jonathan Keane**, Diane Brentari, Jason Riggle. “The timing of ASL fingerspelling” Linguistic Society of America 2014 Annual Meeting
- 2013 **Jonathan Keane**, Diane Brentari, Jason Riggle. “Dispelling prescriptive rules in ASL fingerspelling: the case of -E-” Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research 11; London, UK
- 2012 **Jonathan Keane**, Diane Brentari, Jason Riggle. “Pinky extension coarticulation in ASL fingerspelling” Illinois Speech Day
- 2011 **Jonathan Keane**, Diane Brentari, Jason Riggle. “Co-articulation in ASL fingerspelling” North East Linguistic Society 42: University of Toronto

Qualifying papers

- 2011 **Jonathan Keane**. *A new look at scrambling in Japanese* University of Chicago Qualifying paper, defended 24 May 2011 Advisors: Karlos Arregi and Ming Xiang
- 2010 **Jonathan Keane**. *Segment duration and the phonetics of fingerspelling ASL* University of Chicago Qualifying paper, defended 18 October 2010 Advisors: Jason Riggle and Diane Brentari

Software

- 2014 **Jonathan Keane**. “AMOHs Python module” Version 0.1.0 zenodo.org/record/11456

Experience

- 2011– *Lab Manager* [Sign Language Linguistics Laboratory](#) University of Chicago
Diane Brentari
- 2009– *Research Assistant* [Chicago Language Modeling Laboratory](#) University of Chicago
Jason Riggle
Automated sign language recognition working group
- 2006 *Research Assistant* Variation in Control Structures University of Florida
Eric Potsdam

Teaching

- 2013 fall *Topic Instructor* Phonological Analysis 2 – Jason Riggle
Topics Data coding, data analysis, R, statistical methods
- 2012 fall *Lecturer* Introduction to Linguistics
- 2012 spring *Teaching Assistant* Introduction to Linguistics – Ryan Bochnak
Guest lecture Sign Language Linguistics
- 2012 winter *Teaching Assistant* Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology – Alan Yu
- 2011 fall *Guest lecture* Sign Language Linguistics – The phonetics of fingerspelling and its relation to ASL
- 2011 spring *Teaching Assistant* Introduction to Syntax – Amy Dahlstrom
Guest lecture Crosslinguistic syntactic reflexes of topic and focus

Service

2011–2013	<i>Coordinator</i> Council on Advanced Studies workshop: Language, Cognition, and Computation
2013	<i>Reviewer</i> 49th Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society
2012	<i>Reviewer</i> 48th Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society
2011	<i>Graduate Coordinator</i> for prospective student recruitment activities
2011	<i>Reviewer</i> 47th Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society
2011	<i>Graduate student liaison</i> to faculty
2009–10	<i>Officer and conference organizer</i> Chicago Linguistic Society
2010	<i>Reviewer</i> 46th Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society
2009	<i>Reviewer</i> 45th Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (Committee: Syntax)

Memberships

2013–	Sign Language Linguistics Society
2008–	Linguistic Society of America

Languages

English (native), American Sign Language (fluent), German (reading), Swedish (basic), Japanese (basic), Hebrew (basic)

Computer languages + applications

Python, R, SQL, \LaTeX , (x)HTML, PHP, C, ELAN, microcontrollers, emacs, OpenOffice, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe InDesign, Mac OS X, Linux/UNIX, PhaseSpace motion capture equipment