

Jessica L. Montag

Associate Professor
 Department of Psychology
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Education

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| 2013 | University of Wisconsin-Madison
Ph.D., Psychology
<i>Dissertation:</i> Production of complex sentences: Studies across languages and development
<i>Supervisor:</i> Dr. Maryellen C. MacDonald |
| 2008 | University of Wisconsin-Madison
M.S., Psychology |
| 2006 | University of California, Berkeley
B.A., Psychology, Linguistics; Minor: Japanese Language |

Professional Experience

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| 2025-present | Associate Professor. Department of Psychology, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign |
| 2018-2025 | Assistant Professor. Department of Psychology, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign |
| 2015-2018 | Assistant Research Psychologist. Department of Psychology, University of California, Riverside |
| 2014-2015 | Post-Doctoral Trainee. Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, Indiana University
<i>Supervisor:</i> Dr. Linda B. Smith |
| 2013-2014 | Post-Doctoral Trainee. Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, Indiana University
<i>Supervisors:</i> Dr. David B. Pisoni; Dr. Michael N. Jones |
| 2007-2013 | Ph.D. Student. Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Madison
<i>Supervisor:</i> Dr. Maryellen C. MacDonald |
| 2004-2007 | Research Assistant. Olfactory Neuroscience Lab. Department of Psychology, University of California, Berkeley
<i>Supervisor:</i> Dr. Noam Sobel |

Research Support

Pending Support

Later Language Development in Spanish-speaking Bilingual Children and Adolescents

National Institutes of Health (R01)

PI: Silvina Montrul; **Co-PIs** Xun Yan, **Jessica L. Montag**, Kiel Christianson

Active Support

Understanding eye movements in skilled readers and novice readers: A behavioral and computational approach

National Science Foundation, 2141268

PI: Jessica L. Montag; Co-PIs Anastasia A. Stoops, Jon A. Willits

09/2022 – 08/2026

Total Costs: \$500,000

Concluded Support (Federal)

Validating New Measures of Later Language Development with Spanish and English Monolinguals and Bilinguals.

National Institutes of Health (R03)

PI: Silvina Montrul; **Co-PIs** Xun Yan, **Jessica L. Montag**, Kiel Christianson, Pamela Hadley

06/2020-05/2023

Costs: \$139,848

Picture book reading: Investigating a key source of linguistic input for language development

National Science Foundation, 1749594

PI: Jessica L. Montag

09/2018 - 08/2022

Total Costs: \$405,421

Measurement and analysis of early language environments

National Institutes of Health (R03), 12505876

PI: Jessica L. Montag

09/2018 - 08/2021

Total Costs: \$154,980

Concluded Support (Foundation)

Understanding early language environments: Analytic techniques and outcome predictions

James S. McDonnell Foundation, Scholar Award

PI: Jessica L. Montag

09/2018 – 08/2024

Annual Total Costs: \$100,000

Concluded Support (Internal)

Using Machine Learning to Predict Eye Movements in Skilled and Unskilled Readers

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA) Fellowship Program

PI: Jon A. Willits; **Co-PIs: Jessica L. Montag**, Anastasia A. Stoops

07/2021-06/2022

Total Costs: \$25,000

Oral Language Development in School-age Dual Language Learners.

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Social and Behavioral Sciences Research Small Grants Program

PI: Silvina Montrul; **Co-PIs Jessica Montag**, Kiel Christianson, Pamela Hadley and Xun Yan.
08/2018-07/2019

Funding for Students & Post-Docs

Marion Morse Wood Fellowship

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Graduate College

Graduate Student: Jacqueline A. Erens

08/2021-07/2022

Total Costs: \$12,000

The consequences of early language experience and literacy for adult learning and brain structure

National Science Foundation SBE Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, 1714925

Fellow: Natsuki Atagi; **Co-mentors:** Judith Kroll, Christine Chiarello and **Jessica L. Montag**
2017-2019

Total Costs: \$138,000

Edited Books

Federmeier, K. D. & Montag, J. L. (Eds). (2023). The psychology of learning and motivation, volume 78: Speaking, Writing and Communicating. Elsevier.

Corpora

Stoops, A. A. & Montag, J. L. (2024). The Stoops-Montag picture book reading corpus. Available on CHILDES online repository. doi:10.21415/2RD6-0H36

Peer-Reviewed Publications

*Student or post-doc author

*Marasli, Z. B. & **Montag, J. L.** (in review). Investigating the Temporal Distribution of Words in Child-Centered Audio using the Burstiness Metric. *Invited based on abstract to submit to a special issue at Infant Behavior & Development.*

*Bohlman, E. R. & Montag, J. L. (in revision). A speaker-centric motivation for the use of optional adjectives during sentence production.

*Marasli, Z. B. & **Montag, J. L.** (in revision). Simulation and evaluation of sampling methods for daylong audio data.

*Galindo, M. & **Montag, J. L.** (in revision). The role of siblings on infant language exposure in daylong audio recordings.

Montag, J. L., *Marasli, Z. B. & *Koch, K. M., (2025, June 12). Theoretical and methodological insights from five transcribed and annotated daylong audio recordings of young children's language environments. https://doi.org/10.31219/osf.io/9u7hx_v1

- *Patel, T. N., *Marasli, Z. B., *Choi, A. & **Montag, J. L.** (2025). An online survey of picture book reading practices with children between the ages of 0 and 30 months. *Language Learning and Development*, 21(1), 74-100.
- *Stoops, A., *Wu, M., *Jung, I., & **Montag, J. L.** (2024). A novel corpus of naturalistic picture book reading with 2-3 year old children. *Language Development Research*, 4, 259-297.
- *Stoops, A. & **Montag, J. L.** (2023). Effects of individual differences in text exposure on sentence comprehension. *Scientific Reports*, 13, 16812.
- *Flores, A. Z., **Montag, J. L.**, & Willits, J. A. (2023). Using known words to learn more words: A distributional analysis of child vocabulary development. *Journal of Memory and Language*, 132, 104446.
- *Macbeth, A., *Atagi, N., **Montag, J. L.**, *Bruni, M., & Chiarello, C. (2022). Assessing language background and experience among heritage bilinguals. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 13:993669.
- *Macbeth, A., *Bruni, M., *De La Cruz, B., *Erens, J. A., *Atagi, N., Robbins, M. L., Chiarello, C., **Montag, J. L.** (2022). Using the Electronically Activated Recorder (EAR) to capture the day-to-day linguistic experiences of young adults. *Collabra: Psychology*, 8(1).
- Montag, J. L.** (2021). Limited evidence for probability matching as a strategy in probability learning tasks. *Psychology of Learning and Motivation*, 74, 233-273.
- *Sarkis, J. T. & **Montag, J. L.** (2021). The effect of lexical accessibility on Spanish-English intra-sentential codeswitching, *Memory & Cognition*, 49, 163-180.
- Montag, J. L.** (2019). Differences in sentence complexity in the text of children's picture books and child-directed speech. *First Language*, 39, 527-546.
- Montag, J. L.**, Jones, M. N., & Smith, L. B. (2018). Quantity and diversity: Simulating early word learning environments. *Cognitive Science*, 42, 1-38.
- Montag, J. L.**, Matsuki, K., Kim, J. & MacDonald, M. C. (2017). The effects of word order on sentence structure choice in language production: A multi-clause and multi-language investigation. *Collabra: Psychology*, 3, 20.
- MacDonald, M. C., **Montag, J. L.**, & Gennari, S. P. (2016). Are there really syntactic complexity effects in sentence production?: A reply to Scontras et al. *Cognitive Science*, 40, 513-518.
- Montag, J. L.**, Jones, M. N., & Smith, L. B. (2015). The words children hear: Picture books and the statistics of language learning. *Psychological Science*, 26, 1489-1496.
- Montag, J. L.** & MacDonald, M. C. (2015). Text exposure predicts spoken production of complex sentences in 8- and 12-year old children and adults. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 144, 447-468.
- Montag, J. L.**, AuBuchon, A. M., Pisoni, D. B. & Kronenberger, W. G. (2014). Speech intelligibility in early-implanted deaf children after long-term cochlear implant use. *Journal of Speech, Language and Hearing Research*, 57, 2332-2343.
- Montag, J. L.** & MacDonald, M. C. (2014). Visual salience modulates structure choice in relative clause production. *Language and Speech*, 57, 163-180.
- Zelano, C., **Montag, J.**, Khan, R., & Sobel, N. (2009). A specialized odor memory buffer in primary olfactory cortex. *PLoS one*, 4, e4965.

Zelano, C., **Montag, J.**, Johnson, B., Khan, R., & Sobel, N. (2007). Dissociated representations of irritation and valence in human primary olfactory cortex. *Journal of Neurophysiology*, 97, 1969-1976.

Peer-Reviewed Conference Proceedings

*Marasli, Z. B. & **Montag, J. L.** (2025). The applications and limitations of the burstiness metric in investigating the temporal distribution of words in child-centered Audio. *Proceedings of the 44th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. XX-XX). San Francisco: CA: Cognitive Science Society.

*Galindo, M. & **Montag, J. L.** (2025). The role of siblings on infant language exposure in daylong audio recordings. *Proceedings of the 44th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. XX-XX). San Francisco: CA: Cognitive Science Society.

*Marasli, Z. B. & **Montag, J. L.** (2023). Optimizing random time sampling of daylong audio. *Proceedings of the 42nd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 87-94). Sydney, NSW, Australia: Cognitive Science Society.

Montag, J. L. (2020). New insights from daylong audio transcripts of children's language environments. In S. Denison, M. Mack, Y. Xu & B. Armstrong (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 42nd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 3005-3011). Toronto, ON, Canada: Cognitive Science Society.

Montag, J. L. & MacDonald, M. C. (2014). Effects of text exposure on spoken sentence production. In P. Bello, M. Guarini, M. McShane, & B. Scassellati (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 36th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 1030-1035). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society.

Montag, J. L. & MacDonald, M. C. (2013). Choice of referring expression subject to visual context, linguistic context and competition. In A. Gatt, R. van Gompel, E. G. Bard, E. Krahmer, & D. van Deemter (Eds.) *Proceedings of PRE-Cogsci 2013: Production of Referring Expressions: Bridging the gap between cognitive and computational approaches to reference (online)*. Berlin, Germany.

Montag, J. L. & MacDonald, M. C. (2009). Word order doesn't matter: Relative clause production in English and Japanese. In N.A. Taatgen & H. van Rijn (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 31th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 2594-2599). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society.

Professional Presentations

Montrul, S., Christianson, K., Hadley, P., Montag, J. L., Yan, X., Armstrong, A., and Bautista Maldonado, S. (2026). Comprehension of Spanish and English verbal passives in child heritage Speakers with different school experiences in the United States. Talk presented at the Fifth International Conference on Heritage/Community Languages, Los Angeles, CA.

E. S., Montag, J. L. & Willits, J. A. (2025). The company words keep: Semantic connectivity drives word learning. Talk presented at the 66th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Denver, CO.

- Montrul, S., Montag, J. L., Christianson, K., Yan, X., Hadley, P., Armstrong, A. and Bautista Maldonado, S. (2025). Bilingual Binding: Does Knowing Spanish Boost Pronoun Interpretation in English? Poster presented at the 50th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.
- Marasli, Z. B. & Montag, J. L. (2025). The applications and limitations of the burstiness metric in investigating the temporal distribution of words in child-centered Audio. Talk presented at the 47th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society. San Francisco: CA: Cognitive Science Society.
- Galindo, M. & Montag, J. L. (2025). The role of siblings on infant language exposure in daylong audio recordings. Poster presented at the 47th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society. San Francisco: CA: Cognitive Science Society.
- Stoops, A. S. & Montag, J. L. (2025). Reading skill affects reading saccades well into late childhood. Poster presented at the 47th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society. San Francisco: CA: Cognitive Science Society.
- Stoops, A., Mukhopadhyay, S., Kindratenko, V., Willits, J. A., & Montag, J. L. (2025). The role of experience with visual and linguistic factors on skipping behavior during reading in teen and adult readers. *Journal of Vision*. Poster presented at the VSS Annual Meeting, St. Peters Beach, FL.
- Galindo, M. & Montag, J. L. (2025). The effect of siblings on language input in infants. Poster presented at the SRCDD 2025 Biennial Meeting, Minneapolis, MN.
- Bohlman, E. & Montag, J. L. (2025). Strategic use of adjectives as a marker of egocentric production. Talk presented at the 38th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing, College Park, MD.
- Stoops, A. A. & Montag, J. L. (2025). The role of experience with visual and linguistic factors on skipping behavior during reading naturalistic English texts in English L1 teen and adult readers. Poster presented at the 38th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing, College Park, MD.
- Stoops, A. A. & Montag, J. L. (2024). A corpus of picture book readings varied by book type and familiarity with 2-to 3-year-old children. Poster presented at the 16th International Congress for the Study of Child Language. Prague, Czech Republic.
- Marasli, Z. B. & Montag, J. L. (2024). Exploring the Temporal Distribution of Words in Daylong Audio Data using the Burstiness Metric. Poster presented at the 16th International Congress for the Study of Child Language. Prague, Czech Republic.
- Stoops, A. A. & Montag, J. L. (2024). Caregiver and child language during shared book reading. Talk presented at the 24th International Congress of Infant Studies. Glasgow, Scotland.
- Stoops, A. A. & Montag, J. L. (2024). Language produced during shared book reading in homes. Poster presented at the 2024 meeting of the Cognitive Development Society. Pasadena, CA.
- Marasli, Z., B. & Montag, J. L. (2023). Sampling from daylong audio recordings for annotation and analysis. Poster presented at the 64th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, San Francisco, CA.

- Stoops, A. A., Wu, M., Jung, I. T., & Montag, J. L. (2023). A novel corpus of naturalistic picture book reading with 2- to 3-year-old children. Poster presented at the 64th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, San Francisco, CA.
- Marasli, Z & Montag, J. L. (2023). Optimizing random time sampling of daylong audio. Talk presented at the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Sydney, NSW, Australia.
- Stoops, A. A. & Montag, J. L. (2023). Assessing effects of individual differences in text exposure on language comprehension. Talk presented at the 36th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Stoops, A. A. & Montag, J. L. (2022). The role of text exposure on language comprehension. Poster presented at the 63rd Psychonomic Society Annual Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts and Virtual.
- Montag, J. L. (2021). Temporal dynamics of words in daylong audio recordings. In symposium: Reorienting the study of language learning using naturalistic data. Talk presented at the Society for Research in Child Development 2021 Virtual Biennial Meeting (Online).
- Erens, J. A. & Montag, J. L. (2021). The Role of Relatedness on Sentence Production. Poster presented at the 34th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Philadelphia, PA (Online).
- Stoops, A. A. & Montag, J. L. (2021). Complex syntax and conversational turn-taking during toddler-adult picture book reading. Poster presented at the 34th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Philadelphia, PA (Online).
- Stoops, A. A. & Montag, J. L. (2020). The effect of book syntactic complexity on caregiver and child language profile during shared book reading. Poster presented at the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Toronto, Canada (Online).
- Macbeth, A., De La Cruz, B., Bruni, M., Atagi, N., Montag, J., & Chiarello, C. Predicting real-world language use from language history questionnaires and laboratory assessments of vocabulary and proficiency. (October 2020). Poster presented at the Society for the Neurobiology of Language 2020 Annual Meeting (Online).
- Flores, A. Z., Montag, J. L., & Willits, J. A. (2019). Using known words to learn more words: A distributional analysis of child vocabulary development. Poster presented at the 11th Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Louisville, KY.
- Flores, A. Z., Montag, J. L., & Willits, J. A. (2019). Using known words to learn more words: A distributional analysis of child vocabulary development. Poster presented at the 41th Annual Cognitive Science Society Meeting, Montreal, Canada.
- Chiarello, C., Macbeth, A., Bruni, M., Atagi, N., Mech, E. N., Sarkis, J., Montag, J., Karan, A., & Robbins, M. Lend me your EAR: An experience sampling method to investigate natural speech. (November 2018). Spoken talk given at the 59th Annual Meeting of the *Psychonomic Society*. New Orleans, LA.
- Atagi, N., Mech, E. N., Macbeth, A., Bruni, M., Sarkis, J., Montag, J. L., Karan, A., Robbins, M., & Chiarello, C. (2018). The effects of literacy experiences on bilinguals' everyday speech. Poster presented at the 59th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, New Orleans, LA.

- Bruni, M., MacBeth, A., Atagi, N., Mech, E. N., Sarkis, J., Montag, J. L., Karan, A., Robbins, M., & Chiarello, C. (2018). Does self-report predict bilingual language use? Poster presented at the 59th Psychonomic Society Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.
- Montag, J. L. (2018). Assessing reading experience in heritage Spanish-speaking undergraduates. Talk presented at the 3rd International Conference on Heritage/Community Languages, Los Angeles, CA.
- Mech, E. N., Montag, J.L., Kroll, J. F. (2018). The consequences of bilingualism for category learning. Poster presented at the 2018 International Conference on Learning and Memory, Huntington Beach, California.
- Sarkis, J. T., Montag, J. L., & Kroll, J. F. (2018). The effect of lexical accessibility on Spanish-English codeswitching. Poster presented at the 30th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Davis, CA.
- Mech, E. N., Montag, J. L., & Kroll, J. F. (2017). The consequences of second language experience for new category learning. Poster presented at the 58h Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Vancouver, Canada.
- Sarkis, J. T., Montag, J. L., & Kroll, J. F. (2017). The effect of lexical accessibility on Spanish-English codeswitching. Poster presented at the 58h Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Vancouver, Canada.
- Willits, J. A., Montag, J. L., & Yang, S. (2017). What words do children learn first? Using known words to bootstrap the acquisition of new words. Talk presented at the 42th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.
- Montag, J. L., Jones, M. N., & Smith, L. B. (2017). Simulations of early word learning language environments: Insights into sampling, analysis and sources of individual differences. Poster presented at the 10th Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Portland, OR.
- Montag, J. L. & Smith, L. B. (2017). Picture book reading in the lives of 18-30 month old children: A diary study. Poster presented at the 39th Annual Cognitive Science Society Meeting, London, UK.
- Montag, J. L., Jones, M. N. & Smith, L. B. (2017). Simulations of early word learning environments: Implications for sampling methodology and data interpretation. Poster presented at the Psychonomic Society's Leading Edge Workshop, Beyond the Lab: Using Big Data to Discover Principles of Cognition, Madison, WI.
- Mech, E. N., Montag, J. L., & Kroll, J. F. (2017). The consequences of second language experience for language learning. Poster presented at the 11th Annual International Symposium on Bilingualism, Limerick, Ireland.
- Montag, J. L. (2016). How differences between child-directed spoken and written language may have consequences for early language production. Poster presented at the 7th Annual International Workshop on Language Production, San Diego, CA.
- Montag, J. L. & MacDonald, M. C. (2016). Semantic interference in sentence production in three languages. Poster presented at the 28th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Gainesville, FL.

- Montag, J. L., Jones, M. N. & Smith, L. B. (2015). Important differences between child-directed speech and children's picture books. Poster presented at the 9th Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Columbus, OH.
- Montag, J. L., Jones, M. N. & Smith, L. B. (2015). Language input from child-directed speech and children's picture books are different. Poster presented at the 37th Annual Cognitive Science Society Meeting, Pasadena, CA.
- Montag, J. L. & MacDonald, M. C. (2014). Effects of text exposure on spoken sentence production. Talk presented at the 36th Annual Cognitive Science Society Meeting, Quebec City, Canada.
- Montag, J. L. & MacDonald, M. C. (2014). Text exposure may affect relative clause use in children and adults. Poster presented at the 27th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Columbus, OH.
- Montag, J. L. & MacDonald, M. C. (2013). Emergence of literacy predicts children's productions of relative clauses. Poster presented at the 38th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.
- Montag, J. L. & MacDonald, M. C. (2013). Choice of referring expression subject to visual context, linguistic context and competition. Talk presented at PRE-CogSci 2013 – Bridging the gap between cognitive and computational approaches to reference, Berlin, Germany.
- Montag, J. L. & MacDonald, M. C. (2013). Production of complex sentences across development: A possible role for emerging literacy. Talk presented at the 20th Annual Summer Interdisciplinary Conference, Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy.
- Montag, J. L. & MacDonald, M. C. (2012). Long-term learning and immediate demands affect sentence production. Poster presented at the 7th Annual International Workshop on Language Production, New York, NY.
- Montag, J. L. & MacDonald, M. C. (2011). How visual salience affects structure choice: Implications for audience design. Poster presented at the 24th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Stanford, CA.
- Montag, J. L. & MacDonald, M. C. (2010). Grammatical role assignment, not word order, drives structure choice in English, Japanese and Korean. Talk presented at Conference on Mental Architecture for Processing and Learning of Language 2010, Tokyo, Japan.
- Montag, J. L. & MacDonald, M. C. (2010). The role of grammatical role assignment in production in three languages. Poster presented at the 23rd Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, New York, New York.
- Montag, J. L. & MacDonald, M. C. (2010). The interaction of structure and plausibility in comprehension in two languages. Poster presented at the 23rd Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, New York, New York.
- Montag, J. L. & MacDonald, M. C. (2009). Word order doesn't matter: Relative clause production in English and Japanese. Talk presented at the 31st Annual Cognitive Science Society Meeting, Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- Montag, J. L. & MacDonald, M. C. (2009). Measuring production difficulty in object relative clauses. Poster presented at the 22nd Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Davis, California.

Awards and Honors

- 2025-2026 Helen Corely Petit Scholar
Awarded by the UIUC College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the time of tenure review to recognize research and teaching achievement
- 2024 Psychonomic Society Fellow
Montag (2019) was included in *First Language's* 40th Anniversary Virtual Special issue in which one paper from each of the last 40 years was selected for an open-access online special issue.
- 2020 Marian Schwartz Fellowship, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2011- 2012
2010 NSF East Asian and Pacific Summer Institutes fellowship
- 2002-2006 Regents' and Chancellor's Scholar, University of California, Berkeley

Invited Talks

2025

Why written language matters for linguistics and psycholinguistics. UIUC Undergraduate Linguistics Club. Champaign-Urbana, IL.

2024

Understanding language experience to understand language behavior. Talk presented at the colloquium series for our Cognitive and Comparative Psychology program at the Graduate Center of CUNY. Virtual.

Manual transcription of daylong audio recordings. Part of an invited workshop: Daylong data: Raw audio to transcript via automated & manual open-science tools. International Congress for the Study of Child Language. Prague, Czech Republic.

2022

Things you can do with transcribed daylong audio. DARCLE (Daylong Audio Recordings of Children's Language Environments). Virtual.

2021

How studying word distributions helps us understand language learning environments. Purdue University, Mathematical & Computational Colloquium. Virtual.

Child-directed text corpora: A great start. Oxford University, Talk Together Project, Virtual Round Table. Virtual.

2019

How language production constraints affect language structure. Northwestern University, Cognitive Science Program, Workshop on Learning Construction Grammar. Chicago, IL

2018

Reading's impact on spoken language development. University of Chicago, Psychology Department, Development Brown Bag. Chicago, IL.

Why people say what they say. University of Illinois, Linguistics Department, Linguistics Series Seminar Talk. Champaign-Urbana, IL.

The consequences of reading for language development. University California, Riverside, Psychology Department Colloquium. Riverside, CA.

2017

The consequences of reading for language development. University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Psychology Department Colloquium. Las Vegas, NV.

Reading's impact on spoken language. Florida State University, Psychology Department Colloquium. Tallahassee, FL.

Reading's impact on spoken language. Georgia State University Language and Literacy Institute Colloquium. Atlanta, GA.

2016

How reading (and being read to) affects spoken language development. University of Iowa Psychology Department Colloquium. Iowa City, IA.

Why people say what they say. UCR Comparative Literature Talk Series. Riverside, CA.

Reading as a distinct source of linguistic input. UCLA Developmental Forum. Los Angeles, CA.

The science behind reading to children. Opening Minds USA. Chicago, IL.

2014

Effects of literacy on children's productions of complex sentences. Indiana University Speech and Hearing Sciences Colloquium Series. Bloomington, IN.

Effects of literacy on children's productions of complex sentences. UIUC Language Processing Brownbag. Champaign-Urbana, IL.

Effects of literacy on children's productions of complex sentences. UCSD Center for Research in Language Brownbag. San Diego, CA.

2011

Probability learning in humans and animals. UW-Madison Human Animal and Machine Learning: Experiment and Theory talk series. Madison, WI.

A Cross-linguistic Investigation of the Production-Distribution-Comprehension Account of Language Comprehension Difficulty. Haskins Laboratories, New Haven, CT.

2010

Linking Production and Comprehension. 68th Kagamiyama Linguistics Colloquium, Hiroshima, Japan.

Teaching Experience

Graduate Psycholinguistics (Psychology 525), University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Psychology of Language (Psychology 425), University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Cognitive Lab (Psychology 331), University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Language Production, Graduate Seminar, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
 Reading, Language & Cognition, Graduate Seminar, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
 Psycholinguistics (Psychology 135), University of California, Riverside
 Psychological Methods: Statistical Procedures (Psychology 11), University of California,
 Riverside

Graduate Students Advised

2025-present Samarian Knight
 2023-present Maily Galindo, MS
 2020-present Zeynep Marasli, MS
 2019-2023 Jacqueline Erens, MS
 2016-2018 Emily Mech (co-advised with Dr. Judith Kroll)
 2016-2018 Justin Sarkis (co-advised with Dr. Judith Kroll)

Selected Media Attention

Washington Parent (5/20) *Learning That Sticks: How to Use a Post-it to Build Language Skills*
 Times Educational Supplement (3/9/18) *What Teachers Need to Know about Shared Reading*
 The Confident Teacher (1/27/18) *The Early Vocabulary Advantage*
 Nautilus Magazine (11/16/17) *The Rise and Fall of the English Sentence*
 NPR Science Friday (9/11/15) *The Science of Story Time*
 Yahoo Parenting (8/24/15) *The Science of How Bedtime Stories Help Kids*
 The New York Times (8/17/15) Well Blog: *Bedtime Stories for Young Brains*

Professional Service and Membership

UIUC Internal

IRB Board Member (2024 - present)
 UIUC Faculty Senate (2025 – present)

Professional Community

2023 - 2025: *Vice President*, DARCLE (Daylong Audio Recordings of Child Language Environments)

Panelist, NSF Developmental Sciences (3x)

Ad-hoc reviewer for funding agencies: NSF (Developmental Sciences, Perception, Action & Cognition, Linguistics, Human Networks and Data Science), UIUC Research board

Ad-hoc reviewer for journals: *Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science*, *Applied Psycholinguistics*, *Behavioral Research Methods*, *Child Development*, *Cognition*, *Cognitive Psychology*, *Cognitive Science*, *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, *Developmental Science*, *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*, *Ethics and Behavior*, *Frontiers in Psychology*, *Journal of Child Language*, *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, *Journal of*

Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory and Cognition, Journal of Experimental Psychology: General, Journal of Memory and Language, Journal of Research in Reading, Language Development Research, Language Learning and Development, Memory & Cognition, Topics in Cognitive Science, Perspectives on Psychological Science, PLOS one, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Psychological Science, The Volta Review

Memberships: Cognitive Science Society, Cognitive Development Society, Psychonomic Society, Women in Cognitive Science