

Emily N. Mech – Curriculum Vitae

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EDUCATION

- 2019- Present **In Progress toward a Ph.D., University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**
Psychology with an emphasis in Cognition
- 2018 **M.A., University of California, Riverside**
Psychology with an emphasis in Cognition
Thesis: “The Consequences of Second Language Experience for Category Learning”
Committee: Judith F. Kroll (chair), Christine Chiarello, Weiwei Zhang, Jessica L. Montag
- 2016 **B.A. with Comprehensive Honors and with Distinction, University of Wisconsin-Madison**
Psychology (with Departmental Honors) **and Communication Sciences and Disorders** (with Departmental Honors)
Certificate (Minor) in German
Thesis: “Cross-Language Activation via English-German Homophones in German L2 Students”
Committee: Margarita Kaushanskaya, Maryellen MacDonald

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2019-Present Illinois Distinguished Fellowship, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- 2018 Propes Endowed Graduate Fellowship, UC Riverside
- 2017 Propes Endowed Graduate Fellowship, UC Riverside
- 2016-2017 Chancellor’s Distinguished Fellowship, UC Riverside
- 2016 Arlene R. Davenport Award, UW-Madison Dept. of Psychology
- 2016 Ralph B. Abrams Award, UW-Madison College of Letters and Sciences
- 2016 Leadership Certificate, UW-Madison Center for Leadership and Involvement

2015-2016	Hilldale Undergraduate Research Fellowship
2012-2016	Wisconsin Academic Excellence Scholar
2012-2016	Chick Evans Caddie Scholar
2012-2016	Dean's List Distinctions
2014-2015	Carlton Blunt Award for Scholarship, Western Golf Association Evans Scholarship Program
2015	Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society
2014	Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society
2014	Psi Chi National Honor Society in Psychology
2013, 2014, & 2015	William F. Sounders 4.0 GPA Award, Western Golf Association Evans Scholarship Program

PUBLICATIONS

Mech, E. N., Huang, H., Matatov, S., Federmeier, K.D., (in prep). The right to image: Hemispheric differences in the use of context and mental imagery to build meaning from words.

Dikker, S., **Mech, E.N.**, Gwilliams, L., Dumas, G., & Federmeier, K.D. (under review). Syncing with seniors: Intergenerational neurobehavioral coupling during naturalistic communication.

Mech, E. N., Kandhadai, P., & Federmeier, K.D. (under review). The last course of coarse coding: Hemispheric similarities in categorical and associative semantic processing.

Szewczyk, J. M., **Mech, E. N.**, & Federmeier, K.D. (2021). The power of "good": Can adjectives rapidly decrease as well as increase the availability of the upcoming noun? *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition*.

Mech, E. N., Takahesu Tabori, A. A., de Bot, K., & Kroll, J.F. (2019). Psycholinguistics. *Introduction to Applied Linguistics, Third Edition*.

Takahesu Tabori, A. A., **Mech, E. N.**, & Atagi, N. (2018). Exploiting language variation to better understand the cognitive consequences of bilingualism. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 9, 1686.

Perry, L. K., **Mech, E. N.**, MacDonald, M. C., & Seidenberg, M. S. (2018). Influences of speech familiarity on immediate perception and final comprehension. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*, 25, 431-439.

Kroll, J.F., Takahesu Tabori, A., & **Mech, E. N.** (2017). Beyond typical learning: Variation in language experience as a lens to the developing mind. Commentary on Pierce, Genesee, Delcenserie, & Morgan (2017). Linking early language experiences and language learning outcomes. *Applied Psycholinguistics*, 38, 1336-1340.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

* Indicates student or mentee author

TALKS

Chiarello, C., MacBeth, A., Bruni, M., Atagi, N., **Mech, E. N.**, Sarkis, J., Karan, A., & Robbins, M. (2018, November). *Lend me your EAR: An experience sampling method to investigate natural speech*. Talk presented at the 59th Psychonomic Society Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Atagi, N., Bice, K., **Mech, E. N.**, *Lee, D., & Kroll, J. F. (2018, February). Learning by listening or reading: The effects of language & literacy experiences on new learning. In E. Higby (Symposium Chair), *Heritage speakers' language processing and language learning*. Symposium conducted at the Third International Conference on Heritage/Community Languages, Los Angeles, CA.

Kroll, J.F., Beatty-Martinez, A., Bice, K., Takahesu Tabori, A., Zhang, H., **Mech, E. N.**, Eshugbohunge, O., Bruni, M., & Dussias, P. (2017, November). *The fate of the native language in second language learning*. Talk presented at the 58th Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

Mech, E. N., Kaushanskaya, M., & MacDonald, M.C. (2016, April). *Cross-linguistic activation via English-German homophones in German L2 Students*. Talk presented at the conference on Sound to Word in Bilingual and Second Language Speech Perception, Iowa City, Iowa.

Mech, E. N., Kaushanskaya, M., & MacDonald, M. C. (2016, April). *Does exposure to German as a foreign language affect language processing in native English speakers?* Talk presented at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Undergraduate Symposium, Madison, Wisconsin.

POSTERS

Szewczyk, J. M., **Mech, E. N.**, Federmeier, K. D. (2020, October). *The Power of "Good": Adjectives rapidly update message-level representations*. Poster presented at the 2020 Annual Meeting of the Society for Psychophysiological Research, online.

Szewczyk, J. M., **Mech, E. N.**, Federmeier, K. D. (2020, September). *Event-related potentials reveal rapid positive and negative updating of message-level representations*. Poster presented at the 26th Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing Conference, online.

Ibrahim, M.* , Hsu, T.N.* , **Mech, E.N.**, Atagi, N., Kroll, J.F. (2019, May). *The effects of immersion on new language learning*. Poster presented at the 28th Annual UCLA Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference, Los Angeles, California.

Bui, D.* , Truong, T.* , Kazi, S.* , **Mech, E.N.**, Kroll, J.F. (2019, May). *The impact of shifting language dominance on the processing of emotionally-laden words*. Poster presented at the 28th Annual UCLA Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference, Los Angeles, California.

Ragozina, V.* , Pineda, J.* , Finely, M.* , Mikhail, M.* , **Mech, E.N.**, Kroll, J.F. (2019, May). *Individual differences in language experience and bilingual lexical accessibility*. Poster presented at the 28th Annual UCLA Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference, Los Angeles, California.

Bui, D.* , Truong, T.* , Kazi, S.* , **Mech, E.N.**, Kroll, J.F. (2019, May). *The impact of environmental L2 immersion on the processing of emotionally-laden words*. Poster presented at the 12th Annual Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity Symposium, Riverside, California.

Ragozina, V.* , Pineda, J.* , Finely, M.* , Mikhail, M.* , **Mech, E.N.**, Kroll, J.F. (2019, May). *Individual differences in language acquisition and bilingual lexical accessibility*. Poster presented at the 12th Annual Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity Symposium, Riverside, California.

Mech, E. N., *Kazi, S., *Ibrahim, M., *Rodriguez Verdin, B., *Palaganas, E., *Bui, D., *Mikhail, M., *Ragozina, V., *Yousefi-Rizi, L., *Bajaj, N., & Kroll, J.F. (2018, November). *The impact of shifting language dominance and L2 immersion on the processing of emotionally-laden words*. Poster presented at the 59th Psychonomic Society Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Atagi, N., **Mech, E. N.**, Macbeth, A., Bruni, M., Sarkis, J., Montag, J. L., Karan, A., Robbins, M., & Chiarello, C. (2018, November). *The effects of literacy experiences on bilinguals' everyday speech*. Poster presented at the 59th Psychonomic Society Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Macbeth, A., Atagi, N., Bruni, M., **Mech, E. N.**, Sarkis, J., Karan, A., Robbins, M., & Chiarello, C. (2018, November). *How bilingual language use relates to social network*

size and diversity. Poster presented at the 59th Psychonomic Society Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Bruni, M., MacBeth, A., Atagi, N., **Mech, E. N.**, Sarkis, J., Montag, J. L., Karan, A., Robbins, M., & Chiarello, C. (2018, November). *Does self-report predict bilingual language use?* Poster presented at the 59th Psychonomic Society Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Macbeth, A., Bruni M., **Mech, E. N.**, Sarkis, J., Karan, A., Robbins, M., & Chiarello, C. (2018, August). *Using the EAR to track bilingual language use*. Poster presented at the 10th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Neurobiology of Language, Quebec City, Canada.

Mech, E. N., Montag, J.L., & Kroll, J. F. (2018, May). *The consequences of language experience for new category learning*. Poster presented at the Jornados de Investigación del CIMCYC, Granada, Spain.

*Yousefi-Rizi, L., *Ragozina, V., *Mikhail, M., *Bajaj, N., **Mech, E.N.**, & Kroll, J.F. (2018, May). *The relationship between L2 proficiency and working memory in English-Dominant bilinguals*. Poster presented at the 27th Annual UCLA Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference, Los Angeles, California.

*Kazi, S., *Ibrahim, M., *Rodriguez-Verdin, B., *Palaganas, E., *Bui, D., *Mikhail, M., *Ragozina, V., *Bajaj, N., **Mech, E.N.**, & Kroll, J.F. (2018, May). *The role of language dominance in emotion processing in bilinguals*. Poster presented at the 11th Annual Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity Symposium, Riverside, California.

*Rangel, M., Eyer, I., **Mech, E. N.**, & Kroll, J.F. (2018, May). *Does language immersion benefit new language learning?* Poster presented at the 11th Annual Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity Symposium, Riverside, California.

Mech, E. N., Montag, J.L., & Kroll, J. F. (2018, April). *The consequences of bilingualism for category learning*. Poster presented at the 2018 International Conference on Learning and Memory, Huntington Beach, California.

Mech, E. N., Montag, J.L., & Kroll, J. F. (2017, November). *The consequences of bilingualism for new category learning*. Poster presented at the 58th Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

Mech, E. N., Montag, J.L., & Kroll, J. F. (2017, June). *The consequences of second language experience for category learning*. Poster presented at the International Symposium on Bilingualism, Limerick, Ireland.

Perry, L. K., **Mech, E. N.**, MacDonald, M.C., & Seidenberg, M. S. (2016, August). *Influences of speaker-listener similarity on shadowing and comprehension*. Poster presented at the 38th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

TALKS

Mech, E. N. (2021, November). *Do you know what I mean? Cross-Decoding Semantics with Two-Person EEG*. Talk presented at the Language Processing Brown Bag at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Mech, E. N. (2020, November). *Tell me something I don't know: The influences of knowledge and context on language comprehension*. Talk presented at the Cognitive Area Brown Bag at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Mech, E. N. (2020, September). *The Last Course of Coarse Coding: Hemispheric Similarities in Associative and Categorical Semantic Processing*. Talk presented at the Language Processing Brown Bag at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Mech, E. N. (2020, April). *Word vs. World Knowledge in Language Comprehension*. Talk presented at the Language Processing Brown Bag at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Mech, E. N. (2019, January). *Native Language Change During L2 Learning and Immersion*. Talk presented at the Cognitive Area Brown Bag, UC Riverside.

Mech, E. N. (2018, January). *The consequences of second language experience for category learning*. Talk presented at the Cognitive Area Brown Bag, UC Riverside.

INVITED

Takahesu Tabori, A., & **Mech, E. N.** (2018, May). *Investigating native language change in the context of second language immersion*. Talk presented at the Memory and Language Research Group, Granada, Spain.

Mech, E. N. (2017, April). *Language and Learning: An Alien Perspective*. Talk presented to the UCLA Learning and Forgetting Lab, Los Angeles, California.

Mech, E. N., (2016, May). *University of Wisconsin, Psychology Class of 2016: Leading "All Ways Forward."* Speech delivered at the Psychology Departmental Commencement Ceremony, UW-Madison.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2019-Present **Graduate Student Researcher**, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Dept. of Psychology
- Cognition and Brain Lab, PI: Kara Federmeier
 - Learning and Language Lab, PI: Jon Willits
- 2016-2019 **Graduate Student Researcher**, UC Riverside Dept. of Psychology
- Bilingualism, Mind, & Brain Lab, PI: Judith F. Kroll
 - Psychology of Language Lab, PI: Jessica L. Montag
- Spring 2018 **Visiting Scholar**, University of Granada, Spain, Mind, Brain, and Behavior Research Center
- Memory and Language Research Group, PI: Teresa Bajo
- 2015-2016 **Undergraduate Research Assistant**, University of Wisconsin-Madison,
Dept. of Communication Sciences and Disorders
- Language and Bilingualism Lab, PI: Margarita Kaushanskaya
- 2014-2016 **Undergraduate Research Assistant**, University of Wisconsin-Madison,
Dept. of Psychology
- Language & Cognitive Neuroscience Lab, PI: Maryellen MacDonald

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign

Fall 2021

*Introduction to Brain and Cognitive Science, Brain and Cognitive Science 100**

**Ranked as Excellent*

Teaching Assistant at UC Riverside

Winter 2019

Cognitive Processes, Psychology 134

Summer 2017, Winter & Summer 2018

The Brain and Behavior, Psychology 110

Fall 2017, Fall 2018

Bilingual Minds and Brains, Psychology 049

GUEST LECTURES

2018

Language and the Brain

	Psych 110: The Brain and Behavior, UC Riverside	
2017	<i>Does bilingualism impact your ability to reason and make decisions?</i> Psych 49: Bilingual Minds and Brains, UC Riverside	
2017	<i>The Psychology of Language</i> Psychology Subject Pool Lecture, UC Riverside	
2017	<i>Bilingual Minds and Brains</i> Psychology Subject Pool Lecture, UC Riverside	

MENTORSHIP

Total number of students mentored to date	21
Mentees who completed theses, capstone papers, & independent projects	
UCR Psychology undergraduate honors thesis	1
Mentees who participated in research pipeline programs	
The University of California Leadership Excellence through Advanced Degrees (UC LEADS)	1

MENTEE HONORS & AWARDS

2021	Charles Osgood Award (UIUC) Award to Sarah Matatov
2018	Partnerships for International Research and Education (PIRE) Fellowship to Mariamme Ibrahim <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Collaboration, UC Riverside and University of Groningen (Netherlands)
2017	Partnerships for International Research and Education (PIRE) Fellowship to Mildred Rangel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Collaboration, UC Riverside and Radboud University, Nijmegen (Netherlands)

SERVICE ACTIVITIES

AD HOC REVIEWER

The 40th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society
The 41st Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society
The 42nd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society
The 43rd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society
Journal of Memory and Language
Brain and Language

Neuropsychologia

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2021-2022 Graduate Student Organization, UIUC, Dept. Of Psychology
- 2018-2019 Graduate Student Representative, UCR, Dept. of Psychology
- 2018-2019 Graduate Student Voting Member, UCR, Graduate Council
- 2018-2019 Graduate Student Basic Needs Committee, UCR, Graduate Council
- 2016 Panelist, "The Letters & Sciences Student Experience", UW-Madison, College of Letters and Sciences
- 2015 Invited Presenter for the International Internship Program, UW-Madison Internship Fair

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

- 2016-2019 Bilingualism Matters at UC Riverside

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- 2020 SwaTaleem Data Analysis and Visualization Intern, UIUC
- 2015-2016 Women in Science and Education Research (WISER) Mentor, UW-Madison
- 2014-2016 Executive Board, UW-Madison Student Organization: National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
- 2013-2016 Badger Volunteer (Tutor), UW-Madison Center for Leadership and Involvement
- 2013-2016 Evans Scholars New Scholar Committee, Western Golf Association Evans Scholarship Program
- 2014 International Intern (Uganda), UW-Madison International Internship Program
- 2013-2014 International Volunteer and Student Organization Member, UW-Madison MEDLIFE

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association for Psychological Science
The Psychonomic Society
Women in Cognitive Science
Cognitive Science Society
Cognitive Neuroscience Society
Society for Psychophysiological Research

LANGUAGES

English, Native Language

German, Intermediate Proficiency