Curriculum Vitae

James C. Baybaş

University of Michigan, Department of Linguistics
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Education

2023-2028	**Ph.D. in Linguistics** Advisor: Dr. Jonathan Brennan *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor, MI
2021-2023	**B.A. in Psychology, High Honors** Minor in Linguistics *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor, MI GPA: 3.78/4.0
2019-2020	**B.A. in Psychology** Minor in Linguistics *Eastern Michigan University,* Ypsilanti, MI GPA: 4.0/4.0

Honors & Awards

2026	Rackham Graduate School **Rackham Humanities Research Fellowship** ($14,596 stipend and tuition)
2025-2026	University of Michigan **Department of Linguistics Research Grant** ($2,920)
2025	Rackham Graduate School **Precandidate Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant** ($1,500)
2023	University of Michigan **High Honors Designation**
2023	Nomination for **FABBS Undergraduate Research Excellence Award**
2023	Nomination for University of Michigan **Language, Science & Arts Honors Award**
2022	Students Tackling Advanced Research (STAR) Scholars Program **Shining Star Award**

Publications

In prep.	**Baybaş, J.,** Lin, D.Y., Lu, S., & Brennan, J.R. (2027). Bilingual code-switch processing in natural conversation with EEG.
In prep.	Leachman, M., Muñiz Chams, G., Salig, L.K., Wang, Y., **Baybaş, J.,** Yu, C.-L., Brennan, J.R., & Kovelman, I. (2026). Neural tracking of phonological, lexical, and syntactic surprisal during naturalistic listening in children with and without dyslexia.
In prep.	Salig, L.K., Muñoz, V., **Baybaş, J.**, Brennan, J.R., & Kovelman, I. (2026). Bilinguals efficiently engage memory networks upon hearing code-switches. [OSF]
In review	Salig, L.K., **Baybaş, J.,** Brennan, J.R., Kovelman, I., Goldin-Meadow, S. (2026). Gestures modify predictive processing during listening comprehension. [OSF]

Presentations

2026	**Baybaş, J.,** Lin, D.Y., Lu, S., Brennan, J.R. *Cortical speech tracking during bilingual conversations.* The 18th Annual Meeting of the Society for Neurobiology of Language. Centre International de Conférences Genève, Geneva, Switzerland. September 30th. [poster]

2026 **Baybaş, J.,** Lin, D.Y., Lu, S., Brennan, J.R. *Bilingual code-switch processing in natural conversation with EEG.* Workshop on Multilingual Language Processing: Multilingual Minds and Machines Meeting. Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, Netherlands. June 22nd. [poster]

2026 Wang, Y., Eggleston, R., **Baybas, J.,** Chen, N., Lin, W.-H., Di, Z., Witkowska, A., Booth, J. R., Deacon, H., Kovelman, I. (2026). *Are lexical morphemes more than sound + meaning? A cross-modal fNIRS priming study with English monolinguals, Spanish-English and Chinese-English bilinguals.* The 46th Annual Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders. Madison, Wisconsin. June 4-6. [poster]

2026 Salig, L. K., **Baybaş, J.,** Fang, H-Y., Witkowska, A., Shen, Z., Brennan, J.R., Kovelman, I., Goldin-Meadow, S. *Effect of co-speech gestures on processing of lexical surprisal during story listening.* The 39th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing. MIT, Cambridge, MA. March 27th. [poster]

2026 Brennan, J.R., **Baybaş, J.,** Bhushan, S., Segal, N., Campos, S., Huang, X., Jesien, S., McCullough, R., Möessmer, M., Stain, G., Stork, E., Wu, H-J., Zeng, Y., Levinson, L. *Alignment between human reading and large language models varies across word class.* The 39th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing. MIT, Cambridge, MA. March 26th. [poster]

2025 **Baybaş, J.,** Lin, D.Y., Lu, S., Brennan, J.R. *Bilingual code-switching comprehension in natural conversation with EEG.* The 17th Annual Meeting of the Society for Neurobiology of Language. Gallaudet University, Washington, D.C. September. [poster]

2025 Klepko, J., **Baybaş, J.,** Brennan, J.R. *Stability of speech tracking in conversation with EEG*. Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) Spring Research Symposium. University of Michigan. April 23rd. [poster]

2024 Eggleston, R. L., **Baybaş, J.,** Raybuck, R., & Kovelman, I. *Brain bases of morphology and word reading in children with dyslexia*. Annual Meeting of the International Dyslexia Association Reading, Literacy, & Learning Conference. Dallas, TX. October 25th. [poster]

2023 **Baybaş, J.**, Eggleston, R. L., & Kovelman, I. *How do we read complex words? A morphological fNIRS priming study.* The 15th Annual Meeting of the Society for Neurobiology of Language. Marseille, France. October 25th. [poster]

2023 **Baybaş, J.,** Yu, C-L., & Kovelman, I. *Natural language comprehension in the developing brain: A computational neurolinguistics perspective.* Yale/Wu Tsai Institute fNIRS Workshop. Yale University. September 22nd. [presentation]

2023 **Baybaş, J.**, Eggleston, R. L., & Kovelman, I. *How do we read complex words? A morphological priming study.* Michigan Summer Program in Cognition and Early Development (MSPICED) Data Blitz. Department of Psychology, University of Michigan. June 19th. [presentation]

2023 **Baybaş, J.**, Eggleston, R. L., & Kovelman, I. *How do we read complex words? A morphological priming study.* Undergraduate Research Forum. Department of Psychology, University of Michigan. April 24th. [poster]

Teaching

2027 **Head Graduate Student Instructor,** LING 347: Talking Minds with Dr. Lisa Levinson. Undergraduate, ~200 students. Winter 2027. Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan.

2026	**Graduate Student Instructor,** LING 315: Introduction to Syntax with Dr. Doug Merchant. Undergraduate, 50 students. Fall 2026. Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan.
2026	**Graduate Student Mentor,** LING 993: Teaching Linguistics with Dr. Ezra Keshet. Graduate, 6 students. Fall 2026. Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan.
2025	**Head Graduate Student Instructor,** LING 347: Talking Minds with Dr. Lisa Levinson. Undergraduate, ~200 students. Fall 2025. Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan.
2025	**Graduate Student Instructor,** COGSCI 200: Introduction to Cognitive Science with Dr. Richard Lewis. Undergraduate, ~350 students. Winter 2025. Weinberg Institute for Cognitive Science, University of Michigan.
2024	**Graduate Student Instructor,** LING 347: Talking Minds with Dr. Lisa Levinson. Undergraduate, ~200 students. Fall 2024. Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan.

Service

2026-2027	**Admissions Committee,** Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan.
2026	**Graduate Student Mentor,** Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan.
2025-2026	**Committee of Outreach and Inclusive Practices,** Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan.
2025	**Panelist,** Cognitive Science Community, Graduate School Professional Development Panel. April 2025. Student Organization, University of Michigan.
2024-2025	**Member,** Departmental Action Teams for Equitable Teaching (DATET) Pilot Program. College of LS&A, Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan.
2024-2025	**Committee of Outreach and Inclusive Practices,** Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan.
2024-2025	**Organizer,** Psycholinguistics Discussion Group. Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan.
2023-2024	**Co-organizer,** Psycholinguistics Discussion Group. Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan.
2023-2024	**Undergraduate Committee,** Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan.
2023	**Mentor,** Michigan Summer Program in Cognition and Early Development (MSPICED). 2023. Department of Psychology, University of Michigan.
2022	**Panelist,** Students Tackling Advanced Research (STAR) Scholars Program. Professional Development Workshop. October 2022. Department of Psychology, University of Michigan.
2022	**Mentor,** Michigan Summer Program in Cognition and Early Development (MSPICED). 2022. Department of Psychology, University of Michigan.
2022	**Panelist,** CSP Summer Bridge Program. Undergraduate Research Panel. July 2022. Department of Psychology, University of Michigan.

Research Experience

2025-2026	**Graduate Research Assistant,** Language & Literacy Lab (PI: Dr. Ioulia Kovelman). Department of Psychology, University of Michigan.
2022-2023	**Research Assistant,** Language & Literacy Lab (PI: Dr. Ioulia Kovelman). Department of Psychology, University of Michigan. *Standardized language & literacy assessments and neuroimaging with children*

	(ages 6-12). Data collection and organization. Grant editing and revision. Conceptual development and actualization of experimental designs.
2022-2023	**Honors Undergraduate Thesis,** Language & Literacy Lab (Advisor: Dr. Ioulia Kovelman). Department of Psychology, University of Michigan. *Study title: How do we read complex words? A lexical morphology priming study* *Skills developed: Formulation of a research study. Designing a neurocognitive experiment with linguistic variables. Statistical analyses. Cross-institutional networking (Dr. Helene Deacon, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia).*
2022-2023	**Research Assistant,** Michigan Summer Program in Cognition and Early Development (MSPICED), Language & Literacy Lab (PI: Dr. Ioulia Kovelman). Department of Psychology, University of Michigan *Mentoring and training incoming research fellows (up to 6 students). Data collection, organization, and project management.*

Professional Development

2022	**Student,** Summer Statistics Workshop. June-August 2022. Department of Psychology, University of Michigan.
2022	**Student**, Students Tackling Advanced Research (STAR) Scholars Program. Winter 2022. Department of Psychology, University of Michigan.

Research Interests

Cognitive Neuroscience (fNIRS, EEG)
Language Processing
Bilingualism
Developmental Psychology

Skills

Technical: PsychoPy, Python, MNE Python, Praat, R, MATLAB, NIRx Aurora, EPrime
Languages: English (native speaker), Turkish (native speaker), Spanish (intermediate), Mandarin Chinese (novice), Korean (novice)