

Natasha Vernooij

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Education and Honors

- Ph.D. Psychology, University of Michigan** [In Progress] *May 2024*
Cognition and Cognitive Neuroscience (CCN) concentration
Advisor: Julie E. Boland
My research focuses on bilingual cognition and how bilinguals reconcile conflicts between their mental grammars. I employ research methods such as corpus analyses, acceptability judgements, and reading time to study English, Spanish, and Dutch.
- M.S. Psychology, University of Michigan** *Dec. 2021*
Advisor: Julie E. Boland
- B.S. Psychology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**, 3.775 GPA *May 2019*
Bachelor of Science in Psychology with distinction, 3.8 GPA
Bachelor of Arts in Hispanic Linguistics, 3.95 GPA
Minor in Statistics and Analytics
Honors: Honors Carolina Laureate; Carolina Research Scholar; Dean's List (6 semesters)

Publications

- Vernooij, N.**, & Boland, J. E. (under review). Grey manchas: Understanding codeswitches when grammars conflict. <https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/f7vyyz>
- Cheng, L. S. P., Burgess, D., **Vernooij, N.**, Solís-Barroso, C., McDermott, A., & Namboodiripad, S. (2021). The problematic concept of native speaker in psycholinguistics: Replacing vague and harmful terminology with inclusive and accurate measures. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 12, 3980.
<https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2021.715843>

Poster Presentations

 * indicates co-first authorship

- Vernooij, N.**, & Boland, J. E. (2022, Nov. 19). *Spanish/English bilingual judgement norms for Spanish adjectives* [Poster]. 63rd Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Boston, MA, United States.
- Vernooij, N.**, Robbins, N., Walls, L., & Martell, E. (2022, Nov. 14). *ES COCO: Removing barriers to language research with an open-access database for Spanish-English speech data* [Poster]. 2022 U-M data science and AI Summit, Ann Arbor, MI, United States.
- Vernooij, N.**, & Boland, J. E. (2021, Nov. 6). *Codeswitching judgements when grammars do not align* [Poster]. 62nd Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, New Orleans, LA, United States.
- Vernooij, N.**, & Boland, J.E. (2020, June). *Grey manchas: codeswitching when grammars do not align* [Poster]. IMPRS Conference: Interdisciplinary Approaches in the Language Sciences, Nijmegen, the Netherlands.
- Becker, J. L.*, Hartsock, J. T.*, Ka, B. A.*, Sullivan, K. A.*, & **Vernooij, N.*** (2018, May) *Trigger-happy at the polls? Party inconsistency and its influence on political tolerance* [Poster]. Annual North Carolina Psychological Association Poster Session, Chapel Hill, NC, United States.

Talks

- Cheng, L. S. P., Burgess, D., **Vernooij, N.**, Solís-Barroso, C., McDermott, A., & Namboodiripad, S. (2022, Feb. 22). *Problems with ‘native speaker’ in Psycholinguistics and what we can do about it* [Presentation]. University of Utah Cognitive Language Aficionados Research Group, Salt Lake City, UT, United States.
- Vernooij, N.** (2022, Feb. 7). *Experiment proposal: Bilingual processing of incongruent codeswitches* [Presentation]. University of Michigan Cognitive Science Seminar, Ann Arbor, MI, United States.
- Vernooij, N.** (2021, March 19). *Problematizing the native speaker in psycholinguistics: Replacing vague and harmful terminology with inclusive and accurate measures* [Presentation]. University of Michigan Psychology Methods Hour, Ann Arbor, MI, United States. <https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/methods-hour/winter-2021/>
- Vernooij, N.** (2021, Jan. 29). *Incongruent cambios de código: Code switching when grammars do not align* [Presentation]. University of Michigan Cognition and Cognitive Neuroscience Area Forum, Ann Arbor, MI, United States.

Awards and Grants

CCN Area Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Nominee Psychology Department, University of Michigan	<i>Fall 2022</i>
Pillsbury Research Award (\$1000) Psychology Department, University of Michigan	<i>March 2022</i>
Weinberg Graduate Fellowship (\$11,620) Weinberg Institute for Cognitive Science, University of Michigan	<i>Jan. 2022-May 2022</i>
Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant (\$1500) UM Rackham Graduate School	<i>June 2021</i>
ISR-Rackham Summer Training Award (\$2600) UM Rackham Graduate School and Psychology Department	<i>June 2021 – July 2021</i>
Civic Initiative Engagement Grant (\$1750) Research!America	<i>Dec. 2020 – May 2021</i>

Teaching Experience and Training

Graduate Student Instructor

Psychology Department, University of Michigan

Introduction to Cognitive Psychology

Dr. Thad Polk, 75 students

Aug. 2022 – Dec. 2022

Dr. Thad Polk, 75 students

Jan. 2021 – April 2021

Dr. Nick Ellis, 75 students

Aug. 2020 – Dec. 2020

Dr. Thad Polk, 25 students

Jan. 2020 – April 2020

Research Methods in Psychology Lab

Dr. Joshua Rabinowitz, 40 students

Aug. 2021 – Dec. 2021

Writing 993: Teaching Writing in the Disciplines

Aug. 2021 – Dec. 2021

Sweetland Center for Writing, University of Michigan

This course helps graduate students develop the pedagogical skills required to teach a course in which writing plays a key role.

Teaching Academy

Aug. 2019 – April 2020

Psychology Department, University of Michigan

A course designed to prepare graduate students for teaching at the University of Michigan through explanations of best practices and expectations.

Graduate Student Instructor Teaching Orientation

Jan. 2020

Center for Research on Learning and Teaching, University of Michigan

An orientation that presents new graduate student instructors with difficult classroom experiences and tips on how to build an inclusive and supportive learning environment.

Outreach and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Leadership

Flipped Science Fair for Public Policy

15 April 2021

University of Michigan and Ann Arbor Community

Funded through the Research!America grant, my team and I planned, organized, and executed a Flipped Science Fair. We recruited speakers, invited community leaders, created an online presence, and provided presenters with guidance on presenting to a nonacademic audience.

STAR Scholars Research Networking Event

9 March 2021

Students Tackling Advanced Research (STAR) Scholar Program, University of Michigan

Represented the CCN Area at a networking opportunity for underrepresented undergraduate students.

University of Texas- El Paso (UTEP) Virtual Flipped Science Fair

Aug. 2020

UTEP Psychology Department and University of Michigan CCN Area

Initiated a virtual flipped science fair and information session to expose undergraduates at UTEP to different types of psychological research, discuss ways to get involved with research, and how to create a successful graduate school application. Organized with the UTEP Psychology Department, recruited volunteers for a 3 hour seminar, and moderated the live event.

#shutdownstem and Beyond

June 2020 – Dec. 2020

CCN Area, University of Michigan

Requested that CCN meet to talk about diversity, equity, and inclusion measures. Participated in various meetings to make the area more inclusive and supportive of minority colleagues, and helped develop measurable goals for the area. Compiled and disseminated resources on racism in academia, how to be a better ally, and academic opportunities for minority colleagues. Received departmental recognition of efforts via the informal ‘Thumb Award’.

Anti-racist Curriculum Design

Aug. 2020 – Dec. 2020

Psych 121: How We Talk with One Another, class at University of Michigan

With financial support from Dr. Julie Boland’s *Reckoning with Racism* microgrant awarded by the Association for Psychological Science, I created course content to contextualize the enslavement history of the founding of the University of Michigan, racist psychological measures and researchers, and the many forms of language policing. These materials will be available to other instructors for future use.

Mentoring Experience

Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) Mentor

UROP, University of Michigan

Jordan Hersh

Aug. 2022 – Dec. 2022

Natalie Robbins

April 2022 – Dec. 2022

LuzElena Molina-Medina, Misha Naveed

Sept. 2021 – April 2022

Sydney Kelly

Sept. 2020 – April 2021

Tiernan Mackela, Yaozong (Frank) Huang, Ignacio Barreras

Aug. 2019 – April 2020

High School Student Mentor

April 2020 – Aug. 2020

Psycholinguistics Lab, University of Michigan

Recruited a high school junior to work as a research assistant in the lab. Mentored them on psycholinguistic research methods and led weekly workshops on topics such as creating a CV, applying to jobs, applying to undergraduate institutions, and preparing for college.

Selected Workshops & Certifications

Power Analyses and Simulations in R

Andrew Jessop, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics

June 2020

Visualizing Data with ggplot

Laurel Brehm, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics

June 2020

Training Course in fMRI

Functional MRI Laboratory, University of Michigan

Aug. 2019

University Service

Cognition and Cognitive Neuroscience Admissions Committee

Aug. 2022- April 2023

Cognition and Cognitive Neuroscience Recruitment Committee

Aug. 2021 – April 2022

Horticulture Demonstration for Psych 120

22 Sept. 2021

Cognition and Cognitive Neuroscience Social Committee

July 2020 – April 2021

Cognition and Cognitive Neuroscience Area Forum Speaker Introductions

Aug. 2019 – April 2020

Undergraduate Research Experience

Research Assistant; Carolina Affective Science Lab

Dr. Kristen Lindquist, UNC-CH

May 2016 – May 2019

Independent Researcher; Language, Cognition, and Brain Lab

Dr. Peter Gordon, UNC-CH

Jan. 2018 – May 2019

Group Member; Design and Interpretation of Psychological Research

Dr. Viji Sathy, UNC-CH

Aug. 2018 – Dec. 2018

Intern; Bergelson Lab

Dr. Erika Bergelson, Duke University

May 2018 – Aug. 2018

Research Fellow; Tolerance in the Marketplace of Ideas Fellowship

Dr. Kurt Gray & Dr. Chelsea Schein, UNC-CH

Aug. 2017 – May 2018