

CERYS HUGHES

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<https://github.com/ceryshughes>

EDUCATION

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Expected June 2025

PhD in Linguistics, third year

Specializing in Computational Linguistics, Phonology, and Phonetics

The Ohio State University

May 2020

B.S. summa cum laude, Double Major:

Computer and Information Science, Artificial Intelligence specialization

Linguistics

GPA: 3.978

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant

August 2022 - December 2022

Assisting Gaja Jarosz

- Designing an artificial language learning experiment to determine the effect of morphological pattern type (suffix allomorphy vs morphological reversal) on the degree of learners' regularization of exceptional patterns.
- Implementing experiment with PCIBex.
- Collaborating to write sections of a journal submission and running hyperparameter tuning on Expectation-Driven Parameter Learner and MaxEnt + Lexical Scales learner

PhD Program Generals Paper 2 Learning Language-Specific Syllable Boundaries

August 2022-Present

Advised by Gaja Jarosz and Brian Dillon

- Ongoing exploration of how statistical learning interacts with speakers' language-specific representations of syllable boundaries in word-medial complex consonant clusters

PhD Program Generals Paper 1 Probing a Neural Network for Perceptual Integration

June 2021-June 2022

Advised by Kristine Yu, John Kingston, and Michael Becker

- Probing of a Convolutional Neural Network to compare its acoustic representations to hypotheses about human auditory dimensions in the context of contrast shift sound change
- Writing comprehensive 60-page report on background literature, experiment design, and results

Undergraduate Experience: Assisting with Grammar Induction

September 2018-December 2019

Advised by William Schuler and Lane Schwartz

- Editing Python code for modifying an unsupervised syntactic Probabilistic Context-Free Grammar induction algorithm and pre-processing data

CONFERENCES AND PUBLICATIONS

Hughes, Cerys. *Probing a Neural Network Model of Sound Change for Perceptual Integration*. [Virtual Poster]. Linguistics Society of America Annual Meeting, January 2023, Denver, Colorado.

Hughes, Cerys. *Probing a Neural Network Model of Sound Change for Perceptual Integration*. [Poster]. Annual Meeting on Phonology, October 2022, University of California Los Angeles.

Lee, Seung Suk. Hughes, Cerys. Farinella, Alessa. Pater, Joe. *Learning Stress with Feet and Grids*. [Poster]. Annual Meeting on Phonology, October 2022, University of California Los Angeles.

Hughes, Cerys. Lee, Seung Suk. Farinella, Alessa. Yu, Kristine. *Phonetic implementation of phonologically different high tone spans in Luganda*. [Poster, presented online]. Laboratory Phonology, June 2022.

Lee, Seung Suk. Farinella, Alessa. Hughes, Cerys. Yu, Kristine. *Phonetic implementation of phonologically different high tone spans in Luganda*. [Virtual presentation]. International Conference on Tone and Intonation (TAI), December 2021, Sonderborg, Denmark.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

1. Graduate TA

- LING492b, Introduction to Computational Linguistics (Gaja Jarosz, upcoming Spring 2023)
- LING150, Language Change (Faruk Akkus, Spring 2022)
- LING592b, Speech Processing (Kristine Yu, Autumn 2021)

2. Undergraduate TA

- CSE3521, Survey of Artificial Intelligence I (Joe Barker, Fall 2019)
- Introductory software 1 and 2 (CSE 2221 with Benjamin Trevor in Spring 2017 and Autumn 2017; CSE 2231 with Annatala Wolf in Spring 2018)

TECHNICAL STRENGTHS

Programming Languages Tools

Python, Java, R. Some familiarity with C, C#, Ruby, Javascript, and Praat scripting
Using remote servers, version control with Git, analyzing audio data with Praat

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

1. University of Massachusetts Amherst

- Graduate-level phonology and phonetics
- Graduate-level introduction to psycholinguistics
- Computational Cognitive Modeling (LING 692c)
- Seminars on speech perception, acquiring morphophonology, acquiring, stress placement, and describing acoustic dimensions
- Seminar on Event-Related Potentials

2. Ohio State University

- Foundations of Speech and Language Processing (CSE 5525)
- Mixed graduate/undergraduate Computational Linguistics sequence (LING 5801, 5802)
- Survey of Artificial Intelligence 1 and 2 (CSE 3521 and 3522)
- Foundations of Data Structures and Algorithms 1 and 2 (CSE 2331 and 2231)