CHRISTOPHER C. HEFFNER

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EDU	ICATION AND TRAINING	
	Assistant Professor	09/2020 - 01/2025
	Home: Department of Communicative Disorders and Sciences, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY	
	Affiliated: Department of Psychology, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY	
	Research Associate	08/2022 – 01/2025
	Buffalo Museum of Science, Buffalo, NY	
	Assistant Research Professor	10/2019 - 08/2020
	Department of Communicative Disorders and Sciences, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY	
	Postdoctoral Fellow	08/2017 - 07/2020
	Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT	••,=•=
	Advisor: Emily Myers (Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences; Psychological Science)	
	PhD, Neuroscience and Cognitive Science	05/2017
	MS, Neuroscience and Cognitive Science	05/2015
	University of Maryland, College Park, MD	
	Advisors: Bill Idsardi (Linguistics); Rochelle Newman (Hearing and Speech Sciences)	
	Other Committee Members: Ellen Lau (Linguistics); Bob Slevc (Psychology);	
	Catherine Carr (Biology, Dean's Representative)	
	Dissertation Title: "Language Science Meets Cognitive Science: Categorization and Adaptation"	
	Visiting Scholar	05/2016 - 07/2016
	The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH	
	BA (Linguistics) and BS (Psychology), With High Honors	05/2012
	Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI	
	Thesis Advisors: Karthik Durvasula (Linguistics); Laura Dilley, Devin McAuley (Psychology, Honors)	
	Thesis Titles: "Languages with Opacity are Opaque: A Failure to Replicate" (Linguistics); "Going the	
	Distance: The Effects of Distal and Global Speech Rate on Word Segmentation" (Psychology)	
GRANT FUNDING		
	EXTERNAL	
	ASHFoundation New Investigators Research Grant; ASHFoundation; \$10,000	
	"Speech perception in Parkinson's Disease: Loudness and rate"	01/2022 - 06/2023
	Hunt Postdoctoral Research Fellowship; Acoustical Society; \$60,000	08/2019 – 12/2021
	"Speech perceptual learning in Parkinson's Disease"	
	SBE Postdoctoral Research Fellowship; NSF SMA 1714858; \$138,000	
	"Identifying a common mechanism for phonetic learning and phonetic adaptation"	08/2017 – 07/2019
	Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Award; NSF BCS 1650791; \$17,617	
	"Doctoral Dissertation Research: Categorization and segmentation inside and outside language"	03/2017 - 03/2019
	Graduate Research Fellowship; NSF	09/2013 - 08/2016

INTERNAL

Buffalo Blue Sky Grant, with E. Mercado and K. Tjaden; University at Buffalo	05/2021
Doctoral Dissertation Dean's Research Fellowship ; College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, University of Maryland, College Park	05/2016
Research Training Award, Program in Neuroscience and Cognitive Science, University of Maryland, College Park	02/2016
PENDING NIDCD Early Career Researcher Award (ECR R21); PI; NIH	Submitted 02/2024
UNSUCCESSFUL	
Faculty Early Career Development Program (CAREER); PI; NSF	Submitted 07/2022
Research Trainee Program (NRT); Co-I; NSF	Submitted 09/2021
Career Development Award (K99); PI; NIH	Submitted 10/2018
Ruth F. Kirschstein Postdoctoral Individual National Research Fellowship (F32); Trainee; NIH	Submitted 08/2016 12/2016
Graduate Research Fellowship; Trainee; NSF	Submitted 11/2011

HONORS AND AWARDS

Jacob Goldhaber Travel Fellowship; Graduate School, University of Maryland, College Park	09/2015 07/2016
Graduate Fellow; Maryland Language Science Center, University of Maryland, College Park	07/2013 – 05/2017
Flagship Fellowship; Graduate School, University of Maryland, College Park	08/2012 – 05/2017
Dean's Fellowship; Program in Neuroscience and Cognitive Science, University of Maryland, College Park	08/2012
Alumni Distinguished Scholarship; Honors College, Michigan State University	08/2008 – 05/2012

PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Heffner, C. C., Al Thowaini, B. M., & Rytting, C. A. (2024). Arabic consonant length perception depends on the relative speech rate of the distal context. *PLOS ONE, 19*(10): e0312249.
- Crinnion, A. M., Heffner, C. C., & Myers, E. B. (2024). Individual differences in the use of top-down versus bottom-up cues to resolve phonetic ambiguity. *Attention, Perception, and Psychophysics, 86*(5), 1724-1734.
- Mechtenberg, H., Heffner, C. C., Myers, E. B., & Guediche, S. (2024). The cerebellum is sensitive to the lexical properties of words during spoken language comprehension. *Neurobiology of Language*, 5(3): 757-773.
- Heffner, C. C., Myers, E. B., & Gracco, V. L. (2022). Impaired perceptual phonetic plasticity in Parkinson's Disease. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 152(1): 511-523.
- Heffner, C. C., Fuhrmeister, P., Luthra, S., Mechtenberg, H., Saltzman, D., & Myers, E. B. (2022). Reliability for perceptual flexibility in speech: Identification, learning, and adaptation. *Brain and Language*, *226*: 105070.

- Heffner, C. C., Jaekel, B. N., Newman, R. S., & Goupell, M. J. (2021). Accuracy and cue use in word segmentation for cochlear-implant listeners and normal-hearing listeners presented vocoded speech. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 150(4): 2936-2951.
- Heffner, C. C., & Myers, E. B. (2021). Individual differences in phonetic plasticity across native and non-native contexts. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research, 64*(10): 3720-3733.
- Heffner, C. C., Newman, R. S., & Idsardi, W. J. (2021). Action at a distance: Long-distance rate adaptation in event perception. Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology, 74(2): 312-325.
- Heffner, C. C., Idsardi, W. J., & Newman, R. S. (2019). Constraints on learning disjunctive, unidimensional auditory and phonetic categories. *Attention, Perception, and Psychophysics, 81*(4): 958-980.
- Liter, A., Huelskamp, A., Heffner, C. C., & Schmitt, C. (2018). Grammaticalized number, implicated presuppositions, and the plural. *Glossa*, *3*(1): 39.
- Liter, A., Heffner, C. C., & Schmitt, C. (2017). The interpretation of plural morphology and (non-)obligatory number marking: An argument from artificial language learning. *Language Learning and Development*, 13(4): 451-480.
- Heffner, C. C., Newman, R. S., & Idsardi, W. J. (2017). Support for context effects on segmentation and segments depends on the context. Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics, 79(3): 964-988.
- Neufeld, C., Kramer, S. E., Lapinskaya, N., Heffner, C. C., Malko, A., & Lau, E. F. (2016). The electrophysiology of basic phrase building. *PLoS ONE*, 11(10): e0158446.
- Heffner, C. C., & Slevc, L. R. (2015). Prosodic structure as a parallel to musical structure. Frontiers in Psychology, 6, 1962.
- Morrill, T. H., Baese-Berk, M., Heffner, C. C., & Dilley, L. C. (2015). Interactions between distal speech rate, linguistic knowledge, and speech environment. *Psychonomic Bulletin and Review*, 22(5): 1451-1457.
- Heffner, C. C., Newman, R. S., Dilley, L. C., & Idsardi, W. J. (2015). Age-related differences in speech rate perception do not necessarily entail age-related differences in speech rate use. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research, 58*(4): 1341-1349.
- Baese-Berk, M., Heffner, C. C., Dilley, L. C., Pitt, M. A., Morrill, T., & McAuley, J. D. (2014). Long-term temporal tracking of speech rate affects spoken-word recognition. *Psychological Science*, *25*(8): 1546-1553.
- Heffner, C. C., Dilley, L. C., McAuley, J. D., & Pitt, M. (2013). When cues combine: How distal and proximal acoustic cues are integrated in word segmentation. *Journal of Language and Cognitive Processes*, 28(9): 1275-1302.
- Dilley, L. C., & **Heffner, C. C.** (2013). The role of F0 alignment in distinguishing categories in American English intonation: Evidence from American English. *Journal of Speech Sciences, 3*: 3-67.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Dilley, L., Wallace, J., & Heffner, C. (2012). Perceptual isochrony and fluency in speech by normal talkers under varying task demands. In *Prosodies: Context, Function, and Communication,* O. Niebuhr and H. Pfitzinger (Eds.), *Language, Context, and Cognition series,* Walter deGruyter.

IN PROGRESS

Heffner, C. C., DiNino, M., Mercado, E. III., & Tjaden, K. (submitted). High-frequency hearing thresholds and categorical loudness scaling in Parkinson's disease.

IN PREPARATION

Kaicher, C., & Heffner, C. C. (in prep). Effects of linguistic labels on non-native speech sound learning.

Heffner, C. C. (in prep). Agency and motivation in phonetic category learning.

- Heffner, C. C., Mercado, E. III., & Tjaden, K. (in prep). Perception of speech rate and intensity in Parkinson's disease.
- Heffner, C. C. (in prep). Transfer across category structures in non-native phonetic category learning.
- Zhou, X., Heffner, C. C., & Myers, E. B. (in prep). The role of experience and vocabulary on non-native speech comprehension.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

RESEARCH-FOCUSED

Heffner, C. C. (2024, May). Age and category structure in phonetic category learning. Poster presented at the one-hundred-andeighty-sixth meeting of the Acoustical Society of America (ASA), Ottawa, ON, Canada.

- Heffner, C. C., Tjaden, K., & Mercado, E. M. (2023, November). *Discrimination and learning of loudness and rate information in speech perception in Parkinson's disease*. Posted presented at the 2023 American Speech-Language-Hearing (ASHA) Convention, Boston, MA.
- Crutcher, J., Heffner, C. C., & Eigsti, I.-M. (2023, May). *Profiles of autistic adults with a significant early interest in reading*. Poster presented at the International Society for Autism Research (INSAR) Annual Meeting, Stockholm, Sweden.
- Hopper, A., & Heffner, C. C. (2023, May). *Phonetic learning and vocabulary knowledge in adolescents*. Poster presented at the onehundred-and-eighty-fourth meeting of the Acoustical Society of America (ASA), Chicago, IL.
- Heffner, C. C., Tjaden, K., & Mercado, E. M. (2022, December). *Loudness and rate perception in Parkinson's disease*. Poster presented at the one-hundred-and-eighty-third meeting of the Acoustical Society of America (ASA), Nashville, TN.
- Mechtenberg, H., **Heffner, C. C.**, Myers, E. B., & Guediche, S. (2022, October). *Cerebellar role in lexical processing during continuous speech perception*. Poster presented at the fourteenth annual meeting of the Society for the Neurobiology of Language, Philadelphia, PA.
- Heffner, C. C. (2022, May). Distal context rate effects not attenuated by attention. Poster presented at the one-hundred-and-eightysecond meeting of the Acoustical Society of America (ASA), Denver, CO.
- Heffner, C. C., & Myers, E. B. (2021, December). *Impaired phonetic learning in Parkinson's disease*. Poster presented at the onehundred-and-eighty-first meeting of the Acoustical Society of America (ASA), Seattle, WA.
- Heffner, C. C., & Myers, E. B. (2019, November). Good (explicit) learners are good adapters: Cross-task correlations in phonetic plasticity. Poster presented at the sixtieth meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Montréal, QC, Canada.
- Heffner, C. C., & Myers, E. B. (2019, August). Behavioral and neural correlates of phonetic plasticity. Poster presented at the eleventh annual meeting of the Society for Neurobiology of Language, Helsinki, Finland.
- Heffner, C. C., & Myers, E. B. (2019, May). Variability in context effects on rate adaptation within individuals. Talk presented at the one-hundred-and-seventy-seventh meeting of the Acoustical Society of America (ASA), Louisville, KY.
- Heffner, C. C., & Myers, E. B. (2018, November). *Reliability and individual differences in phonetic learning and adaptation*. Poster presented at the fifty-ninth annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, New Orleans, LA.
- **Heffner, C.**, Saltzman, D., Formica, S., & Myers, E. (2018, August). *Impaired incidental phonetic learning in people with aphasia*. Poster presented at the tenth annual meeting of the Society for Neurobiology of Language, Québec City, QC, Canada.
- Heffner, C. C, Newman, R. S., & Idsardi, W. J. (2017, November). *Viewers adapt to rate changes in event perception*. Poster presented at the fifty-eighth meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Vancouver, BC, Canada.
- Heffner, C. C., & Slevc, L. R. (2017, August). *Musical ability predicts the ability to learn novel speech sound categories*. Poster presented at the 2017 Society for Music Perception and Cognition Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- Dilley, L., Arjmandi, M. K., Ireland, Z., **Heffner, C. C.**, & Pitt, M. (2016, December). *Glottalization, reduction, and acoustic variability in function words in American English*. Poster presented at the fifth Joint Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America and the Acoustical Society of Japan, Honolulu, Hawai'i.
- Heffner, C. C., Al-Thowaini, B., & Rytting, C. A. (2016, September). Context speech rate can affect Arabic geminate perception. Poster presented at the twenty-second International Congress on Acoustics, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- Heffner, C. C., Jaekel, B., Newman, R. S., & Goupell, M. (2016, January). An exploratory study of word segmentation in Cl users and vocoded speech. Talk presented at the Mid-Atlantic Seminar on Hearing (MASH), College Park, MD.
- Heffner, C. C., Idsardi, W. J., & Newman, R. S. (2015, November). Support for a dual-systems model of speech sound category learning from goodness judgments. Poster presented at the fifty-sixth annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Chicago, IL.
- Liter, A., Huelskamp, A., **Heffner, C. C.**, & Schmitt, C. (2015, October). *Non-grammaticalized number entails an exclusive interpretation of plural morphology*. Talk presented at the Workshop on the Linguistic and Cognitive Aspects of Quantification (LCQ 2015), Budapest, Hungary.
- Heffner, C. C., & Newman, R. S. (2014, July). A more slowly ticking clock isn't less useful. Talk presented at the 2014 Universitas 21 Graduate Research Conference, Auckland, New Zealand.
- Heffner, C. C., & Idsardi, W. J. (2014, January). *Limits on phonetic category learning*. Talk presented at the eighty-eighth annual Meeting of the Linguistics Society of America (LSA), Minneapolis, MN.
- Heffner, C. C., & Newman, R. S. (2013, October). *Differences in timing perception may not entail differences in timing use*. Poster presented at the fifth international Aging and Speech Communication conference, Bloomington, IN.
- Liter, A., **Heffner, C. C.**, & Schmitt, C. (2013, October). *Inclusive plural interpretations depend on grammaticalized number: An argument from artificial language learning*. Paper presented at the Workshop on the Acquisition of Quantification, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA.

- Heffner, C. C., & Newman, R. S. (2013, June). Canadian oats and Canadian goats: Comparing distal cues to segmentation and segments. Poster presented at the twenty-first International Congress on Acoustics, Montréal, QC, Canada.
- Liter, A., Heffner, C. C., & Schmitt, C. (2013, April). An artificial language investigation of number and number neutrality. Talk presented at the third annual Great Lakes Expo for Experimental and Formal Undergraduate Linguistics (GLEEFUL), East Lansing, MI.
- Heffner, C. C., Dilley, L. C., & McAuley, J D. (2012). Going the distance: The effects of local and global speech rate on word segmentation. Talk presented at:
 - The Perspectives on Rhythm and Timing (PoRT) workshop, Glasgow, Scotland, UK, July 2012.
 - The second annual Great Lakes Expo for Experimental and Formal Undergraduate Linguistics (GLEEFUL), East Lansing, MI, April 2012.
- Heffner, C. C., & Dilley, L. C. (2011, April). Unlikely allies: Acoustic and syntactic cues in word segmentation. Talk presented at:
 - The first annual Great Lakes Expo for Experimental and Formal Undergraduate Linguistics (GLEEFUL), East Lansing, MI.
 - The first annual Midwest Cognitive Science Meeting, East Lansing, MI.
- Heffner, C. C., Liter, A., & Schmitt, C. (2011, April). *Dogs not put in boxes by boys: Learning a novel number system*. Poster presented at the first annual Great Lakes Expo for Experimental and Formal Undergraduate Linguistics (GLEEFUL), East Lansing, MI.
- Dilley, L., Wallace, J., & **Heffner, C.** (2011, April). *Perceptual isochrony and fluency in speech by normal talkers under varying task demands*. Poster presented at the first annual Midwest Cognitive Science Meeting, East Lansing, MI.
- Heffner, C., & Dilley, L. C. (2010, November). When cues collide: How distal speech rate and proximal acoustic information influence word segmentation. Poster presented at the fifty-first annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, St. Louis, MO.
- Dilley, L. C., Pitt, M., & Heffner, C. (2010, July). What information in speech conveys speaking-rate effects in lexical perception? Poster presented at the Conference on Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon) XII, Albuquerque, NM.

PEDAGOGY- AND OUTREACH-FOCUSED

- Heffner, C. C. (2016, April). *Turning students into researchers: Linguistics experiments in a collaborative classroom*. Talk presented at the Innovations in Teaching and Learning Conference, College Park, MD.
- Lidz, J., Lau, E., **Heffner, C.,** Dudley, R., & Phillips, C. (2015, January). *Expanding our reach and theirs with linguistics research*. Talk presented in the "Linguistics for everyone: Tips and tricks for do-it-yourself-ers" panel at the eighty-ninth annual Meeting of the Linguistics Society of America (LSA), Portland, OR.

INVITED TALKS

- Heffner, C. C. (2023, October). Who adapts to the unknown? Predictors of adaptation. Prince Mohammad bin Fahd University, Al-Khobar, Saudi Arabia (Remotely)
- Heffner, C. C. (2022, January). *Phonetic learning and adaptation in Parkinson's disease*. University at Buffalo, Jacobs School of Medicine, Department of Neurology Grand Rounds (Remotely)
- Heffner, C. C. (2020, November). *Phonetic Plasticity: Rate, Accent, and Learning*. University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign Department of Linguistics Colloquium (Remotely)
- Heffner, C. C. (2019, August/September/October). Individual Differences in Phonetic Plasticity: Rate, Accent, and Learning. Presented at:
 - Institute for Computational Linguistics, University of Zürich, Zürich, Zürich, Switzerland
 - Department of Linguistics and English Language, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK
 - Department of Language and Linguistic Science, University of York, York, England, UK
 - Max Planck Institute for Empirical Aesthetics, Frankfurt, Hesse, Germany
 - Cognitive Science Colloquium Series, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY
- Heffner, C. C. (2018, November). *Plasticity in phonetic representations*. Psycholinguistics lab meeting, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA.
- Heffner, C. C. (2018, March). *Plasticity in phonetic learning: Limits and linkages in categorization*. Cognitive Science Colloquium, Villanova University, Villanova, PA.
- Heffner, C. C. (2015, June). Why do Europeans think that I'm German? Studies of phonetic category learning. University of Tübingen Mini-Workshop, Tübingen, Baden-Württemberg, Germany.
- Heffner, C. C. (2015, April). What's the difference between a Spartan and a Wolverine? An interdisciplinary study of phonetic category learning. Michigan State Undergraduate Linguistics Conference (MSULC), East Lansing, MI.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, CDS 199 (Animal Communication and Human Language) I created a first-year seminar, open to all UB students regardless of major, from scratch.	Fall 2021 Fall 2022 Fall 2023
Instructor, CDS 389 (General and Speech Acoustics) I taught a required course in the BA program using an online modality (S21) then in-person (S22).	Spring 2021 Spring 2022 Spring 2023 Spring 2024
Instructor , CDS 428/528 (Neural Basis of Communication) I overhauled and taught a required course in the MA and AuD programs using an online modality (F20) and then to an in-person modality (F21).	Fall 2020 Fall 2021 Fall 2022 Fall 2023
Co-Instructor , LING 499L (Biology of Language) I helped to turn this seminar into a more regular part of the Linguistics curriculum. For the course proper (which has 6 students), I evaluated presentations, prepared labs, and oversaw a final paper.	Spring 2017
Instructor, LING 449E (Seminar: Biology of Language) I created the entirety of this 7-student senior seminar, including the syllabus and course structure. I evaluated presentations, prepared biweekly labs, and oversaw the development of a final project.	Fall 2015
TA, LING 322 (Phonology II) I graded, held office hours, and gave one 75-minute lecture for a class of about 12 students.	Spring 2015
PROFESSIONAL SERVICE	
OUTREACH	
Member Public Relations Committee, Acoustical Society of America	12/2022 – present
Co-Director UConn Living Lab, University of Connecticut & Connecticut Science Center	05/2018 – 07/2020
Member ('12-'17), Chair ('13-'15) NACS Outreach Committee, University of Maryland, College Park	10/2012 – 05/2017
Member ('13-'15), Co-Chair ('14-'15), Emeritus Member ('15-'17) Language Science Outreach Committee, University of Maryland, College Park	07/2013 - 05/2017
INSTITUTIONAL	
Member College of Arts and Sciences Policy Committee, University at Buffalo	09/2023 – present
Member Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Department of Communicative Disorders and Sciences, University at Buffalo	09/2023 – present
Member Graduate Admissions Committee, Department of Communicative Disorders and Sciences, University at Buffalo	09/2023 – present

Member ('12-'14), Chair ('13-'14) Organization Committee, MayFest workshop, University of Maryland, College Park	09/2012 – 05/2014
CONFERENCE	
Member NACS Student Grant Review Committee, University of Maryland, College Park	12/2014 – 05/2017
Affiliate Connecticut Institute for the Brain and Cognitive Sciences (IBACS), University of Connecticut	08/2017 – 07/2020
ADMINISTRATIVE	
Member Language Science/NACS Maryland Day Committees, University of Maryland, College Park	11/2012 – 05/2014
Member NACS-Fest (Program Recruitment Weekend) Committee, University of Maryland, College Park	10/2012 – 02/2015
Student Representative Linguistics Graduate Student Association, University of Maryland, College Park	09/2013 – 11/2016
Co-Representative of Outreach Committee Language Science Center Student Executive Committee, University of Maryland, College Park	10/2014 – 05/2015
Representative of Outreach Committee NACS Student Representative Committee, University of Maryland, College Park	09/2014 – 05/2015
Member UConn KIDS (Kids in Developmental Science) Steering Committee, University of Connecticut	01/2018 – 04/2020
Organizer, Administrator CDS Participants in Research (CPR) Participant Pool, University at Buffalo	10/2020 – present
Member CDS Anti-racism and Equity Committee (CARE), Department of Communicative Disorders and Sciences, University at Buffalo	10/2020 – present