

ALESSANDRA K. MACBETH
CURRICULUM VITAE

Department of Psychology
University of California, Riverside
alessandra.macbeth@email.ucr.edu

Education

- Current Doctoral Candidate, Cognitive Psychology
(Expected June 2020) UC Riverside, Riverside, CA
- **Dissertation:** The Effects of Bilingualism on Memory and Brain Integrity Across the Adult Lifespan
 - Advisor: Christine Chiarello
- 2016 M.A. Cognitive Psychology
UC Riverside, Riverside, CA
- Advisor: Christine Chiarello
- 2014 B.A. Psychology with Honors
Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA
- Advisors: Janet Trammell and Elizabeth Krumrei Mancuso

Grants

- 2018-2019 *Dissertation Year Program Fellowship* (\$14,400) – UC Riverside
2018-2019 *Dissertation Research Grant* (\$1,000) – UC Riverside
2014-2015 *Chancellor's Distinguished Fellowship* (\$20,000) – UC Riverside

Honors & Awards

- 2019 *University Teaching Certificate* (Fall '19-Winter '20) – UC Riverside
2018 *Graduate Researcher Award Honorable Mention* – UC Riverside Psychology Dept.
2017 *Training Course in fMRI Fellowship* – University of Michigan
2017 *Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award* – UC Riverside

Research Interests

Bilingualism; memory; proactive interference; inhibition; aging; cognitive control; structural MRI; cortical thickness; DTI; fMRI; neuroanatomy; hemisphere asymmetry.

Publications

Last name changed from McDowell to Macbeth, effective 01/2017.

- Macbeth, A.** & Chiarello, C. (2018). One is all you need: Intrahemispheric processing benefits nonverbal visual recognition. *Laterality: Asymmetries of Body, Brain, & Cognition*, *24*, 139-162. doi:10.1080/1357650X.2018.1500582
- Felton, A., Vazquez, D., Ramos, A. I., Greene, M. R., **Macbeth, A.**, Hernandez, A.E., & Chiarello, C. (2017). Bilingualism influences structural indices of interhemispheric organization. *Journal of Neurolinguistics*, *42*, 1-11. doi:10.1016/j.jneuroling.2016.10.004
- Chiarello, C., Vazquez, D., Felton, A., & **McDowell, A.** (2016). Structural asymmetry of the human cerebral cortex: Regional and between-subject variability of surface area, cortical thickness, and local gyrification. *Neuropsychologia*, *93*, 365-379. doi:10.1016/j.neuropsychologia.2016.01.012
- McDowell, A.**, Felton, A., Vazquez, D., & Chiarello, C. (2016). Neurostructural correlates of consistent and weak handedness. *Laterality: Asymmetries of Body, Brain & Cognition*, *21*, 348-370. doi:10.1080/1357650X.2015.1096939
- McDowell, A.**, Trammell, J., and Krumrei-Mancuso, E. J. (2015). How handedness direction and consistency relate to declarative memory task performance. *Psi Chi Journal of Psychological Research*, *20*, 228-235.

Manuscripts in Preparation

- Macbeth, A.**, Bruni, M., Atagi, N., *De La Cruz, B. & Chiarello, C. Are language history questionnaires valid? What the EAR tells us about real-world bilingual language use.
- Macbeth, A.**, Higby, E., Atagi, N., & Chiarello, C. The impact of bilingualism on resistance to proactive interference and brain integrity across the adult lifespan.

Conference Presentations

* Indicates undergraduate co-authors.

- *Le, T., *Conanan, J., **Macbeth, A.**, Higby, E., Atagi, N., & Kroll, J. F. How do early language experiences impact vocabulary in young and older adulthood? (June 2019). Poster presented at the *Symposium on Cognition and Language Development (SoCAL)* at UCLA. Los Angeles, CA.

- *Lee, D., *Guerra, M., **Macbeth, A.**, Higby, E., Atagi, N., & Kroll, J. F. Do early language experiences shape reading efficiency in young and older adulthood? (June 2019). Poster presented at the *Symposium on Cognition and Language Development (SoCAL)* at UCLA. Los Angeles, CA.
- *Agakhanyan, A., **Macbeth, A.**, & Chiarello, C. How the different contexts of language use among bilinguals relate to social network size. (May 2019). Poster presented at the *Inaugural R'Psyc Undergraduate Research Conference*. Riverside, CA.
- *Gupta, I., **Macbeth, A.**, & Chiarello, C. (May 2019). Studying compliance in participants wearing the EAR. Poster presented at *the Inaugural R'Psyc Undergraduate Research Conference*. Riverside, CA.
- *Sarabia, C., **Macbeth, A.**, & Chiarello, C. (May 2019). Does the number of bilingual parents one has affect language use and reading abilities in college students? Poster presented at *the Inaugural R'Psyc Undergraduate Research Conference*. Riverside, CA.
- *Silva, S., *Leon, B., **Macbeth, A.**, & Chiarello, C. The impact of socioeconomic status on self-reported reading abilities in young adults. (May 2019). Poster presented at *the Inaugural R'Psyc Undergraduate Research Conference*. Riverside, CA.
- Macbeth, A.**, Atagi, N., Bruni, M., Mech, E. N., Sarkis, J. T., Karan, A., Robbins, M. L., & Chiarello, C. How bilingual language use relates to social network size and diversity. (November 2018). Poster presented at the *59th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*. New Orleans, LA.
- Chiarello, C., **Macbeth, A.**, Bruni, M., Atagi, N., Mech, E. N., Sarkis, J., Montag, J., Karan, A., & Robbins, M. Lend me your EAR: An experience sampling method to investigate natural speech. (November 2018). Spoken talk given at the *59th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*. New Orleans, LA.
- Bruni, M., **Macbeth, A.**, Atagi, N., Mech, E. N., Sarkis, J., Montag, J., Karan, A., Robbins, M., & Chiarello, C. Does self-report predict bilingual language use? (November 2018). Poster presented at the *59th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*. New Orleans, LA.
- Atagi, N., Mech, E. N., **Macbeth, A.**, Bruni, M., Sarkis, J., Montag, J., Karan, A., Robbins, M. L., & Chiarello, C. The effects of literary experiences on bilinguals' everyday speech. (November 2018). Poster presented at the *59th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*. New Orleans, LA.
- *De La Cruz, B., **Macbeth, A.**, & Chiarello, C. Classifying code-switching behavior among bilinguals using the EAR. (August 2018). Poster presented at the *17th Annual MARC-U STAR Summer Symposium*. Riverside, CA.

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

*Tahir, S., **Macbeth, A.**, & Chiarello, C. The effects of second language learning on cognitive control. (May 2018). Poster presented at the *11th Annual UC Riverside Undergraduate Research Symposium*. Riverside, CA.

Macbeth, A., & Chiarello, C. Interhemispheric recognition decisions made more accurately, though not necessarily more quickly. (November 2017). Poster presented at the *58th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*. Vancouver, BC, Canada.

Macbeth, A., Felton, A., & Chiarello, C. Evidence for right hemisphere role in semantic exemplar generation. (March 2017). Poster presented at the annual meeting of the *Cognitive Neuroscience Society*. San Francisco, CA.

McDowell, A. & Chiarello, C. Investigating nonverbal visual recognition memory: Evidence for a within hemisphere advantage. (November 2016). Poster presented at the *57th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*. Boston, MA.

McDowell, A. & Chiarello, C. Behavioral and structural correlates of the semantic system: A comparison of mixed and consistent handers. (November 2015). Poster presented at the *56th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*. Chicago, IL.

Vazquez, D., Ramos, A.I., Felton, A., Greene, M.R., **McDowell, A.**, Hernandez, A.E., & Chiarello, C. (May 2015). Structural indices of interhemispheric organization: Influence of bilingualism. Poster presented at the *Montreal Bilingual Brain Initiative Symposium*. Montreal, Quebec.

Chiarello, C., Ramos, A.I., Vazquez, D., Greene, M.R., Felton, A., **McDowell, A.**, Hernandez, A.E. (March 2015). Bilinguals demonstrate increased corpus callosum volume. Poster presented at the meeting of the *Cognitive Neuroscience Society*. San Francisco, CA.

McDowell, A., Trammell, J., and Krumrei-Mancuso, E.J. (May 2014). How handedness direction and consistency relate to declarative memory task performance. Poster presented at the *26th Annual Meeting of the Association for Psychological Science*. San Francisco, CA.

Trammell, J.P., MacRae, P., Tseng, A., **McDowell, A.**, & Hunt, C.O. (May 2014). Steps walked are positively correlated with reasoning and memory in older adults. Poster presented at the *26th Annual Meeting of the Association for Psychological Science*. San Francisco, CA.

Teaching Experience

Teaching Interests:

Introductory Psychology, Introductory Statistics, Research Methods, Cognitive Psychology, Cognitive Neuroscience, Biological/Physiological Psychology, Principles of Learning, Bilingual Minds and Brains, Human Neuroimaging, Memory, Psychology of Aging

Instructor of Record:

- Introductory Psychology (Summer 2019)
- Cognitive Psychology (Summer 2018)

Evaluation (/5):

4.7
4.6

Teaching Assistant:

- Introductory Psychology (Summer 2015, Fall 2015, Fall 2016)
- Introductory Statistics (Summer 2017)
- Research Methods (Spring 2016, Winter 2017)
- Cognitive Psychology (Winter 2016, Spring 2017)
- Psychology of Technology (Winter 2018)
- Human Neuroimaging Lab (Spring 2018)
- Bilingual Minds and Brains (Fall 2018)

Evaluation (/7):

5.9
N/A
6.5
6.4
6.5
6.7
6.3

Guest Lectures

- 2018 “Bilingualism Across the Lifespan”
(Bilingual Minds and Brains, UC Riverside)
- 2018 “Surface Based Analysis and Cortical Thickness”
(Human Neuroimaging, UC Riverside)
- 2017 “Social Cognition & Consciousness”
(Cognitive Processes, UC Riverside)

Professional Service

Ad Hoc Journal Reviewer:

Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition
Memory and Cognition
Applied Cognitive Psychology

Peer Reviewer:

APSSC Student Grant Competition

Departmental Service

2019 Graduate Student Representative, "Assistant Professor of Teaching in Psychology" Search Committee

Outreach Activities

2019 Invited Speaker, "*Dispelling Myths About Bilingualism.*" Speech given at Riverside Toastmasters Club Open House.
2017 Organizer, "*Bilingualism Matters*" Conference at UC Riverside
2017 Inaugural Member, "*Bilingualism Matters*" Group at UC Riverside

Professional Organization Memberships

American Psychological Association
Association for Psychological Science
Cognitive Neuroscience Society
The Psychonomic Society
Society for the Neurobiology of Language
Society for the Teaching of Psychology

Technical Training

NIH-Funded Training Course in fMRI – University of Michigan (August 7-18, 2017)

Software Skills

SPSS, Matlab, SAS, Freesurfer, FSL, SPM

Professional References

Christine Chiarello, Ph.D.

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Assistant Professor

Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

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