

# Casey Seana MacNamara Ferrara

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PhD candidate, University of Chicago

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## EDUCATION

**PhD**, Psychology 2024 (anticipated)  
University of Chicago Chicago, IL

Advisor: Susan Goldin-Meadow

**MA**, Psychology 2022  
University of Chicago Chicago, IL

**B.A.**, Double major in Psychology & Linguistics 2014  
Swarthmore College Swarthmore, PA

Advisor: Daniel Grodner

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## PUBLICATIONS

### Publications in Progress

**Ferrara, C.**, Lu, J., Goldin-Meadow, S. (Revise & Resubmit). *Playing with Language in the Manual Modality: How do signers iconically modulate their signs?*

**Ferrara, C.**, Napoli, D.J. (Revise & Resubmit). *Where do we begin?: Signers' and gesturers' strategies for choosing starting point in shape depictions*

**Ferrara, C.**, Goldin-Meadow, S. (Submitted for review). *How iconicity and arbitrariness can work together in language: A comparison of signers and silent gesturers*

### Peer-Reviewed Publications

† indicates shared first-authorship

Martinez del Rio<sup>†</sup>, A., **Ferrara<sup>†</sup>, C.**, Kim<sup>†</sup>, S., Hakgüder, E., Brentari, D. (2022). Identifying the Correlations Between the Semantics and Phonology of ASL: A Vector Space Approach. *Frontiers in Psychology*.

**Ferrara, C.**, Coslett, H. B., Buxbaum, L. (2022). *Manual Lesion Segmentation*. In D. Pustina & D. Mirman (Eds.), *Lesion-to-Symptom Mapping: Principles and Tools*.

Napoli, D.J., **Ferrara, C.** (2021). Correlations Between Handshape and Movement in Sign Languages. *Cognitive Science*, 45(5).

**Ferrara, C.**, & Napoli, D.J. (2019). Manual Movement in Sign Languages: One Hand Versus Two in Communicating Shapes. *Cognitive Science*, 43(9).

Mirman, D., Landrigan, J. F., Kokolis, S., Verillo, S., **Ferrara, C.**, & Pustina, D. (2017). Corrections for multiple comparisons in voxel-based lesion-symptom mapping. *Neuropsychologia*.

Leeson, L., Stewart, M., **Ferrara, C.**, Drexel, I., Nilsson, P., & Cooper, M. (2017). "A President for all of the Irish": Performing Irishness in an interpreted Inaugural Presidential Speech. In C. Stone & L. Leeson (Eds), *Interpreting and the politics of recognition*. London: Routledge.

Britt, A. E., **Ferrara, C.**, & Mirman, D. (2016). Distinct effects of lexical and semantic competition during picture naming in younger adults, older adults, and people with aphasia. *Frontiers in psychology*, 7.

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## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & POSTERS

### Conference Presentations

**Ferrara, C.** (2023). *Show and Tell: Children's depictive strategies in silent gesture vs. sign*. Talk to be presented at BUCLD 48 conference; Boston, MA.

**Ferrara, C.** (2022). *Not Just Long but Loooooong: The contributions of linguistic and gestural knowledge to iconic modification in ASL and silent gesture*. Talk presented at Sign CAFÉ 2 conference; Ragusa, Italy.

**Ferrara, C.** (2021). *Expressive Iconicity and Playful Language: Flexibility and Constraint in Sign and Gesture*. Talk presented at The 2021 APS Virtual Convention.

Hakgüder, E., Martinez del Rio, A., **Ferrara, C.**, Kim, S. (2021). *Identifying the Correlations Between the Lexical Semantics and Phonology of ASL: A Vector Space Approach*. Talk presented at The 95th Annual Linguistics Society of America Conference; Virtual. (Presenting co-author: Hakgüder, E.)

Lu, J., **Ferrara, C.**, Lepic, R. (2020). *Revisiting the Core vs. Classifier Problem*. Accepted as signed/spoken presentation at Sign CAFÉ conference 2020; Ragusa, Italy. (conference cancelled due to COVID-19)

Leeson, L., Cooper, M., Drexel, I., **Ferrara, C.**, Nilsson, P., Stewart, M. (2014). "A President for all of the Irish": *Performing Irishness in an interpreted Inaugural Presidential Speech*. The European Forum of Sign Language Interpreters (EFSLI) 2014; Antwerp, Belgium. (Presenting co-author: **Ferrara, C.** & Leeson, L.)

Leeson, L., Cooper, M., Drexel, I., **Ferrara, C.**, Nilsson, P., Stewart, M. (2014). "A President for all of the Irish": *Performing Irishness in an interpreted Inaugural Presidential Speech*. Association of Visual Interpreters of Canada (AVLIC) 2014; Winnipeg, Canada. (Presenting co-author: Leeson, L.)

### Posters

**Ferrara, C.** (2023). *The Development of Iconic Expressiveness in Deaf and Hearing Children: Pilot data*. Poster presented at The 13th Annual Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development; (Budapest, Hungary / Virtual).

**Ferrara, C.** (2022). *Children's Development of Iconic Expressiveness in the Manual Modality*. Poster presented at The 14th Annual Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research Conference; (Osaka, Japan / Virtual).

Clements, A., Blass, B., **Ferrara, C.**, Duquette, K., Thompson-Schill, S., Middleton, E. (2020). *An examination of the neural bases of conceptual combination in stroke aphasia*. Poster presented at The 12th Meeting of the Society for the Neurobiology of Language; Virtual.

**Ferrara, C.** & Napoli, D.J. (2019). *Handshape, Movement, and Geometry: Communicating shapes in sign languages*. Poster presented at The 13th Annual Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research Conference; Hamburg, Germany. (Presenting co-author: **Ferrara, C.**)

Schwartz, M., Brown, D., **Ferrara, C.** (2015). *The Verbal Stroop Task: A New Paradigm for Assessing Executive Control in Word Retrieval*. Poster presented at The 45th Clinical Aphasiology Conference 2015; Monterey Bay, CA.

## Invited Talks

**Ferrara, C.** (2022, April). The Gestural and Linguistic Origins of Iconic Language Play: Evidence from sign and gesture. Talk presented at Cognitive Psychology Brown Bag, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.

**Ferrara, C.** (2021, March). Iconic Language Play in Sign and Gesture. Talk presented at Cognitive Psychology Brown Bag, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Madison, WI.

**Ferrara, C.**, Reynolds, J.T., Sen, K., Perkoff, M., Mirus, G., Napoli, D.J. (2014). "*Rocky the Cat who Barks- American Sign Language & Fiji Sign Language translations*". RISE ("Reading Involves Shared Experience") bi-modal bilingual e-book series. Presented at Gallaudet University and Swarthmore College.

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## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Graduate Student Researcher** 2018 - Present  
University of Chicago  
*Goldin-Meadow Lab. PI: Susan Goldin-Meadow, PhD.*

**Senior Research Assistant**, joint position 2016 - 2018  
Moss Rehabilitation Research Institute (MRRI) & University of Pennsylvania  
*Cognitive Neurophysiology & Neuropsychology Lab, MRRI. PI: Edward Wlotko, Ph.D.*  
*Thompson-Schill Lab, University of Pennsylvania. PI: Sharon Thompson-Schill, Ph.D.*

**Research Assistant**, joint position 2014 - 2016  
MRRI & Drexel University  
*Language & Aphasia Lab, MRRI. PI: Myrna Schwartz, Ph.D.*  
*Language and Cognitive Dynamics Lab, Drexel University. PI: Daniel Mirman, Ph.D.*

**Undergraduate Research Assistant**  
Swarthmore College  
*Psycholinguistics Lab. PI: Daniel Grodner, Ph.D.* 2013 - 2014  
*EEG Cognitive-Neuroscience Lab. PI: Daniel Grodner, Ph.D.* 2013 - 2014  
*Cognitive Psychology Lab. PI: Frank Durgin, Ph.D.* 2011

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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

<b>Instructor &amp; Dewey Prize Lecturer</b> University of Chicago, <i>Human Communication</i>	Winter 2024
<b>Instructor &amp; Lecturer</b> University of Chicago, <i>Mind</i>	Spring 2022
<b>Section Leader &amp; Guest Lecturer</b> University of Chicago, <i>Introduction to Language Acquisition</i>	Winter 2022
<b>Instructor &amp; Lecturer</b> University of Chicago, <i>Mind</i>	Spring 2021
<b>Graduate Teaching Intern</b> University of Chicago, <i>Mind</i>	Winter & Spring 2020
<b>Teaching Assistant</b> Swarthmore College, <i>The Structure of American Sign Language</i>	Spring 2014
<b>Tutor</b> Swarthmore College, <i>American Sign Language 1</i>	2013 - 2014
<b>Grader</b> Swarthmore College, <i>Semantics</i>	Fall 2012

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## HONORS & AWARDS

John Dewey Prize Lectureship, University of Chicago	2023 - 2024
Norman H. Anderson Research Grant, University of Chicago	2022 - 2023
Victoria A. Fromkin Memorial Prize for Excellence in Phonology, LSA	2021
Center for Gesture, Sign, and Language Research Grant, University of Chicago	2019 - 2024
Center for Gesture, Sign, and Language Conference Travel Grant, University of Chicago	2020
Psychology Graduate Research Fellowship, University of Chicago	2018 - present
Natural Sciences Summer Research Fellowship, Swarthmore College	2013
Social Sciences Summer Research Fellowship, Swarthmore College	2012

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## MENTORSHIP

Jayda Hart - University of Chicago Undergraduate Research Incubator Mentee (2021-2023)  
Mentored undergraduate in conducting her honors thesis research, exploring the psychological impact of props versus pantomime in live performance.

Jeannie Kim - Research mentee (2021-2023)

Mentored high school student in developing a research project exploring onomatopoeia and iconicity in written text.

Samuel Casale - Research assistant (2019-2020)

Supervised an undergraduate research assistant, including training on gesture coding, video annotation programs, participant recruitment and testing, basic R coding and analysis. —————  
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