

# David Abugaber

david.abugaber@gmail.com  
(512) 757-5410

[www.davidabugaber.com](http://www.davidabugaber.com)

3421 W Medill Ave  
Chicago, IL 60647

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## EDUCATION

**University of Illinois at Chicago**, Chicago, IL Aug. 2016 - Present  
PhD in Hispanic Linguistics, Interdepartmental Concentration in Neuroscience

**Vietnam National University**, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam Jan. – May 2016  
Studied Vietnamese language up to B2 intermediate level (as per Common European Framework)

**University of Cambridge**, Cambridge, UK June 2015  
Master of Philosophy in Theoretical and Applied Linguistics

- Thesis: *Face recognition and bilingual lexical access: A study evaluating the priming effect of faces on language in bilinguals*
- Graduated with Distinction

**Princeton University**, Princeton, NJ June 2014  
A.B. in Linguistics, Certificate in Latin American Studies

- Thesis: *Language shift from Ixil Mayan to Spanish in a highland Guatemalan town*
- 3.94 GPA
- Graduated with Highest Honors (*Summa Cum Laude*)

**Carnegie Mellon University**, Pittsburgh, PA June – July 2008  
Summer coursework done on scholarship as a high school student. Took a class on moral philosophy and a writing seminar on globalization and terrorism; received As in both

## HONORS & AWARDS

Two-time Kavli Summer Institute in Cognitive Neuroscience Fellow  
University of Illinois - Chicago Provost's Award for Graduate Research  
University of Illinois - Chicago University Fellowship Recipient  
National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (2015) – Honorable mention  
Gates Cambridge Scholarship (<1% acceptance rate, top postgraduate award at U. of Cambridge)  
National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (2014) – Awarded but declined  
Elected to membership in the Phi Beta Kappa Society  
Shapiro Prize for Academic Excellence (awarded to top 3% of freshmen and sophomores at Princeton U.)  
Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow  
Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies Undergraduate Fellow  
German Book Prize for best student in Second Language Acquisition course  
Quin Morton '36 Essay Contest nomination for *Chatting or Chattering? A Look at Great Ape Language*

## PUBLICATIONS

Abugaber, D. (submitted). Frequency and semantic prototypicality in Spanish learners' dative constructions. *Selected Proceedings of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Hispanic Linguistics Symposium*. Cascadilla Proceedings Project: Somerville, MA.

Ashburn, S., **Abugaber, D.**, Antony, J., Bennion, K., Bridwell, D., Cardenas-Iniguez, C., Doss, M., Fernández, L., Huijsmans, I., Krisst, L., Lapate, R., Layher, E., Leong, J., Li, Y., Marquez, F., Munoz-Rubke, F., Musz, L., Patterson, T., Powers, J., Proklova, D., Rapuano, K., Robinson, S., Ross, J., Samaha, J., Sazma, M., Stewart, A., Stickel, A., Stolk, A., Vilgis, V., Zirnstein, M. (in press). Towards a socially responsible, transparent, and reproducible cognitive neuroscience. In M. Gazzaniga & R. Mangun (Eds.), *The Cognitive Neurosciences*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

- Abugaber, D. (2018). Face recognition and bilingual lexical access: Familiarized faces prime performance in a written language-selection task. *Proceedings of the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society 2018*. Madison, WI
- Marsden, E., Morgan-Short, K., **Abugaber, D.**, & Thompson, S. (2018). Self-labelled replication in second language research: Narrative and systematic reviews, and recommendations for the field. *Language Learning*, 68(2), 321-391.
- Citron, F., **Abugaber, D.**, and Herbert, C. (2016). Approach and withdrawal tendencies during written word processing: Effects of task, emotional valence, and emotional arousal. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 6, article #1935.

## PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE TALKS AND POSTERS

### Talks

- Abugaber, D.**, Gómez-Ivanov, M., & Bowman, R. (submitted). *Listening strategies in heritage vs. second language learners*. American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, Washington, D.C.
- Abugaber, D. (2018). *Frequency and semantic prototypicality in L2 Spanish dative constructions: A corpus study*. Hispanic Linguistics Symposium, Austin, TX.
- Finestrat, I., Luque, A., **Abugaber, D.**, & Morgan-Short, K. (2018). *Native language processing as an individual difference explaining variability in L2 processing: An event-related potential study*. American Association for Applied Linguistics, Chicago, IL.
- Abugaber, D. (2017). *Face priming and bilingual lexical access*. International Symposium on Bilingualism, Limerick, Ireland.
- Marsden, E., Morgan-Short, K., **Abugaber, D.**, & Thompson, S. (2017). *Replication in L2 research: A systematic scoping review and lessons for the field*. American Association for Applied Linguistics, Portland, OR.

### Posters

- Morgan-Short, K., Luque, A., Finestrat, I., & **Abugaber, D.** (upcoming). *Exploring event-related potentials by subjective report as insight into explicit and implicit language grammatical knowledge*. Cognitive Neuroscience Society, San Francisco, CA.
- Abugaber, D. (2018). *Frequency, academic list, and psycholinguistic indices as measures of lexical sophistication in a Spanish EFL corpus*. American Association for Applied Linguistics, Chicago, IL.
- Abugaber, D. (2018). *Face recognition and bilingual lexical access: Familiarized faces prime performance in a written language-selection task*. 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Madison, WI.
- Abugaber, D.**, Finestrat, I., Luque, A., & Morgan-Short, K. (2017). *Event-related potentials indicate a role for word frequency in L1 and L2 grammatical processing*. Society for the Neurobiology of Language, Baltimore, MD.
- Abugaber, D. (2014). *Child language brokering in a New Jersey Hispanic community*. April 11th, Great Lakes Expo for Experimental and Formal Undergraduate Linguistics, East Lansing, Michigan, USA.
- Abugaber, D. (2013). *“Puro ‘utz’”: Spanish code-switching and borrowing in Ixil Mayan*. April 6th, Great Lakes Expo for Experimental and Formal Undergraduate Linguistics, East Lansing, Michigan, USA.

## OTHER TALKS AND WORKSHOPS

Abugaber, D. (2018). *Word collocations with hacer across dialects and generations of Chicago Spanish: A corpus study*. University of Illinois – Chicago Talks in Linguistics. May 4, 2018.

Abugaber, D. (2018). *Between-subjects, within-subjects, and mixed-design Analyses of Variance in R*. University of Illinois – Chicago Talks in Linguistics. April 13, 2018.

Abugaber, D. (2017). *Faces can orient individuals towards a particular language*. April 12th, Illinois African American and Latino Diversity Dialogue and Research Forum. Chicago, IL.

Abugaber, D. (2014). *New experimental methods in language learning research*. November 7th, Gates Cambridge Internal Research Symposium. Cambridge, UK. Available online at [goo.gl/7x2UEF](http://goo.gl/7x2UEF)

Abugaber, D. (2013). *The psycholinguistics of grammatical gender in non-native Spanish*. Princeton University Tertulia Lingüística (Hispanic linguistics group).

Abugaber, D. (2013). *Child language brokering in a New Jersey Hispanic community*. March 4th, Princeton University Translation Lunch Series. Princeton, New Jersey, USA.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**University of Illinois at Chicago**, Chicago, IL  
 Introduction to Hispanic Linguistics (teaching assistant) Spring 2019  
 Spanish for Bilinguals I (one section) Fall 2018  
 Elementary Spanish II, University of Illinois – Chicago (three sections) 2017-2018

**International Language Academy**, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam Oct. 2015 – May 2016  
 Taught English full-time at a Cambridge ESOL- and NEAS-certified language training center

**Gyechang Elementary School**, Changnyeong, South Korea Jan. – Aug. 2012  
 Taught English at a public elementary school in rural South Korea through the Teach and Learn in Korea government program while on a year off from college

**El Centro ESL**, Trenton, NJ Sep. 2012 – May 2014  
 Taught English to Latin American immigrants on a weekly basis as part of a student volunteer program at Princeton.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**Seminario para el desarrollo profesional de profesores de español Instituto Cervantes de Chicago** ‘Cervantes Institute of Chicago Professional Development Seminar for Spanish teachers.’  
 October 7, 2017. Cervantes Institute. Chicago, IL

**The 21st Century Visual Learner: How to capture and engage their attention in your classes no matter what you teach.** September 28 and October 12, 2018. University of Illinois at Chicago Graduate College.

**Vision and purpose of the Spanish basic language program.** Spring 2018. University of Illinois School of Literatures, Cultural Studies, and Linguistics.

## MENTORING EXPERIENCE

Served as a graduate student mentor for four undergraduate research assistants in the Cognition of Second Language Acquisition lab. Involves training and supervision for all stages of data collection (preparing stimuli, recruiting participants, running experiment sessions, processing data, analyzing results, writing research reports, etc.) in addition to conceptual discussions about background literature and research methodology as well as advising for research funding applications.

**OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

**Face Priming and Bilingual Lexical Access** June 2015  
Master's thesis investigating whether seeing a familiar face could prime Spanish-English bilinguals towards an associated language, as measured by reaction times to word stimuli in a language decision task

**Language shift from Ixil Mayan to Spanish in a highland Guatemalan town** May 2014  
Undergraduate thesis based on summer research in rural Guatemalan town of Nebaj; involved interviews with local bilinguals, representatives from Mayan language organizations, teachers, translators, etc.

**Frei Universität Languages of Emotion Research Cluster, Berlin** June – July 2013  
Coded, ran, and analyzed results of psycholinguistics study on processing of emotionally-valenced words

**Stacey Sinclair Social Psychology Lab, Princeton, NJ** Sep. 2012 – May 2013  
Analyzed Excel data for study on about 500 New Jersey high school students' friendship networks

**“Puro Útz”: Spanish Code-switching and Borrowing in Ixil Mayan** Nov. 2010  
Independent research based on observations from summer 2010 internship in Guatemala and on subsequent analysis of an Ixil Mayan-Spanish dictionary

**Nicole Shelton Social Psychology Lab, Princeton, NJ** Oct. 2010 – May 2011  
Ran social psychology experiments on ethnicity and impression formation for PhD. candidate

**Language Brokering in a New Jersey Hispanic Community** Dec. 2009  
Designed, administered, and analyzed results of sociolinguistic survey about children who translate for their parents in the Hispanic immigrant community around Princeton, New Jersey

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

**EZLearn, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil** June – Aug. 2011  
Interned with an e-startup to help develop an online English-learning program for Brazilians; taught a hybrid online/offline English course in two public high schools in Rio de Janeiro using said program

**Office of International Programs, Princeton, NJ** April – May 2011  
Created a promotional video for the study abroad and international internship programs at Princeton University; prepared and filmed interviews with fellow students and edited the footage into a video that was shown to incoming freshmen during the following university visit weekend

**McGraw Center English Language Program, Princeton, NJ** Feb. 2011 – May 2014  
Helped international graduate students at Princeton practice English through weekly conversation sessions and evaluated their performance in oral proficiency tests

**Fundación Centro de Servicios Cristianos, San Lucas, Guatemala** July – Aug. 2010  
Interned with a Guatemalan non-profit organization that works with indigenous subsistence farming communities; tasks included fundraising, promotional material design, video editing, website management, spreadsheet design, and training coworkers in use of office software

**Peer Tutoring Program, Princeton, NJ** Oct. 2010 – May 2014  
Tutored Princeton University students one-on-one for their Spanish and Portuguese language classes

**VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

**Interpreting and Translation, Chicago, IL** Sep. 2016 – Present  
Volunteer as a live and phone interpreter and as a document translator for pro bono legal associations, namely, the Heartland Alliance, the Legal Assistance Foundation, and Chicago Volunteer Legal Services

**Princeton University Language Project**, Princeton, NJ Feb. 2010 – May 2014  
Spanish-language editor and translator for program that provides free translation services for non-profits

**Princeton University Medical Center**, Princeton, NJ Jan. 2010 – May 2014  
Interpreted for Spanish monolingual patients at a local hospital every week on a volunteer basis

**Pa'delante English Classes**, Princeton, NJ Oct. 2009 – May 2011  
Served as teacher and (starting in September 2010) as coordinator for a student volunteer ESL program; advertised the program to nearby Hispanic communities, designed lesson plans and other ESL materials, and recruited and oversaw a group of 18 regular student volunteers

#### **LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE**

**Linguistics Club**, Princeton, NJ Sep. 2012 – May 2014  
President of a student group that promotes the study of linguistics on campus; meetings featured presentations from professors and student as well as other linguistics-related activities such as speed-learning languages, reading spectrograms, and playing International Phonetic Alphabet Scrabble

**Outdoor Action**, Princeton, NJ Sep. 2010 – Sep. 2013  
Led four separate outdoor pre-orientation trips for Princeton University's Outdoor Action program, each involving six days of hiking and camping with eight freshmen and another leader; facilitated discussions about life in college while on the trail and took on an informal mentorship role back on campus

**Portuguese Table**, Princeton NJ Sep. 2012 – May 2014  
Led a Portuguese conversation group that meets every week over dinner at a university dining hall

#### **LANGUAGES**

Native speaker of Spanish; fluent in Brazilian Portuguese; intermediate proficiency in German, Italian, and Korean (4<sup>th</sup> level of 6 on TOPIK proficiency exam); basic proficiency in French and Vietnamese.

#### **PERSONAL INTERESTS**

Classical guitar; chess; Chinese chess; crossword puzzles; cooking; hiking.