

AURORA I. RAMOS NUNEZ
CURRICULUM VITAE

Laboratory for the Neural Bases of Bilingualism
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EDUCATION

University of Houston, Houston TX
Master of Arts in Psychology; May 2013

San Diego State University, San Diego CA
Bachelors of Arts in Psychology; May 2006

San Diego Community College, San Diego CA
Associates of Arts in Psychology; June 2003

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Bilingual Language Processing in normal and neurologically impaired individuals
- Cognitive Neuroscience
- Second Language Acquisition
- Cognitive Control

POSITIONS

Graduate Research Assistant, Laboratory for the Neural Bases of Bilingualism, University of Houston; Houston, TX – September 2010 – present

- **Project 1:** Investigating the neural correlates of language switching in Spanish-English bilinguals employing effective connectivity analyses
- **Project 2:** Examining the role of the prefrontal cortex in language-switching using Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS)
- **Project 3:** Studying the neural mechanisms involved in listening to poetry and prose by bilingual children between ages 8 and 12

Research Assistant, Texas Center for Learning Disabilities; Houston, TX – June 2013 –present

- **Project:** Investigating the neural correlates associated with reading disabilities in children and adolescents using Diffusion Tensor Imaging (DTI)

Teaching Fellow, Department of Psychology, University of Houston; Introduction To Psychology Honors Class; Houston, TX –Fall 2012 –Spring 2013

Laboratory Manager, Brain and Language Laboratory; Rice University, Houston TX – August 2008 – July 2010

- Assessed language production and comprehension, short-term memory and semantic processing abilities in healthy and language impairment adults

- Recruited language impairment patients and healthy older adults for participation in language studies
- Analyzed behavioral data using SPSS

Research Assistant, Laboratory of Brain and Cognition; National Institute of Mental Health, Bethesda, MD – May 2006 – July 2008

- **Project:** Investigating the neural mechanisms involved in reward and decision making in healthy young adults

Research Assistant, Brain Development Imaging Laboratory, San Diego State University; San Diego, CA September 2004 – May 2006

- **Project:** Examining visual search abilities in adolescents with autism spectrum disorder using eye-tracking techniques

PUBLICATIONS

Archila-Suerte, P., Zevin, J., **Ramos, A. I.** & Hernandez, A. E. (2012). The neural basis of non-native speech perception in bilingual children. *Neuroimage*. 67, 51-63.

Keehn, B., Brenner, L. A., **Ramos, A. I.**, Lincoln, A. J., Marshall, S. P., & Müller, R. A. (2009) Eye movement patterns during an embedded figures test in children with ASD. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 39, 383-387.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Ramos-Nunez, A. I., Ravid, M., Hernandez, A. E. (2013). Dynamic Causal Modeling of the interactions between cognitive control brain areas of bilinguals. Poster presented at the Organization for Human Brain Mapping June 2013 meeting, Seattle, Washington.

Ramos-Nunez, A. I., Ravid, M., Hernandez, A. E. (2013). Does performance in a nonverbal cognitive control task predict fMRI brain activity in a verbal task in bilinguals? Poster presented at the Cognitive Neuroscience Society for the April 2013 meeting, San Francisco, California

Ravid, M., **Ramos-Nunez, A. I.**, Hernandez, A. E. (2012). The effects of bilinguals' proficiency on nonverbal cognitive control performance—an fMRI examination. Poster presented at the Cognitive Neuroscience Society for April 2013 meeting, San Francisco, California

Ravid, M., **Ramos Nunez, A. I.**, Rodriguez-Pujadas, A., & Hernandez, A. E. (2012). Comparing the neural mechanisms involved in verbal and nonverbal cognitive control. Poster presented at the Society for Neuroscience.

Ramos, A. I., Archila, P., Zevin, J., & Hernandez, A. E. (2011). The role of age of acquisition and language proficiency during L2 sound detection in bilinguals: An fMRI study. Poster presented at the Cognitive Neuroscience Society.

Arquilla, P., **Ramos, A. I.**, Zevin, J., & Hernandez, A. E. (2010). How age of acquisition and proficiency in bilinguals predict L2 sound detection. Poster presented at the ARMADILLO (Southwest Cognition) Conference at Texas A&M University, College Station.

Ramos, A. I., Japee, S., Marrett, S., & Ungerleider, L. G. (2008). Reward-induced bias during perceptual decision-making. Poster presented at the Cognitive Neuroscience Society.

Ramos, A. I., Japee, S., Marrett, S., Ungerleider, L. G. (2007). Effect of anticipated reward on perceptual decision-making. Poster presented at the 11th Annual NIMH/DIRP Scientific Retreat.

Japee, S., **Ramos, A. I.**, Marrett, S., & Leslie G. Ungerleider (2007). Reward-enhanced decision-making during categorization of noisy stimuli. Poster presented at the Society for Neuroscience.

Japee, S., **Ramos, A. I.**, Marrett, S., & Ungerleider, L. G. (2007). Effect of reward on decision-making during a peri-threshold face-house categorization task. Poster presented at the Organization for Human Brain Mapping.

Keehn, B.M., Brenner, L.A., **Ramos, A.I.**, Lincoln, A.J., Marshall, S.P. & Müller, R-A. (2007). An Eye-Tracking Investigation of Embedded Figures Performance in Individuals with Autism. Poster presented at the Society for Neuroscience.

Ramos, A. I., Brenner, L. A., Knust, S. R., Bartels, J. M., Marshall, S. P., and Müller, R. A., (2006). Oculomotor saccades in adolescents with autism during presentation of the embedded figures task. Poster presented at the Cognitive Neuroscience Society.

Ramos, A. I., Davies, M., & Scollay, P. (2005). Cognitive coping styles and the emotional Stroop test: Are women more susceptible to PTSD? Poster presented at the Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in the Science (SACNAS).

Ramos, A. I., Brenner, L. A., & Müller, R-A. (2005). Is there a superior ability in adolescents with high-functioning autism for the Embedded Figures Task? Oral presented at the Undergraduate Research Symposium at San Diego State University in March of 2005.

Brenner, L. A., **Ramos, A. I.**, Knust, S. R., Marshall, S. P., & Müller, R-A. (2005) Oculomotor correlates of visual search in adolescents with high-functioning autism. Poster presented at the International Meeting for Autism Research

Müller, R. -A., Kemmotsu, N., Villalobos, M. E. & **Ramos, A. I.** (2004) Inferior frontal cortex shows functional connectivity with superior frontal and premotor cortex during response conflict. Poster presented at the Society for Neuroscience.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Travel Award: Society for the Neurobiology of Language, San Diego California, November 2013

Center for Mexican American Fellowship, University of Houston 2010-2012

Intramural Research Training Award/NIH/NIMH/LBC 2006-2008

Minority Biomedical Research Support program (MBRS), 2004-2006

Travel Award: Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science, October 2006
Travel Award: Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science, October 2005
Diversity Travel Award: International Meeting for Autism Research (IMFAR) Conference, Boston
Massachusetts, May 2005.

Dean's Honor List SDSU College of Science Spring 2006, Fall 2005, Spring 2004
Dean's Honor List, San Diego Mesa College, 2002-2003

MEMBERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

Society for the Neurobiology of Language (SNL), 06/2013 - present
Society for Neuroscience (SFN), 04/2013 - present
Organization for Human Brain Mapping (OHBM), 01/2013 - present
Cognitive Neuroscience Society (CNS), 11/2012- present

REFERENCES

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