

Laura Conover
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Educational History

Fall 2015-Spring 2021	University of South Florida	Ph.D. in Communication Sciences and Disorders under Ruth Bahr
Fall 2012-Spring 2015	University of South Florida	B.A. in Psychology, minor in Linguistics Summa Cum Laude

Instructional Experience:

Undergraduate Program Director for Language, Speech, and Hearing: Spring 2024-Present
Assistant Professor of Instruction at the University of South Florida: 2023-Present
Adjunct/Visiting Assistant Professor of Instruction at the University of South Florida: 2022-2023
Graduate Teaching Assistant at the University of South Florida: 2015-2021

Courses Taught:

SPA 6805, Research Procedures in CSD
SPA 4901 Research Methods in Communication Sciences and Disorders
SPA 4104 Neuroanatomy for Speech, Language, and Hearing
SPA 3470 Culture and Diversity in Communication Sciences and Disorders
SPA 3261 Language Science of Communication Disorders
SPA 3112 Phonetics
SPA 3101 Anatomy and Physiology of the Speech and Hearing Mechanism
SPA 3011 Speech Science
SPA 3004 Language Development and Disorders (Spring 2025)
SPA 3002 Introduction to Communication Sciences and Disorders

Courses Assisted:

SPA 6805, Language Learning in School-Aged Yrs
SPA 6571, Ethical Practice in CSD
SPA 5552, Diagnostic Principles and Practices
SPA 3030, Intro to Hearing Science

Professional Memberships:

2021-present Linguistics Society of America
2017-present Acoustical Society of America

Publications:

Articles

Conover, L. (2023), The direction of attention in second language phonological contrast learning. *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 153 (6). <https://doi.org/10.1121/10.0019714>
Conover, L. and Bahr, R. H. (2022), Covert contrasts and categorical perception: A comparison of two measurement tools. *Clinical Linguistics and Phonetics*. DOI:10.1080/02699206.2021.2022212
Grieco, J. C., Bahr, R. H., Schoenberg, M. R., **Conover, L.**, Mackie, L. N. and Weeber, E. J. (2016), Quantitative Measurement of Communication Ability in Children with Angelman Syndrome. *Journal of Applied Research in Intellectual Disabilities*, 31. doi:10.1111/jar.12305

Chapters

Bahr, R., Silliman, E. R., & **Conover, L.** (2024). More than Spelling Accuracy: Linguistic Feature Patterns in the Misspellings of Superior, Average, and Poor Spellers. In Babatsouli, E. (ed), *Multilingual Acquisition and Learning: An ecosystemic view to diversity*.

Bahr, R., Gier, T., & **Conover, L.** (2018). Covert Contrast in the Early Development of Speech Sounds in Children Using Cochlear Implants. In Gosy, M. & Graczy, T. (eds), *CAPSS 2017*.

Posters and Presentations

Lister, J., Harrison Bush, A., **Conover, L.**, Lister, T., & O'Brien, J. (2024) Left vs. right ear processing: Predicting cognitive performance. Talk presented by Lister, J. at the World Conference of Audiology meeting.

Lister, J., Harrison Bush, A., O'Brien, J., **Conover, L.**, & Sadeq, N. (2023). Does hearing loss moderate the relationship between cognition and depression?. Poster presented at the Gerontological Society of America meeting.

Conover, L. (2019). Not just incidental: Connecting statistical learning to other cognitive functions. Presentation given at the 5th Annual USF Three Minute Thesis Competition, Tampa, FL.

Conover, L. & Bahr, R. (2017, December). Not all /r/s and /l/s are the same: classification of errors in children with cochlear implants versus normal hearing. Poster presented at the 174th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, New Orleans, LA.

Conover, L. (2017, March). Covert Contrast: Measurement Scale Creation. Poster presented at the 9th Annual USF Graduate Research Symposium, Tampa, FL.

Student Mentoring:

"Research Chats" – weekly group meeting for undergraduate students interested in learning about and engaging with research beyond the classroom, as well as connecting students with departmental research opportunities

Committee Member on multiple Audiology Dissertation Projects

- Hunter, J. (2024). The influence of hearing aid use on cognition over time.
- LaMotta, C. (2024). Depression as a moderator between hearing loss and cognitive decline in a geriatric primary care setting.
- Natalie, A. (2024). Hearing assessment measures as predictors of self-reported hearing difficulty in noise.
- Mullins, K. (2023). Investigation of the relationship between hearing and cognition.
- Sigismondo, F. (2023). The relationship among hearing loss, depression, and loneliness/social isolation.

Methodological Skills:

Proficient in R, with experience in SPSS, SAS, MatLab, Excel, and Mplus

Proficient in Gorilla and Qualtrics online experiment design

Proficient in Multivariate Statistics methods – factor analysis, random effects / multilevel models, etc.

Proficient in Praat and Audacity

Maintained current CITI training for ethical research with human subjects since 2012

Completed What Works Clearinghouse Group Design Standards Training version 4.1

Grants submitted:

Conover, L. (2020). Directing Attention in Second Language Phonological Contrast Learning. Duolingo Dissertation Completion Grant. Not funded.

Conover, L. (2019). The Role of Statistical Learning and Attention in Adult Second Language Phonological Contrast Perception. 2020 CAPCSD Ph.D. Scholarship program. Not funded.