

Brianna L. Yamasaki, Ph.D.

May 2020

Address: 230 Appleton Pl #552 Nashville, TN 37203

Email: brianna.l.yamasaki@vanderbilt.edu

Web: briannayamasaki.com

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Post-Doctoral Research Scholar

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

Aug. 2018-Present

EDUCATION

Doctorate in Psychology

University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Jun. 2018

Bachelor of Science in Psychology, with Honors

University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Jun. 2012

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Grants Under Revision

R03 (PI: Yamasaki)

to be submitted Jul. 2020

This grant is aimed at investigating how executive attention supports the development of early second-language reading skills in preschool to kindergarten readers.

Previously Funded Fellowships

Earl and Mary Lou Hunt Endowed Graduate Fellowship

Jun. 2017-Sep. 2017

This fellowship supports doctoral students who are pursuing their passions and conducting research independent from their advisors.

Stroum Endowed Minority Fellowship

Sep. 2016-Jun. 2017

This diversity-based fellowship supports a doctoral student's academic study and research during one of their final years as a graduate student.

AWARDS

Research

Warren Lambert Memorial Award

Sep. 2019

This award recognizes excellent scientific presentation skills.

Jason Albrecht Outstanding Young Scientist Award

Jul. 2019

This award recognizes outstanding doctoral dissertation research.

American Psychological Association Dissertation Research Award

Nov. 2015-Nov. 2016

This award assists with dissertation-related research costs.

Teaching

University of Washington Excellence in Teaching Award

Apr. 2017

This award recognizes extraordinary teaching ability.

Department of Psychology Distinguished Teaching Award

May 2016

This award honors significant contributions through teaching.

PUBLICATIONS

- Bice, K., **Yamasaki, B. L.**, & Prat, C. S. (accepted). Bilingual language experience shapes resting-state brain rhythms. *Neurobiology of Language*.
- Yamasaki, B. L.** & Prat, C. S. (2020). Predictors and consequences of individual differences in cross-linguistic interactions: A model of second language reading skill. *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition*.
- Zhou, P., Prat, C. S., **Yamasaki, B. L.**, & Stocco, A. (2020). Monitoring of attentional oscillations through spectral similarity analysis predicts reading comprehension. *Brain and Language*, 200.
- Yamasaki, B. L.**, Stocco, A., Liu, A. S., & Prat, C. S. (2019). Effects of bilingual language experience on basal ganglia computations: A dynamic causal modeling test of the conditional routing model. *Brain and Language*, 197.
- Prat, C. S., **Yamasaki, B. L.**, & Peterson, E. R. (2019). Individual differences in resting-state brain rhythms uniquely predict second language learning rate and willingness to communicate in adults. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*, 31(1), 78-94.
- Yamasaki, B. L.** & Luk, G. (2018). Eligibility for special education in elementary school: The role of diverse language experiences. *Language, Speech, and Hearing Services in Schools*, 49(4), 889-901.
- Yamasaki, B. L.**, Stocco, A., & Prat, C. S. (2018). Relating individual differences in bilingual language experiences to executive attention. *Language, Cognition, and Neuroscience*, 33(9), 1128-1151.
- Stocco, A., **Yamasaki, B. L.**, & Prat, C. S. (2018). Human performance across decision making, selective attention, and working memory tasks: Experimental data and computer simulations. *Data in Brief*, 17, 907-914.
- Kim, D. S., McCabe, C. J., **Yamasaki, B. L.**, Louie, K. T., & King, K. M. (2017). Detecting random responders with infrequency scales using an error balancing threshold. *Behavior Research Methods*, 1-11.
- Stocco, A., Murray, N., **Yamasaki, B. L.**, Renno, T., & Nguyen, J. (2017). Individual differences in the Simon effect are underpinned by differences in the competitive dynamics in the basal ganglia: An experimental verification and a computational model. *Cognition*, 164, 31-45.
- Prat, C. S., **Yamasaki, B. L.**, Kluender, K. A., & Stocco, A. (2016). Resting-state EEG predicts rate of second language learning in adults. *Brain and Language*, 157-158, 44-50.
- Yamasaki, B. L.** & Prat, C. S. (2014). The importance of managing interference for second language reading ability: An individual differences investigation. *Discourse Processes*, 51(5-6), 445-467.
- Stocco, A., **Yamasaki, B.**, Natalenko, R., & Prat, C. S. (2014). Bilingual brain training: A neurobiological framework of how bilingual experience improves executive function. *International Journal of Bilingualism*, 18(1), 67-92.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- Prat, C. S., Seo, R., & **Yamasaki, B. L.** (2016). The role of individual differences in working memory capacity on reading comprehension ability. In P. Afflerbach (Ed), *Handbook of Individual Differences in Reading: Text and Context* (pp. 331-347). New York, NY: Routledge.

Prat, C. S. & **Yamasaki, B. L.** (2015). The cognitive and neural correlates of individual differences in inferential processes. In E. J. O'Brien, A. E. Cook, & R. F. Lorch, Jr. (Eds), *Inferences during Reading* (pp. 210-227). Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

PUBLICATIONS (in progress)

Yamasaki, B. L., Bitan, T., Dronjic, V., Nathaniel, U., Lytle, M. N., Eidelsztein, S., Nir, B., & Booth, J. R. (under revision). The role of prior knowledge in morphological learning in an artificial second language. *Registered Report

Yamasaki, B. L., McGregor, K. K., & Booth, J. R. (under review). Early phonological neural specialization predicts later growth in word reading skills. *Preregistered study: <https://osf.io/ek8rc/>

Prat, C.S., Mottarella, M., **Yamasaki, B. L.**, Bice, K., Snistar, O., & Stocco, A. (in prep). Neuropsychometrics: Exploring the Measurement Characteristics of Resting-state EEG Metrics Recorded with Emotiv EPOC Headsets.

Luk, G., **Yamasaki, B. L.**, & Mancilla-Martinez, J. (in prep). Academic performance among elementary students with diverse language experiences.

Yamasaki, B. L., Stocco, A., & Prat, C. S. (in prep). Basal ganglia signal filtering predicts individual differences in second language learning in adulthood.

PRESENTATIONS

Yamasaki, B. L., McGregor, K. K., & Booth, J. R. (2020, July). *Exploring the Role of Language-Related Neural Specialization in Early Reading Skill Development*. Oral presentation to be given at the 30th Annual Meeting of the Society for Text and Discourse, Online.

Mottarella, M. J., **Yamasaki, B. L.**, & Prat, C. S. (2020, July). *Skilled Readers Engage More Proactive Attentional Control Process During a Working Memory Task*. Oral presentation to be given at the 30th Annual Meeting of the Society for Text and Discourse, Online.

Yamasaki, B. L. & Booth, J. R. (2019, September). *Semantic and Phonological Neural Specialization Predicts Growth in Early Reading Skills*. Poster presentation given at the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center Science Day, Nashville, Tennessee.

Yamasaki, B. L. & Prat, C. S. (2019, July). *Modeling Individual Differences in Second-Language Reading Skill using Language Experience, Executive Attention, and Cross-Linguistic Interactions*. Oral presentation given at the 29th Annual Meeting of the Society for Text and Discourse, New York, New York.

Yamasaki, B. L., Luk, G., & Mancilla-Martinez, J. (2019, March). *Academic Performance Among Elementary Students with Diverse Language Experiences*. Poster presentation given at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland.

Prat, C. S. & **Yamasaki, B. L.** (2019, February). *Automaticity and Second Language Reading: A Neurofeedback Investigation of Attention Training*. Oral presentation given at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, Portland, Oregon.

Mottarella, M. J., Prat, C. S., & **Yamasaki, B. L.** (2018, August). *Working Memory Filtering and Individual Differences in Second Language Aptitude*. Poster presentation given at 10th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Neurobiology of Language, Québec City, Canada.

- Prat, C. S. & **Yamasaki, B. L.** (2018, August). *Resting-state qEEG Reveals Intrinsic Network Differences Between Monolingual and Bilingual Adults*. Oral presentation given at the Bilingual Brain – A Lifelong Perspective Satellite Symposium, Québec City, Canada.
- Yamasaki, B. L.** & Prat, C. S. (2018, July). *Relating Individual Differences in Second Language (L2) Reading Skill to Linguistic Interference Management*. Poster presentation given at the 28th Annual Meeting of the Society for Text and Discourse, Brighton, United Kingdom.
- Zhou, P., Prat, C. S., **Yamasaki, B. L.**, & Stocco, A. (2018, March). *A Wandering Mind is Not a Good Comprehending Mind: Evidence from Brain Oscillations*. Poster presentations given at the 31st Annual CUNY Sentence Processing Conference, Davis, California.
- Yamasaki, B. L.** (2018, February). *The Role of Selective Attention in Reading Skill*. Oral presentation given at the Annual Psychology Department Rapid Fire Research Talks, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington.
- Yamasaki, B. L.**, Ceballos, J. M., & Prat, C. S. (2017, November). *The Role of Basal Ganglia Filtering Mechanisms in Second Language Aptitude*. Poster presentation given at the 9th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Neurobiology of Language, Baltimore, Maryland.
- Ceballos, J. M., **Yamasaki, B. L.**, & Prat, C. S. (2017, November). *Context-dependent Filtering in the Caudate Nucleus of the Basal Ganglia as a Predictor of Second-Language Learning Aptitude*. Poster presentation given at the 9th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Neurobiology of Language, Baltimore, Maryland.
- Seo, R., Ceballos, J. M., **Yamasaki, B. L.**, & Prat, C. S. (2017, November). *A Dynamic Causal Modeling Analysis of the Role of the Caudate Nucleus and Prefrontal Cortex in Bilingual Language Control*. Poster presentation given at the 9th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Neurobiology of Language, Baltimore, Maryland.
- Yamasaki, B. L.** & Prat, C. S. (2017, July). *Understanding the Nature of Cross-Linguistic Interference and its Importance for Second-Language Reading Skill*. Poster presentation given at the 27th Annual Meeting of the Society for Text and Discourse, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- Prat, C. S. & **Yamasaki, B. L.** (2017, July). *A Neural Information Processing Account of Individual Differences in Reading Skill*. Oral presentation given at the 27th Annual Meeting of the Society for Text and Discourse, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- Yamasaki, B. L.** (2017, February). *Using Neurofeedback to Improve Second-Language Reading Ability*. Oral presentation given at the Annual Psychology Department Rapid Fire Research Talks, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington.
- Yamasaki, B. L.** & Prat, C. S. (2016, July). *Neural Adaptability and Individual Differences in Native and Second-Language English Readers*. Oral presentation given at the 26th Annual Meeting of the Society for Text and Discourse, Kassel, Germany.
- Yamasaki, B. L.** & Prat, C. S. (2015, July). *Cortical Dynamics and Individual Differences in Reading: Relating Beta Oscillations with Reading Skill*. Oral presentation given at the 25th Annual Meeting of the Society for Text and Discourse, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- Prat, C. S. & **Yamasaki, B. L.** (2015, June). *Measuring Changes in Brain and Behavior Following Second Language Training*. Poster presentation given at Organization for Human Brain Mapping, Honolulu, Hawaii.
- Ceballos, J. M., Stocco, A., Becker, T., **Yamasaki, B. L.**, & Prat, C.S. (2015, June). *The Cognitive Neuroscience of Preparatory Processes: Isolating the "Execute" from Executive Functions*. Poster presentation given at Organization for Human Brain Mapping, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Prat, C. S., **Yamasaki, B. L.**, Ceballos, J. M., & Seo, R. (2015, May). *Relating the Demands of Bilingual Language Control to Inhibition: An Individual Differences Approach*. Poster presentation given at the Workshop on Bilingualism and Executive Function: An Interdisciplinary Approach, New York, New York.

Yamasaki, B. L., Stocco, A., & Prat, C. S. (2014, August). *The Neural Correlates of Individual Differences in Bilingual Language Control*. Poster presentation given at the 6th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Neurobiology of Language, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Yamasaki, B. L., & Prat, C. S. (2013, July). *Individual Differences in Executive Functioning and Language Control Indices Predict Second Language Reading Ability*. Poster presentation given at the 23rd Annual Meeting of the Society for Text and Discourse, Valencia, Spain.

Yamasaki, B. L. (2013, May). *Explorations of "Mind-Set" in Executive Functioning: The Roles of Language Experience and Task Order*. Oral presentation given at the Psychology Research Festival, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington.

Prat, C. S., Stocco, A., & **Yamasaki, B. L.** (2012, September). *Bilingual Brain Training: Investigating the Overlap Between Language Switching and General Set Switching in Bilinguals*. Poster presentation given at the Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing Conference, Riva del Garda, Italy.

Yamasaki, B. & Prat, C. S. (2012, May) *Bilingual Brain Shaping: Mental Set Shifting and the Bilingual Brain*. Oral presentation given at the Mary Gates Research Symposium, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington.

MEDIA MENTIONS

Hogan, T. P. (2018, October 24). What SLPs need to know about dyslexia. *LSHSS Clinical Forum*.
<https://academy.pubs.asha.org/2018/10/lshss-clinical-forum-what-slps-need-to-know-about-dyslexia/>

Wroblewski, T. (2017, June). Brianna Yamasaki. *The University of Washington Graduate School*.
<http://grad.uw.edu/student-alumni-profiles/brianna-yamasaki/>

Fields, R. D. (2016, September). Learning when no one is watching. *Scientific American Mind*.
<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/learning-when-no-one-is-watching/>

Yamasaki, B. (2016, August 4). Why it's hard for adults to learn a second language. *The Conversation*.
<https://theconversation.com/why-its-hard-for-adults-to-learn-a-second-language-61477>

Brazelton, A. (2016, June 2). Mind over mutter. *The Daily of the University of Washington*.
http://www.dailyuw.com/science/article_d1d695b6-286e-11e6-8bc4-9f8d5a2d9adf.html

TEACHING

Lecturer (Instructor of Record)

Department of Psychology, University of Washington
Cognitive Neuroscience
Undergraduate Peer-Teaching Experience
Cognitive Psychology
Cognitive Neuroscience

Jun. 2018-Aug. 2018
Jun. 2018-Aug. 2018
Jun. 2018-Aug. 2018
Jun. 2016-Aug. 2016

Guest Lecturer

Department of Psychology, University of Washington
Cognitive Psychology

Jan. 2018

Teaching Assistant

Department of Psychology, University of Washington

Cognitive Psychology

Introduction to Psychology (Teaching Fellow/Lead TA)

Psychobiology of Women

Statistical Inference in Psychological Research

Introduction to Probability and Statistics for Psychology

Introduction to Psychology (Teaching Fellow/Lead TA)

Introduction to Psychology (Teaching Fellow/Lead TA)

Statistical Inference in Psychological Research

Introduction to Probability and Statistics for Psychology

Abnormal Psychology

Developmental Psychology

Introduction to Psychology

Psychobiology of Women

*Mar. 2018-Jun. 2018**Sep. 2017-Dec. 2017**Mar. 2016-Jun. 2016**Jan. 2016-Mar. 2016**Sep. 2015-Dec. 2015**Jan. 2015-Mar. 2015**Sep. 2014-Dec. 2014**Mar. 2014-Jun. 2014**Jan. 2014-Mar. 2014**Sep. 2013-Dec. 2013**Apr. 2013-Jun. 2013**Jan. 2013-Mar. 2013**Sep. 2012-Dec. 2012***MENTORING**

Undergraduates

Vanderbilt University

B.C., Honor Student

S.G., Honor Student

*Jan. 2020-May 2020**Aug. 2018-May 2020*

University of Washington

A.L., Summer Intern

*May 2018-Aug. 2018***COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Adventure Science Center Volunteer

Non-profit science museum in Nashville, TN

*Mar. 2020 - Present***Camp Vandy – Sheep Brain Dissection**

Introduces children aged 5-11 to neuroanatomy through hands on activities

*Jun. 2019***WellFEST**

Brings resources and research to the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community

*Apr. 2019***Brain Blast**Connects brain scientists and their work to K-8th graders and their families*Mar. 2019***SERVICE**

Ad Hoc Reviewer

Language, Cognition, and Neuroscience

Journal of Psycholinguistic Research

American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology

PLOS One

Current Psychopharmacology

Bilingualism: Language and Cognition

Discourse Processes

Journal of Neurolinguistics

*since Oct. 2019**since Jul. 2019**since Jun. 2019**since Oct. 2018**since Sep. 2018**since Apr. 2018**since Oct. 2017**since Nov. 2016*

Learning and Individual Differences *since Jun. 2015*

Women in the Academy Planning Committee 2020-2021
Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center, Vanderbilt University

Vanderbilt Post-Doc Association Annual Symposium Planning Committee 2020-2021
Vanderbilt Post-Doc Association, Vanderbilt University

Excellence in Teaching Award Selection Committee 2018-2019
Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Washington

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Psychology Research Pool Manager *Dec. 2014-Mar. 2018*
Department of Psychology, University of Washington

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Society for Research in Child Development, Member *since 2018*
Society for Text and Discourse, Member *since 2013*

RELEVANT SKILLS

Research Experience with: Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI and fMRI) and Electroencephalography (EEG)

Software Experience with: R, MATLAB, and SPSS (statistical software); E-Prime and DirectRT (programs for designing and running experiments)