

**EILING YEE, PH.D.**

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**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

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Semantic memory, neural representation of concepts, word recognition, language processing, neural basis of language

**EMPLOYMENT**

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2014-Present	University of Connecticut, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Cognitive Science Program, CT Institute for Brain and Cognitive Sciences
2011-2014	Basque Center on Cognition, Brain and Language Staff Scientist (= <i>tenure-track research professor</i> )
2005-2010	University of Pennsylvania, Postdoctoral Fellow Center for Cognitive Neuroscience & Department of Psychology Mentor: Sharon Thompson-Schill

**EDUCATION**

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2005	Brown University, Ph.D., Department of Cognitive & Linguistic Sciences Advisors: Julie Sedivy & Sheila Blumstein
1996	University of Rochester, B.A., <i>magna cum laude</i> with Honors in Cognitive Science; Undergraduate Thesis Advisor: Michael Tanenhaus

**GRANTS AND AWARDS**

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2019	“Composing concepts: A high density EEG study with high density MRI for source localization”; UConn Brain Imaging Resource Center (PI)
2018	“Using tDCS to explore dynamic conceptual activation”; Connecticut Institute for the Brain and Cognitive Sciences (PI)
2016-2017	“The Role of the Hippocampus in Understanding Abstract Concepts; Research Excellence Program, UConn (PI)
2016-2017	“Inhibition in Biologically-Plausible Models of Semantic Processing: Causal Studies using tDCS”; Connecticut Institute for the Brain and Cognitive Sciences (PI)
2014-2015	“Pathophysiology and linguistic impact of impact of impulse control disorder in Parkinson’s Disease”; Diputación Foral de Gipuzkoa. (PI, Maria Cruz Rodriguez-Orzo)
2013-2015	“Concepts in contexts”; Plan Nacional, Spanish Ministry of Economy & Competitiveness (PI)
2011-2016	“How are concepts represented? Cognitive and neural investigations of typical and atypical populations”; Ramon y Cajal Award, Spanish Ministry of Science & Innovation (PI)
2011-2013	“Words and the infant brain”; Modalidad Proyectos de Movilidad; (Co-PI with Nivedita Mani)
2006-2009	“The organization of semantic memory”; Ruth L. Kirschstein NRSA

**PUBLICATIONS** (*STUDENT CO-AUTHORS IN ITALICS*)

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- Davis, C. P., Joergensen, G. H., Boddy, P., Dowling, C., & Yee, E. (2019; preprint). Making it harder to 'see' meaning: The more you see something, the more its conceptual representation is shaped by visual experience. doi:[10.31234/osf.io/gpfn2](https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/gpfn2)
- Davis, C. P., Altmann, G. T. M., & Yee, E. (2019; preprint). Situational systematicity: A role for schema in understanding the differences between abstract and concrete concepts. doi:[10.31234/osf.io/5qud8](https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/5qud8)
- Yee, E. (2019). Abstraction and Concepts: when, how, where, what and why? *Language, Cognition and Neuroscience*, 34(10), 1257-1265.
- Pejovic, J., Yee, E., Molnar, M. (2019, online access). Speaker Matters: Natural inter-speaker variation affects 4-month-olds' perception of audio-visual speech, *First Language*.
- Davis, C. P., Paz-Alonso, P., Altmann, G.T.M. & Yee, E. (2019). Abstract concepts and the suppression of arbitrary episodic context. *Proceedings of the 41st Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, 1592-1598.
- Davis, C. P. & Yee, E. (2019). Features, labels, space, and time: Factors supporting taxonomic relationships in the anterior temporal lobe and thematic relationships in the angular gyrus. *Language, Cognition and Neuroscience*, 34(10), 1347-1357.
- Yee, E., Jones, M. N., & McRae, K. (2018). Semantic Memory. In J. T. Wixted & S. Thompson-Schill (Eds.), *Stevens' Handbook of Experimental Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience* (4th Edition, Volume 3: Language and Thought, pp. 319-356). New York: Wiley.
- Yee, E., & Altmann, G. T. M. (2017). Memoria asociativa, arte figurativo y conceptos abstractos (Associative memory, figurative art, and abstract concepts). In G. Schwartz & V. Bermudez (Eds.), *#Nodos*, (pp. 334-339). Pamplona, Next Door Publishers.
- Yee, E. (2017). Fluid semantics: Semantic knowledge is experience-based and dynamic. In A. Lahiri & S. Kotzor (Eds.), *The Speech Processing Lexicon: Neurocognitive and behavioural approaches* (pp. 235-262). Berlin/Boston: Mouton.
- Yee, E., & Thompson-Schill, S.L. (2016). Putting Concepts into Context. *Psychonomic Bulletin and Review*, 23(4), 1015-1027.
- Yee, E., Chrysikou, E.G., Hoffman, E., & Thompson-Schill, S.L. (2013). Manual experience shapes object representation. *Psychological Science*, 24(6), 909-919.
- Yee, E., Chrysikou, E.G., Thompson-Schill, S.L. Semantic Memory. (2013). Semantic Memory. In Kevin Ochsner and Stephen Kosslyn (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Cognitive Neuroscience* (pp. 353-374). Oxford University Press.
- White, K.S., Yee, E., Blumstein, S.E. & Morgan, J. (2013). Adults show less sensitivity to phonetic detail in unfamiliar words, too. *Journal of Memory and Language*, 68, 362-378.
- Yee, E., Ahmed, S., & Thompson-Schill, S.L. (2012). Colorless green ideas (can) prime furiously. *Psychological Science*, 23 (4), 364-369.
- Yee, E., Huffstetler, S., & Thompson-Schill, S.L. Function follows form: Activation of shape & function features during object identification. (2011). *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 140(3), 348-363. doi: 10.1037/a0022840
- Mirman\*, D., Yee\*, E., Blumstein, S.E., & Magnuson, J.S. (2011). Theories of spoken word recognition deficits in aphasia: Evidence from eye-tracking and computational modeling. *Brain and Language*, 117, 53-68.
- \*The first two authors contributed equally to this work.

- Yee, E., Drucker, D.M., & Thompson-Schill, S.L. (2010). fMRI-adaptation evidence of overlapping neural representations for objects related in function or manipulation. *NeuroImage*, 50, 743-763.
- Myung, J., Blumstein, S.E., Yee, E., Sedivy, J., Thompson-Schill, S.L., & Buxbaum, L. (2010). Impaired access to manipulation features in apraxia: Evidence from eyetracking and semantic judgment tasks. *Brain and Language*, 112, 101-112.
- Yee, E., Overton, E., & Thompson-Schill, S.L. (2009). Looking for meaning: Eye movements are sensitive to overlapping semantic features, not association. *Psychonomic Bulletin and Review*, 16(5), 869-874.
- Yee, E., Blumstein, S.E., & Sedivy, J.C. (2008). Lexical-semantic activation in Broca's and Wernicke's aphasia: Evidence from eye movements. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*, 20, 592-612.
- Yee, E., & Sedivy, J.C. (2006). Eye movements to pictures reveal transient semantic activation during spoken word recognition. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory and Cognition*, 32(1), 1-14.
- Ullman, M. T., Izvorski, R., Love, T., Yee, E., Swinney, D., & Hickok, G. (2005). Neural correlates of lexicon and grammar: Evidence from the production, reading and judgment of inflection in aphasia. *Brain and Language*, 93, 185-238.
- Yee, E., Blumstein, S.E., & Sedivy, J.C. (2004). The Time course of lexical activation in Broca's and Wernicke's aphasia: Evidence from eye movements. *Brain and Language*, 91, 62-63.

## INVITED TALKS

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- Is your lemon the same as mine? Probing the cognitive and neural representations of concepts:* Austin Riggs Center, September, 2018.
- Fluid Semantics: Semantic knowledge is experience-based and dynamic:* University of Maryland, College Park, April, 2018.
- Can sound symbolism facilitate learning to read?* Basque Center on Cognition, Brain and Language, July, 2016.
- Concepts in Contexts*, Brown University, April 2016.
- The embodiment of abstract concepts?* Basque Center on Cognition, Brain and Language, January, 2016.
- What the eyes reveal about the cognitive and neural representations of object concepts.* Keynote at CLAS-CCD Eye-tracking Workshop at Macquarie University, June, 2015
- The cognitive and neural representations of object concepts*, Stony Brook University, February, 2015.
- Concepts in Contexts*. University of Connecticut, January, 2015.
- Concepts in Contexts*. Basque Center on Cognition, Brain and Language, January, 2015.
- The cognitive and neural representations of object concepts*, Haskins Laboratories, December, 2014.
- The neural representation of lexical concepts*. Workshop on Lexical Processing, Oxford, UK, August, 2014
- Word meanings can be quite handy (and shapely!)*. Workshop on "Understanding the meaning of words and sentences: The role of non-linguistic processes", Tübingen, Germany, September, 2012
- Word recognition: From sound to meaning*. The University of Göttingen, Germany, June, 2012
- Experience influences object representations*. The University of Pennsylvania, Center for Cognitive Neuroscience, April, 2012
- How are concepts represented? Neural and behavioral evidence for distributed representations*. University of Waterloo, Department of Psychology, April, 2012
- Roses are red. Jeans are blue. Frisbees are round, and triangles can be too.* Talk presented as part of: Interactions Between Vision and Language: The state of the art Symposium presented at the 17th Meeting of the European Society for Cognitive Psychology, San Sebastian, Spain. September 2011.

*How are concepts represented? Converging evidence for distributed representations.* University of Nevada - Reno, Department of Psychology, March, 2011

*Overlap of semantic representations: Converging evidence from eye-tracking and fMRI.* 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Computers in Psychology (Psychonomic Society Satellite Conference), November, 2009

# CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (PARTIAL LIST; STUDENT CO-AUTHORS IN ITALICS)

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Morrow, H. M., Barry, J. T., & Yee, E. (2019). Composing Concepts: EEG oscillations during integration of visual, lexical, and auditory stimuli. *Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society*, San Francisco, CA.

Davis, C. P., Paz-Alonso P. M., Altmann, G. T. M., & Yee, E. (2019). Is arbitrary episodic context suppressed in abstract concepts? *Presented at the 26th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society*, San Francisco, CA.

Boddy, P., Paz-Alonso, P.M. & Yee, E. (2019). The representation of garlic (and other odor-associated concepts) is shaped by odor experience. Oral presentation at *International Convention of Psychological Science*, Paris, France.

Davis, C. P., Paz-Alonso P. M., Altmann, G. T. M. & Yee, E. (2018). Encoding of episodic context in abstract and concrete concepts. Poster at the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society, Boston, MA.

Morrow, H. M., Joergensen, G. H. & Yee, E. (2018). Open arms and open minds: The effects of posture and modality on the recall of affect-related concepts. Poster at the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society, Boston, MA.

Davis, C. P., Joergensen, G. H. & Yee, E. (2017). Silence! An auditory task disrupts processing of auditorily experienced concepts. Poster at the Psychonomic Society's Annual Meeting, Vancouver, BC.

Davis, C. P., Joergensen, G. H., Boddy, P., Dowling, C. & Yee, E. (2017). Get your head out of the clouds: Performing a visual task makes it harder to think about art than music. Poster at the Annual Workshop on Object Perception, Attention, and Memory, Vancouver, BC.

Joseph, J., Joergensen, G. H., Myers, E. & Yee, E. (2017). Phonetic Integration: Can visual shapes influence phoneme perception? Poster at the Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Boston, MA.

Boddy, P., Paz-Alonso, K. & Yee, E. (2016). Does smelling pine cones make it harder to think about strawberries? Poster at the Psychonomic Society's Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.

Welles, R. & Yee, E. (2016). Orthographical Learning: The Impact of Cross-modal Interaction. Poster at the Psychonomic Society's Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.

Joergensen, G. H., Welles, R., Seng, K., Orvis, P., Ryan, J. & Yee, E. (2016). Body Posture and the Representation of "Abstract" Concepts. Poster at the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society, New York, NY.

Yee, E., & Molnar, M. (2015) Does sound symbolism influence speech production? Poster at the Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Chicago, IL.

Boddy, P. & Yee, E. (2015). Visual Properties of Object Semantics are Experience Related. Poster at Embodied and Situated Language Processing (ESLP), Lyon, France.

Pejovic, J., Molnar, M., Yee, E. & Martin, M. (2015). Development of the sound-shape correspondence effect. Poster at Workshop on Infant Language Development (WILD 2015), Stockholm, Sweden.

Boddy, P., Yee, E. (2015). Experience Related Interference to Object Semantics from Visual Task. Poster at the Workshop on Concepts, Actions and Objects, Rovereto, Italy.

Pejovic, J., Molnar, M., Martin, C., & Yee, E. (2014). Shape-sound matching abilities are limited in young monolingual and bilingual infants. Poster at the Society for the Neurobiology of Language, Amsterdam.

- Molnar, M., *Pejović, J.*, Yee, E. & Carreiras, M. (2014). Are all bilingual infants created equal? Cognitive gains in preverbal Basque-Spanish bilingual and Spanish monolingual infants. Poster presented at International Conference on Infant Studies, Berlin, Germany.
- Pejovic, J.*, Molnar, M., Martin, C., & Yee, E. (2014). The development of sound-shape correspondence effect in infants Poster at the Basque neuroscience meeting. Neurogune. San Sebastian, Spain.
- Antzaka, A.* & Yee, E. (2014). How does recent attention to colour modify colour's salience as a semantic feature? Poster at the workshop "Color in Concepts: Color Representation and Processing in Language and Cognition", Düsseldorf, Germany.
- Boddy, P.*, & Yee, E. (2014). What the Ear Hears Affects What the Eyes See: Semantic Interference on Visual Task Performance. Poster at the CNS Annual meeting in Boston, MA.
- Bobb, S., *Thomas, C.*, Yee, E. & Mani N. (2014). When “dog” activates “cat” to prime “cap”: Cascaded semantic to phonological activation in toddler word recognition. Poster at the International Conference on Infant Studies, Berlin, Germany.
- Yee, E., & Heller, D. (2012). Looking more when you know less: Goal-dependent eye movements during reference resolution. Poster at the Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Minneapolis, MN.
- Yee, E., & Altmann, G.T.M. (2012). Balancing long-term syntactic knowledge against short-term experience: The case of the missing adjective. Poster at the Annual conference on Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing. Rival De Garda, Italy.
- Yee, E., *Musz, E.*, & Thompson-Schill, S.L. (2012). Mapping the similarity space of concepts in sensorimotor cortex. Talk presented at Embodied and Situated Language Processing, Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK.
- Musz, E.*, Yee, E., & Thompson-Schill, S.L. (2012). Mapping the similarity space of concepts in sensorimotor cortex. Cognitive Neuroscience Society, Chicago, IL.
- Yee, E., Lupyan, G., & Thompson-Schill, S.L. (2011). Made you look: Linguistic information can cause (instruction-violating) eye movements to irrelevant objects. Poster at the Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Seattle.
- Yee, E., *Ahmed, S.*, & Thompson-Schill, S.L. (2011). Priming in context: Colorless green ideas *can* prime furiously. Poster at the conference on Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing. Paris.
- Yee, E., Chrysikou, E.G., *Hoffman, E.*, *Levesque, A.*, & Thompson-Schill, S.L. (2011). Playing patty-cake while listening to words: A concurrent manual task interferes with comprehending the names of objects that are interacted with manually. Talk presented at the CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing.
- Yee, E., *Ahmed, S.*, & Thompson-Schill, S.L. (2010). Colorless green ideas (can) prime furiously. Poster at the Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society.
- Yee, E., Chrysikou, E.G, *Navarro, C.*, *Akbar, M.*, & Thompson-Schill, S.L. (2010). a concurrent manual task interferes with the naming of objects that are frequently manipulated. Poster at the annual meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society.
- Yee, E., *Huffstetler, S.*, & Thompson-Schill, S.L. (2009). Function follows form: activation of shape & function features during concept retrieval. Poster at the Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society.
- Yee, E., & Drucker, D.M., & Thompson-Schill, S.L. (2009). fMRI-adaptation evidence of overlapping neural representations for objects related in function or manipulation. Poster presented at the 16<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society.
- Yee, E., Heller, D., & Sedivy, J.C. (2009). On the relationship between eye-movements and activation: Active vs. passive tasks during ambiguous pronoun resolution. Poster presented at the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing.
- Yee, E., & Thompson-Schill, S.L. (2008). When you hear “frog”, you look at the *peas* (even when they’re in black and white). Poster presented at the 49<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society.

- Yee, E., *Huffstetler, S.*, & Thompson-Schill, S.L. (2008). Looking for meaning: Using eye movements to characterize the organization of semantic memory. Poster at the annual meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society.
- Mirman, D., Yee, E., Magnuson, J.S., & Blumstein, S.E. (2008). Statistical and computational investigations of the time course of spoken word recognition in aphasia. Poster at the annual meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society.
- Yee, E., & Thompson-Schill, S.L. (2007). Does lexical activation flow from word meanings to word sounds during spoken word *recognition*? Poster presented at the 48<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society.
- Heller, D., Yee, E., & Sedivy, J.C. (2007). What do eye movements tell us about reference resolution? Using ambiguous pronouns to evaluate the linking hypotheses. Poster presented at the 20<sup>th</sup> annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing.
- Yee, E., & Thompson-Schill, S.L. (2006). Semantic activation of rhyming words during spoken word recognition. Poster presented at the 47<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society.
- Yee, E., *Huffstetler, S.*, Dahan, D., & Thompson-Schill, S.L. (2006). Does hearing the name of an object partially activate objects that are similar in shape and size? Poster presented at the 13<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society.
- Myung, J., Blumstein, S.E., Buxbaum, L.J., & Yee, E. (2006). Impaired access to manipulation features in apraxia: Evidence from eyetracking and semantic judgment tasks. Poster presented at the 13<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society.
- Yee, E., Dahan D., *Huffstetler, S.*, Taylor, J. & Thompson-Schill, S.L. (2005). Hearing the name of an object partially activates objects with similar functions. Poster presented at the 18<sup>th</sup> annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing.
- Yee, E., Blumstein, S.E., & Sedivy, J.C. (2004). The time course of lexical activation in Broca's and Wernicke's aphasia: Evidence from eye movements. Paper at the annual meeting of the Academy of Aphasia.
- Yee, E., & Sedivy, J.C. (2003). Listeners activate the semantic representations of rhyming words during spoken word recognition. Poster presented at the 16<sup>th</sup> annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing.
- Yee, E., Taylor, J., & Sedivy, J.C. (2002). When all you've got is *hammock* everyone looks at a *nail*. Paper presented at the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on the Mental Lexicon.
- Yee, E., & Sedivy J. (2001). Using eye movements to track the spread of semantic information during spoken word recognition. Paper presented at the 14<sup>th</sup> annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing.
- Yee, E., Blumstein, S. & Sedivy J. (2000). The time course of lexical activation in Broca's aphasia: Evidence from eye movements. Poster at the annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing.

## TEACHING

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### *University of Connecticut*

2015- present	<i>The Psychology of Language</i>
Fall 2016	<i>Seminar on Concepts: From Theory to Brain</i>
Fall 2015, 2018	<i>Seminar on Psycholinguistics</i>
Fall 2014	<i>Seminar on Semantic Memory</i>

### *Basque Center on Cognition, Brain & Language*

Fall 2013	<i>The Mental Lexicon</i>
Spring 2012	Guest Lecturer: <i>The Mental Lexicon</i>
Fall 2012	<i>Acquired Language Disorders</i>
Spring 2012	Guest Lecturer: <i>The Mental Lexicon</i>
Fall 2011	<i>Acquired Language Disorders</i>

## MENTORING (PARTIAL LIST)

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2016-present	Hannah Morrow: <i>PhD supervisor</i>
2015-present	Charles Davis: <i>PhD supervisor</i>

2015-present	<u>Numerous Undergraduate Psychology Researchers</u>
2013-present	Peter Boddy & Jovana Pejovic: <i>PhD supervisor</i>
2013-2014	Alex Gorborov: <i>Masters thesis supervisor</i>
2012-2013	Peter Boddy & Alexia Antzaka: <i>Masters thesis supervisor</i>

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

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Ad Hoc Reviewer: *Psychological Science; Journal of Experimental Psychology: General; Cognition; Journal of Memory and Language; NeuroImage; Cortex; Journal of Experimental Psychology: HPP; Journal of Experimental Psychology: LMC; Neuropsychologia; Cognitive Neuroscience; Cerebral Cortex; Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology; Memory and Cognition; Language, Cognition & Neuroscience; Acta Psychologica; Cognitive Processing; Language and Speech; Frontiers in Cognitive Science; Journal of Clinical and Experimental Neuropsychology; Cognitive Science Society; CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing; Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing; European Society for Cognitive Psychology; Cognitive Science Society; Embodied and Situated Language Processing.*

Editorial Boards: *Cognition (2011-2014); Frontiers in Language Sciences*

### External Service:

European Society for Cognitive Psychology, Scientific Committee, 2011

Grant reviewing: *NSF Linguistics Program; Human Frontier Science Program*

External Examiner for Ph.D. thesis of Claire Moody *Investigating the Link between Action Language and Action Performance*, Department of Psychology, University of York, UK.

Co-organizer of ESCoP symposium: *Interactions Between Vision and Language: The state of the art*. ESCoP, San Sebastian, Spain. September 2011

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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Cognitive Neuroscience Society, Cognitive Science Society, Psychonomic Society, Association for Psychological Science, European Society for Cognitive Psychology, Society for the Neurobiology of Language.