

## EDUCATION

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**PhD candidate in Spanish and Language Science (third year, graduating in Spring 2022)**  
The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA

**M. A. in Spanish**, Spring 2019  
The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA  
GPA 3.97

**M. A. in Hispanic Studies, concentration in Linguistics**, Spring 2016  
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA  
M.A. Thesis: *Is book the same as libro? A comparative study of lexical access in heritage speakers and L2 learners.*  
Committee: Dorian Dorado (co-Chair), Irina Shport (co-Chair), Rafael Orozco.  
GPA 4.02

**B.A. Language and Literature**, December 2013  
Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, Mendoza, Argentina  
GPA 9.1/10 (highest GPA in my major when graduating, class size = 21 students)

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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I study second language acquisition from a psycholinguistics perspective. Specifically, I am interested in the cognitive mechanisms underlying second language acquisition, as well as individual differences that may impact development and ultimate attainment of proficiency in the target language.

## PAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS

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Shport, I., Dorado, D., & **Puscama, M. G.** (2018). Lexical access in English-Spanish bilinguals: A comparison of heritage speakers and late learners. *Linguistic Approaches to Bilingualism* 8(3), 372-392. DOI: <http://doi.org/10.1075/lab.17039.shp>.

**Puscama, M. G.** (2013). Aproximación al estudio de la ékphrasis en *The Rape of Lucrece* de William Shakespeare, y algunas implicancias para su traducción [Approximating the study of ekphrasis in William Shakespeare's *The Rape of Lucrece*, and some implications for its translation]. *Miranda VII*, 117-128.

## **REFEREED PRESENTATIONS**

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- Johns, M., Puscama, M. G., & Carlson, M. T. (2019, June). *It just takes time: Refining asymmetric switch costs using pupillometry*. Presentation at the 12<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Bilingualism, University of Alberta, Alberta, Canada.
- Puscama, M. G. (2018, October). *A preliminary study of diphthong/hiatus contrast in L2 Spanish learners*. Poster presented at the Hispanic Linguistics Symposium, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX.
- Puscama, M. G. (2018, May). Guest speaker in the panel *El financiamiento de la investigación social: acercamiento a instituciones no tradicionales* at the Foro Primeros Pasos en Investigación, Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, Mendoza, Argentina.
- Puscama, M. G. (2018, March). *Diphthong/hiatus resolution in L2 Spanish by native English speakers: A preliminary study*. Poster presented at the Young Scholar Speakers Series, The Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA.
- Moya, D. S. & Puscama, M. G. (2018, March). *Me quedé fue así: An emphatic construction in Spanish*. Poster presented at the Young Scholar Speakers Series, The Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA.
- Puscama, M. G., Shport, I., & Dorado, D. (2017, January). *Lexical retrieval in adult bilinguals is affected by second language proficiency, not heritage context of acquisition*. Poster presented at the Linguistics Society of America Annual Meeting, Austin, TX.
- Puscama, M. G., & Dorado, D. (2016, October). *El español como segunda lengua: ¿Cuán válida es la autoevaluación? [Spanish as a second language: How valid is self-assessment?]*. Presentation at the Simposio de la Asociación Argentina de Lingüística Cognitiva, Mendoza, Argentina.
- Puscama, M. G.; Shport, I.; & Dorado, D. (2016, April). *Spanish as a heritage language and as an L2: Representation and processing of nouns in the lexicon of different types of bilinguals*. Presentation at the Northwest Linguistics Conference, University of Washington, Seattle, WA.
- Puscama, M. G.; Shport, I.; & Dorado, D. (2016, March). *Investigating the effects of second language learning context and proficiency on lexical access*. Presentation at the South Eastern Conference of Linguistics 83 – Linguistic Gumbo: Challenges in Multilanguage Contact, New Orleans, LA.
- Puscama, M. G. (2016, February). *Word processing in bilinguals is affected by second language proficiency, not by context of acquisition*. Lecture at the Brown Bag Series, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA.

Puscama, M. G. (2015, November). *The bilingual lexicon: A comparative study*. Lecture at the Hispanic Studies Roundtable, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA.

Puscama, M. G. (2013, November). *Aproximación al estudio de la ékphrasis en The Rape of Lucrece de William Shakespeare, y algunas implicancias para su traducción [An approximation to the study of ekphrasis in William Shakespeare's The Rape of Lucrece, and some implications for its translation]*. Presentation at the Simposio Ecos de la Literatura Renacentista Inglesa, Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, Mendoza, Argentina.

Puscama, M. G. (2013, August). *Traducir a Capote: Análisis comparativo de tres traducciones al español de 'Ischia' de Local Color [Translating Capote: A comparative analysis of three Spanish translation of 'Ischia' from Local Color]*. Presentation at the XLV Jornadas de Estudios Americanos, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Puscama, M. G. (2013, March). *La cita de autoridad en un discurso y en un tratado ciceronianos [Citation of authorities in a discourse and a treatise by Cicero]*. Presentation at the II Coloquio Nacional de Retórica-I Congreso Internacional de Retórica e Interdisciplina, Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, Mendoza, Argentina.

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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### ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

**Spanish 3 Content Supervisor**, The Pennsylvania State University, June 2019-present  
*Responsibilities:* Reviewing and creating teaching materials for Spanish 2 (beginner level Spanish) and 3 (intermediate level Spanish). Working as liaison between instructors and directors of the Spanish Basic Language Program.

**Spanish 2 Content Supervisor**, The Pennsylvania State University, June 2018-present  
*Responsibilities:* Reviewing and creating teaching materials for Spanish 2 (beginner level Spanish). Working as liaison between instructors and directors of the Spanish Basic Language Program.

**Coordinator**, Colegio Norbridge, March 2017-June 2017  
*Responsibilities:* coordinating the Language and Literature Department, serving as liaison between teachers and directive board, and between middle school and high school teachers; observing and supervising classes, elaborating reports and department agreements.

## TEACHING / TUTORING EXPERIENCE

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Pennsylvania State University, January 2018-present

*Undergraduate courses taught:* Spanish 3 (intermediate level Spanish), Spanish 2 (beginner level Spanish), Spanish 215 (Introduction to Hispanic Linguistics), Italian 1 (beginner level Italian).

*Responsibilities:* preparing and teaching classes, elaborating activities, grading exams, evaluating oral proficiency of students, designing course syllabus.

**Teacher**, Colegio Norbridge, March 2017-June 2017

*Courses taught:* Spanish Language and Hispanic Literature.

*Responsibilities:* preparing and teaching classes, elaborating activities, writing and grading exams, grading papers.

**Instructor**, Law School, Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, November 2016-March 2017

*Undergraduate course taught:* "Preuniversitario de comprensión y producción de textos" [Reading Comprehension and Academic Text Production] (Coordinator: Prof. Lorena Ivars).

*Responsibilities:* teaching one of the sections of the course, grading papers and exams.

**Teacher**, Instituto Leonardo Murialdo, June 2016-June 2017

*Courses taught:* Communication and Hispanic Literature.

*Responsibilities:* preparing and teaching classes, elaborating activities, writing and grading exams, grading papers.

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Louisiana State University, August 2015- May 2016

*Undergraduate course taught:* Spanish 1102 (beginner level Spanish).

*Responsibilities:* preparing and teaching classes, elaborating activities, writing and grading exams, evaluating oral proficiency of students.

**Spanish Tutor**, Louisiana State University, August 2014- May 2015

*Responsibilities:* tutoring beginner level Spanish students and helping them understand concepts and prepare for oral and written exams.

**Teaching Assistant**, Universidad del Aconcagua, 2014

*Undergraduate course taught:* "Preuniversitario de comprensión y producción de textos" [Reading comprehension and academic text production] (Chair: Prof. Elena A. Duplancic de Elgueta).

*Responsibilities:* auditing the class while helping with administrative tasks, grading papers and exams.

**Instructor**, 2013-2014

*Undergraduate course taught:* “Fundamentos de Lingüística” [Fundamentals of Linguistics] (Chair: Prof. Elena A. Duplancic de Elgueta).

*Responsibilities:* teaching of lectures and recitations, preparation of study guides, grading of papers, preparation and grading of exams.

#### RESEARCH ASSISTANT / RESEARCH ASSOCIATE EXPERIENCE

**Collaborator**, Associazione Silvia Battaglia January 2018-August 2018

*Responsibilities:* writing brief articles on different topics about research targeted to undergraduate students, researching students’ opinions and perceptions about research.

**Research Associate**, INCIHUSA-CONICET, August 2016-August 2017

*Research project:* “Análisis comportamental y neurofisiológico del desarrollo lingüístico en niños mendocinos de educación inicial y primaria [Behavioral and neurophysiological analysis of the linguistic development of elementary school children from Mendoza]”, directed by Dr. Luis París.

**Research Associate**, Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, June 2016-March 2017

*Research project:* “Comprensión lectora como herramienta básica para el desempeño académico estudiantil [Reading comprehension as a basic tool for students’ academic development]”, directed by Instructor Estela Di Lorenzo.

**Graduate Research Assistant**, August 2014- May 2015

Dr. Dorian Dorado (Louisiana State University)

*Responsibilities:* conducting and recording oral interviews to gather data for bilingualism studies, gathering bibliography.

**Research Associate**, Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, 2012-2016

*Research project:* “Programa continuo de investigación y difusión de la literatura producida en lengua inglesa [Continuous Program for Research and Promotion of Literature produced in English]”, from the ILLI [Institute of Literature in English Language], directed by Elena A. Duplancic de Elgueta, MA.

**Undergraduate Research Assistant**, 2012-2013

Dr. Cristina Salatino de Zubiría (Universidad Nacional de Cuyo)

*Responsibilities:* search and selection of bibliography, translation of Latin passages into Spanish, comparison and analysis of texts.

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL AND SERVICE EXPERIENCE

**Linguistics Faculty Liaison of the Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese Graduate Student Association**, The Pennsylvania State University, June 2019-June 2020

*Responsibilities:* serving as liaison between the Spanish Linguistics Faculty and the graduate students, recording minutes during faculty meetings, and representing the Spanish graduate students during faculty meetings.

**Secretary of the Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese Graduate Student Association**, The Pennsylvania State University, June 2019-June 2020

*Responsibilities:* serving as liaison between the Graduate Student Board and the graduate student body, scheduling meetings, and recording minutes during general body meetings and board meetings.

**Judge at the Graduate Student Exhibition**, The Pennsylvania State University, March 2019

*Responsibilities:* evaluating and scoring posters by graduate students of different disciplines.

**Administrative Employee**, Poder Judicial de Mendoza (a branch of the Argentina judicial system), December 2008-July 2015

*Responsibilities:* working on various cases in the criminal justice system, assisting prosecutors in investigation, typing oral testimonies from victims, witnesses and prosecuted, and informing the status of cases to lawyers and general public upon request.

## GRANTS & AWARDS

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THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
**2019 Superior Teaching and Research Award**

UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL DE CUYO  
**2012-2014 Research Grant for Advanced Undergraduate Students.**

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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**Member** *Asociación Argentina de Lingüística Cognitiva [Argentinean Association of Cognitive Linguistics (AALiCo)*, October 2016-present.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

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Advanced course “Del cerebro infantil al cerebro adulto: desarrollo de la cognición basada en conceptos desde una cognición basada en detalles [From the child brain to the adult brain: Development from a concept-based cognition detail-based cognition]”, Mendoza, CCT CONICET, July 2016.

Workshop “Data Visualization: Language Variation Suite and Interactive Text Mining Suite”, Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University, April 2016.

Workshop “Creative Uses of Web 2.0 Technologies in Language Learning”, Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University, February 2016.

Advanced course “Fundamentos neurobiológicos y computacionales de la cognición y el lenguaje [Neurobiological and computational basis of cognition and language]”, Mendoza, CCT CONICET, July 2015.

Lecture “Dos lenguas, un cerebro: Efectos del bilingüismo sobre la cognición [Two languages, one brain: Effects of bilingualism on cognition]”, Mendoza, Universidad del Aconcagua, April 2014.

Lecture “El español en el libro: Del Atlántico al Mar del Sur [Spanish in the book: From the Atlantic to the Southern Sea]”, Mendoza, Universidad del Aconcagua, April 2014.

Course “Cómo traducir e interpretar lo técnico sin ser técnico [How to translate and interpret technical texts without being a technician]”, Mendoza, Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, March 2014.

“Terceras Jornadas Internacionales de Lengua Inglesa [Third International Conference on the English Language]”, Capital Federal, Buenos Aires, Universidad del Salvador, August 2013.

“XXIII Jornadas de Investigación y V de Posgrado [XXIII Conference of Research and Graduate Studies]”, Mendoza, Centro de Congresos y Exposiciones “Gobernador Emilio Civit”, April 2013.

Seminar “Aspectos Neurocognitivos de la Traducción [Neurocognitive Aspects of Translation]”, Mendoza, Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, March 2013.

“II Jornadas de Ciencias y Humanidades [II Conference of Sciences and Humanities]”, San Rafael, Mendoza, Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, September 2010.

## **KNOWLEDGE OF SPECIALIZED SOFTWARE**

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*E-Prime 2.0*. Experimental software for data collection.

*Experiment Builder* 2.1.140. Experimental software for collection of eye-tracking and non-eye-tracking data.

*GoldVarb* 2001. Data processing software for Variationist Linguistics.

*Praat* 6.0.31. Data processing software for Phonetics.

*R Studio* 1.1.463. Data processing and analysis software.

*SPSS* 23.0. Data processing and analysis software.

## **LANGUAGES**

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Spanish- Native speaker  
English- Native-like  
Italian- Advanced  
Portuguese- Intermediate  
Latin- Novice  
French- Novice