KALIL WARREN

PhD Candidate, Cognitive and Neural Sciences · University of South Carolina

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Primary: Psycholinguistics · Computational Modeling · Language & Spatial Cognition · Cognitive Neuroscience of Language · Linguistic Reference Processing · Language & Discourse

Secondary: Psycholinguistics of Bilingualism: French Language Expertise

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Psychology — Cognitive and Neural Sciences — **Expected Spring 2029**
University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC
Doctoral Minor: Quantitative Psychology
Advisor: Amit Almor, Ph.D.

Master of Arts in Linguistics — Psycholinguistics — **2024**
University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

Bachelor of Science in Psychology — Minor in Linguistics — **2022**
University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC · Magna Cum Laude

S.C. Governor's School for Science and Mathematics — **2020**
Concentration in Humanities · With Honors

HONORS & GRANTS

J. Frank Yates Student Travel Award, Psychonomic Society	2026
Presidential Fellowship, Doctoral, University of South Carolina	2024–2028
"Thank a Teacher" Certificate of Appreciation, University of South Carolina	2023
Dr. Yung-Fa Chang Grant, University of South Carolina	2022–2023
Corey Claytor Scholarship, S.C. Governor's School for Science and Mathematics	2020

PUBLICATIONS

Published & In Press

- Fridriksson, J., Newman-Norlund, R. D., Ahmadi, S., Willis, R., Salman, N., **Warren, K.**, … & Rorden, C. (2026). Stroke lesions as a Rosetta Stone for language model interpretability. *arXiv preprint* arXiv:2602.04074.
- **Warren, K.**, Nichols, C., Petersen, D., Shalin, V. L., & Almor, A. (2025). Stylistic language drives perceived moral superiority of LLMs. *Scientific Reports, 15*(1), 39168.

Under Review

- Nemati, S., Newman-Norlund, R. D., Ahmadi, S., Guan, X., **Warren, K.**, Yang, Y., Nelakuditi, S., Rorden, C., Bonilha, L., & Fridriksson, J. (under review). Head-level lesion-symptom mapping of picture naming in vision-language models. *Neuroscience*. Submitted September 2026.

- **Warren, K.**, Newman-Norlund, R. D., Ahmadi, S., Salman, N., Yang, Y., Willis, R., Guan, X., & Fridriksson, J. (under review). Cross-task lesion-symptom mapping in chronic aphasia. *Brain Communications*. Submitted May 2026.
- Ahmadi, S. S., Salman, N., Newman-Norlund, R. D., **Warren, K.**, Willis, R., Yang, Y., Guan, X., Kristinsson, S., Bonilha, L., & Fridriksson, J. (under review). The elicitation effect in aphasic naming. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*. Submitted April 2026.
- Visikamalla, H., Riccardi, N., Rangus, I., **Warren, K.**, Nichols, C., Horacek, K., Newman-Norlund, S., Fridriksson, J., & Bonilha, L. (under review). Tip-of-the-tongue word-finding phenomenon: The significance of the white matter language network. *Neurobiology of Language*. Submitted March 2026.
- **Warren, K.** (under review). StatTeacher Toolkit: A browser-based application for generating and practicing psychological statistics problems. *Journal of Open Source Education*. Submitted March 2026.

In Preparation

- Newman-Norlund, R. D., **Warren, K.,** Ahmadi, S., Salman, N., Guan, X., Yang, Y., Nelakuditi, S., Bonilha, L., Fridriksson, J. (in prep). Patient-Specific Digital Twins of Aphasia from Lesioned and Retrained Language Models.
- Newman-Norlund, R. D., **Warren, K.,** Ahmadi, S., Salman, N., Guan, X., Yang, Y., Nelakuditi, S., Bonilha, L., Fridriksson, J. (in prep). Perturbation Profiles in Language Models Resemble Human Aphasia.
- Guan, X., Newman-Norlund, R. D., Yang, Y., Ahmadi, S., Willis, R., Salman, N., **Warren, K.,** Nelakuditi, S., Desai, R., Rorden, C., Bonilha, L., Fridriksson, J. (in prep). PRISM: A causal framework for layer-resolved subtraction analysis in perturbed language models.
- Newman-Norlund, R. D., **Warren, K.**, Ahmadi, S., Willis, R., Salman, N., Guan, X., Yang, Y., Nelakuditi, S., Desai, R., Bonilha, L., Rorden, C., Fridriksson, J. (in prep). Inverse symptom-lesion mapping in human aphasia: predicting left-hemisphere damage location from behavioral phenotype.
- Yang, Y., Newman-Norlund, R., Guan, X., Ahmadi, S., Willis, R., Salman, N., **Warren, K.**, Arheix-Parras, S., Nelakuditi, S., Desai, R. H., Bonilha, L., Rorden, C., & Fridriksson, J. (in prep). Recovering internal perturbations from behavioral error profiles in large language models.
- **Warren, K.**, Ahmadi, S. S., Guan, X., Salman, N., Yang, Y., Willis, R., Newman-Norlund, R. D., Nelakuditi, S., Desai, R., Bonilha, L., & Fridriksson, J. (in prep). Modeling Aphasic Taxonomic and Thematic Errors in a Lesioned LLM.
- Wilson, S. C., Langley, S., **Warren, K.**, den Ouden, D. B., & Almor, A. (in prep). Transcranial direct current stimulation of the superior parietal cortex modulates reference processing during reading comprehension.
- **Warren, K.**, & Almor, A. (in prep). Hearing where they were: Spatial indexing as a modality-general discourse mechanism.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- **Warren, K.**, Xie, A., Fahey, D., & Tasseva-Kurktchieva, M. (2026, September–October). Orthography outweighs phonology in bilingual cognate similarity judgments. Poster to be presented at the Society for the Neurobiology of Language, Geneva, Switzerland.
- Newman-Norlund, R. D., **Warren, K.**, Ahmadi, S., Salman, N., Yang, Y., Willis, R., Guan, X., Bonilha, L., & Fridriksson, J. (2026, September–October). Inverse symptom–lesion mapping in human aphasia: Predicting left-hemisphere damage location from behavioral phenotype. Poster to be presented at the Society for the Neurobiology of Language, Geneva, Switzerland.
- Newman-Norlund, R. D., **Warren, K.**, Ahmadi, S., Salman, N., Yang, Y., Willis, R., Guan, X., Bonilha, L., & Fridriksson, J. (2026, September–October). Severity scores blur, error types reveal: Behavioral choice

shapes lesion–language mapping. Poster to be presented at the Society for the Neurobiology of Language, Geneva, Switzerland.

- **Warren, K.**, Newman-Norlund, R. D., Ahmadi, S., Salman, N., Yang, Y., Willis, R., Guan, X., Bonilha, L., & Fridriksson, J. (2026, September–October). Neural–behavioral dissociations in cross-task lesion–symptom mapping of naming errors in chronic aphasia. Poster to be presented at the Society for the Neurobiology of Language, Geneva, Switzerland.
- Newman-Norlund, R. D., **Warren, K.**, Ahmadi, S., Salman, N., Guan, X., Yang, Y., Willis, R., Bonilha, L., & Fridriksson, J. (2026, September–October). A universal bidirectional model of aphasic behavior and left-hemisphere lesion in 296 patients. Poster to be presented at the Society for the Neurobiology of Language, Geneva, Switzerland.
- **Warren, K.**, & Almor, A. (2026, March). Spatial memory of auditory sources in language comprehension. Poster presented at Human Sentence Processing (HSP), Cambridge, MA.
- **Warren, K.**, & Almor, A. (2025, November). Spatial memory of auditory sources in language comprehension. Poster presented at the Psychonomic Society Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.
- **Warren, K.**, & Almor, A. (2025, November). Spatial memory of auditory sources in language comprehension. Talk presented at the Graduate Students in Linguistics Student Research Symposium, Columbia, SC.
- Wilson, S. C., Langley, S., **Warren, K.**, den Ouden, D., & Almor, A. (2023, October). Reference processing modulation during HD-transcranial direct current stimulation. Poster presented at the Society for the Neurobiology of Language, Marseille, France.
- Wilson, S. C., Langley, S., **Warren, K.**, den Ouden, D., & Almor, A. (2023, April). Reference processing modulation during HD-transcranial direct current stimulation. Poster presented at Discover USC, Columbia, SC.
- **Warren, K.**, Bury, H., & Weist, M. D. (2022). Comparing clinicians' and graduate students' multicultural knowledge and awareness in school psychology and clinical-community programs. Poster presented at the Southeastern School Behavioral Health Conference, Myrtle Beach, SC.
- Che, B., & **Warren, K.** (2020). Air cleaning drone feasibility: Designing a mobile filtration unit to reduce indoor particulate matter. Poster presented at the South Carolina Junior Academy of Science.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

2027	Spring	PSYC 455: Introduction to Neuroscience	USC Columbia
2026	Fall	PSYC 572 / LING 505: Cognitive Psychology Lab	USC Columbia
2026	Summer	PSYC 400: Survey of Learning & Memory	USC Columbia
2026	Spring	PSYC 220: Psychological Statistics	USC Columbia
2025	Fall	PSYC 220: Psychological Statistics	USC Columbia
2024	Spring	ENGL 102: Rhetoric & Composition (2 sections)	USC Columbia
2023	Fall	ENGL 101: Critical Reading & Composition	USC Columbia

Guest Lectures

2025	Spring	PSYC 405: Cognitive Psychology	USC Columbia
2024	Fall	LING 301: The English Language	USC Columbia
2024	Fall	PSYC 405: Cognitive Psychology	USC Columbia

Teaching Assistant

2025	Spring	PSYC 572: Cognitive Psychology Lab	USC Columbia
2025	Spring	PSYC 405: Cognitive Psychology	USC Columbia

2024	Fall	PSYC 405: Cognitive Psychology (2 sections)	USC Columbia
2024	Spring	PSYC 405: Cognitive Psychology	USC Columbia
2023	Fall	PSYC 506: Psychology of Language	USC Columbia

SERVICE

University & Departmental Service

2026–2027		Graduate Representative, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Psychology Department	USC Columbia
2026	Aug	Panelist, TA Orientation and Training, Psychology Department	USC Columbia
2026	Apr	Invited Talk, "StatTeacher Toolkit: Turning a Problem into Research," Psychology Department Instructor Retreat	USC Columbia
2024	Nov	Organizer, Graduate Students in Linguistics Student Research Symposium	USC Columbia

Outreach & Mentoring

2026	Jul	Panelist, Summer Seniors Recruitment Program, Psychology Department	USC Columbia
2026	Jun	Statistics Workshop (Part 2), SOAR Program	USC School of Medicine
2026	Jun	Statistics Workshop (Part 1), SOAR Program	USC School of Medicine
2026	Jun	Panelist, First-Generation Graduate Student Panel, Ronald E. McNair Program	USC Columbia
2026	Jan	Invited Speaker, Peer Perspective on Individual Development Plans and Professional Development, Grad Launch (GRAD 700), USC Graduate School	USC Columbia
2025	Nov	Panelist, Graduate Student Panel, Psi Chi Psychology Honor Society	USC Columbia

SKILLS & METHODS

Research Methods: EEG · fMRI / MRI · HD-tDCS · Lesion-symptom mapping · Experimental psycholinguistic design

Programming: Python · R · JavaScript · Java · SAS · HTML5 · CSS

Software & Tools: E-Prime · SPSS · Qualtrics · REDCap

Languages: English (native) · French (fluent)

RESEARCH ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Recognized for research contributions in the following theses:

- Scucchi, S. (2022). The variation of metaphor processing strategies and the effects on reading skills in L2 English learners. Master's thesis, University of South Carolina.
- Wilson, S. C. (2022). Lexical and syntactic priming in dialogue. Master's thesis, University of South Carolina.