

Maury A. Courtland

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Natural Language Processing and Machine Learning Research Experience & Linguistics Expertise

Education

University of Southern California - Ph.D. in Linguistics Aug. '14 - Present
M.A. in Linguistics; GPA: 3.96 Aug. '14 - May '16
Haverford College - B.A. in Linguistics and Languages
(Studied Mandarin and Arabic) GPA: 3.852; Chinese Minor Aug. '09 - Dec. '12

Experience

Computational Linguistics Consultant, Oben - Pasadena, CA : Sep. '15 - Jan. '16

- Built computational linguistics software to improve speech elicitation materials
- Used own software to develop linguistically (phonologically) optimal stimuli

Cross-linguistic Application of Distributed Representations, USC : Spring '16

- Studied cross-linguistic sentiment analysis using Word2Vec with 3 others
- Crawled webpages, manipulated and classified large text corpora, wrote up findings

Negotiation Chatbot Utilizing End-to-end Affective Speech, USC : Fall '17

- Built a negotiation agent that detected and simulated emotional speech with 2 others
- Utilized affect detecting ASR, affect simulating TTS, and emotional dialog modeling

Zevin Lab, USC : Fall '15 - present

- Designed experiments, used digital signal processing to create auditory stimuli
- Performed statistical analyses, built analytical software tools, presented at conferences

SPAN Group, USC : Summer '16 - present

- Used and improved image processing software to study and model speech articulation
- Utilized Linux high performance computing environment for MRI video processing

Research Assistant, Prof. Khalil Iskarous, USC : Summer '14

- Constructed software tools for speech researchers to study MRI videos
- Used own software to analyze English speakers' speech articulations

Skills

Highly Proficient in MATLAB, Python, and Linux; Intermediate in HTML/CSS and Javascript
Conversational fluency in Spanish; Intermediate in Hebrew and Mandarin; Basic in Arabic

Honors and Awards

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program Honorable Mention, USC March '16
NIH Pre-doctoral Fellow, USC Hearing and Communication Neuroscience June '15 - '17
Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society, Haverford College Spring '13
Departmental High Honors, Haverford College Spring '13
NCAA Academic Honor Roll, Haverford College Winter '11, '12, Spring '11, '12

Leadership Positions

President of Graduate Students in Linguistics, USC '16 - present
Music Director/President, The Haverford College Humtones (a cappella) '12 - '13
Director of Technology for Graduate Students in Linguistics, USC '16 - present
Event Coordinator for Graduate Students in Linguistics, USC '15 - '16
Graduate, Rufus M. Jones Institute for Leadership, Haverford College Spring '13