

## Nancy A. Niedzielski, Ph. D.

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### Academic and Research Positions

*Associate professor of Linguistics, Rice University, Houston, Texas*

Sociolinguistics, Phonetics, Phonology, Language and Gender,  
African-American English, Introduction to Linguistics

*Instructor, Linguistics Society of America Institute, Michigan State University*

Summer, 2003                      Socio-phonetics

*Scientist, Panasonic Technologies, Inc. Speech Technology Laboratory, Santa Barbara, CA*  
1992-1999

*Lecturer, University of California, Santa Barbara Linguistics Department*

1997-1999                      American Minority Languages, Semantics, Morphology,  
Introduction to Linguistics

### Education

Ph. D. University of California, Santa Barbara                      1997

**Dissertation:** *Influence of Social Factors on the Phonetic Perception of Sociolinguistic Variables*

M. A.                      Eastern Michigan University                      1989

B. S.                      Eastern Michigan University                      1987

### Professional Roles

2016-2024                      Consultant, €6 million SFB grant, (Deutsch in Österreich (DiÖ))  
2009-2010                      Organizing committee, NWAV 39  
2006-2008                      Organizer, NWAV 37  
2004-2007                      *American Dialect Society*, Executive Council member  
2001-2004                      *Linguistics Society of America* Executive Council member,  
Committee on Social and Political Concerns  
2003-present                      Outside reviewer, *National Science Foundation*  
2002-2005                      Editorial board, *American Speech: A Quarterly of Linguistic Usage*  
2000-present                      Outside reviewer, *Journal of Sociolinguistics*, *Journal of Phonetics*, *Journal of Language and Social Psychology*, etc  
2000-present                      Forensic Linguist: *Houston Federal Bureau of Investigation, Houston District Attorney's Office, Atlanta District Attorney's Office, Seabrook Police Department, Corpus Christie Public Defender's Office, Hood County Sheriff's Office, etc.*  
2000-2010                      Consultant on speech recognition systems for Robonaut, NASA  
1998-2001                      *Educational Testing Service* Reviewer, Graduate Records Exam (GRE) and the Praxis Audiology Test

## University service

2022	SoSS Research Advisery Panel
2021-present	Social Sciences Strategic Planning Committee
2016-present	University Fellowships Committee
2016-2018	Steering committee member, CSWGS
2014-2018	Social Sciences Advisory Committee
2014-2017	Jones College First Year Mentor
2014-2016	Undergraduate Advisor, Department of Linguistics
2008-2013	Chair, Department of Linguistics, Rice University
2010-2011	Lecturer, HRC Civic Humanist Program
2008-2014	Chair, Department of Linguistics, Rice University
2007-2008	Chair, NCAA recertification subcommittee on compliance
2005-2008	Faculty Senate member; Executive Council member 2007-08
2004-2005	Faculty Council member, Rice University
2004-2007	Humanities Planning Committee, Rice University
2002-2008	Graduate Advisor, Linguistics
2001-2002	Organizer, The Ninth Biennial Rice University Symposium on Linguistics
2000-2002	Undergraduate advisor, Department of Linguistics
2000-2008	Divisional Advisor, Social Sciences
2001-2003	Program for the study of Women and Gender Steering Committee
1999-2008	Faculty Associate, Lovett College
1999-2013	Provost Fellowship Committee
1999-2001	Faculty Sponsor, American Sign Language I & II

## Professional Affiliations

American Dialect Society; Acoustical Society of America; Linguistics Society of America; American Studies Association, International Pragmatics Association.

## Areas of Interest

Speech perception, sociolinguistics, dialectology, acoustic phonetics, language attitudes, language and gender, Communicative Accommodation Theory, the linguistics-speech therapy interface, speech synthesis, language usage and the media

## Research Projects

Houston Urban English Study (HUES Project): Examining the dialect geography of Houston, TX, from a sociophonetic perspective. Involves research on both perception and production, in terms of region, SEC, age, ethnicity, etc.

## Grants, Fellowships, Awards

2018	Rice Houston Engagement and Recovery Effort Grant
2015	Teaching Innovative Fund Grant
2012	Humanities Innovation Fund Grant
2001	Lovett Outstanding Associate Award
2000, 2002, 2003, 2004	Lovett Distinguished Associate Award
1996	Graduate Division Dissertation Writing Fellowship
1996	General Affiliates Dissertation Fellowship
1996	Graduate Division Fee Fellowship
1995-1996	Linguistics Departmental Grant
1995	University Travel Grant
1994	Nominated, Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award
1993-1994	University Fee Grant
1991-1993	Departmental Summer Research Grants
1991 & 1992	Instructional Development Grants
1990-1991	University Tuition Fellowship, UCSB
1987-1989	University Tuition Fellowship, EMU

## Publications

### Monographs:

In preparation. *Language as it's lived*. Cambridge University Press.

2020. HONOR (Harvey Oral Narratives on Record): A Corpus of Interviews from Hurricane Harvey. Rice University-Kinder Institute: UDP. With Robert Englebretson and Suzanne Kemmer  
<https://doi.org/10.25612/837.93N5RZY77XW0>

2010. *Sociophonetics: A reader*. Berlin: de Gruyter. (with Dennis Preston)

1999. *Folk linguistics*. Berlin: de Gruyter. With Dennis R. Preston.

### Articles, book chapters:

In progress. Houston AAE vowel variants: implicational scales, ethnicity, and gender.

In progress. Ethnicity effects in the perception of final /t-/d/ glottalization. With Chris Koops

In progress. /t-/d/ glottalization and vowel variation in Houston AAE. With Chris Koops.

In progress. *Change-in-progress in Houston African- and European-American English*.

2020. Pholk phonetics and phonology. In Wrembl, M., A. Kiełewicz-Janowiak, and P. Gasiorowski, (eds). *Approaches to the study of sound structure and speech*. NY: Routledge.

2017. Interview with Dennis Preston. *Journal of English Linguistics* 45:3. 1-18.

2013. Folk pragmatics. A. Barron, P. Grundy, & G. Yuego (eds) *The Routledge handbook of Pragmatics*. London: Routledge. With Dennis Preston
2013. Consciousness and subconsciousness in the world of language regard. In T. Kristiansen & S. Grondelaers (eds). *Language (de)standardisation in Late Modern Europe: Experimental Studies*. Oslo: Novus Forlag. With Dennis Preston.
- 2010 Linguistic security, ideology, and vowel perception. In Preston, D. R. and N. Niedzielski.
2010. Speech sciences from a sociolinguistic perspective. *Language Allegiances: Linguistic, cultural, educational and legal aspects*. New York: Blackwell.
2009. Folk linguistics. In Coupland, Nikolas and Adam Jaworski, eds. *The new sociolinguistics reader*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan
2007. Folk linguistics. In Verschueren, J. and J. Ostman (eds) *Handbook of pragmatics*. New York: Benjamins. (with Dennis Preston)
2005. Sociolinguistics and speech technology. In Rozak, Rogayah (ed.) *Papers from the International symposium on speech sciences*. Kuala Lumpur: UKM Publishing.
2005. The role of social information in the modeling of speech perception." *Journal of phonetics*.
2005. Subjective and objective measures of variation. *Encyclopedia of Language and Linguistics*. Oxford: Elsevier.
2005. Vernacular. *Encyclopedia of Language and Linguistics*. Oxford: Elsevier.
2004. Linguistic Purism from several perspectives: views from the "secure" and "insecure." In Langer, Nils (ed). *Papers from the 2003 Linguistic Purism conference*.
2003. The globalization of vernacular variation. *Journal of sociolinguistics* 7:4. With Miriam Meyerhoff
2003. The Perception/Production Interface. In Toshihide Nakayama, Tsuyoshi Ono, and Hongyin Tao, eds., *Santa Barbara Papers in Linguistics: Recent Studies in Empirical Approaches to Language*, Vol. 12, 102-103. Department of Linguistics, UC Santa Barbara.
2002. Attitudes towards Midwestern English. In Long, D. and D. Preston. 2002. *Handbook of Perceptual Dialectology, Vol.II*. Amsterdam: Benjamins.
2001. Chipping away at the production/perception interface. In Sanchez, Tara and Daniel E. Johnson(eds) *Penn Working Papers in Linguistics* 7:3. Philadelphia: UPenn Press.
2000. Rapid speaker adaptation In Eigenvoice space. *IEEE Transactions in speech and audio processing*. With R. Kuhn, J-C Junqua, P. Nguyen. **NOMINATED, 2003 IEEE BEST PAPER IN SPEECH PROCESSING**
1999. Fast speaker adaptation using *a priori* knowledge. *ICASSP 99*. With R. Kuhn, P. Nguyen, J-C Junqua, R. Boman, S. Fincke, K. Field, M. Contolini.

1999. The effect of social information on the perception of sociolinguistic variables. In Milroy, L. and D. R. Preston, eds. *JLSP* special edition.
1999. German is ugly, Italian is beautiful. In Bauer, L. and P. Trudgill, eds. *Language myths*. London: Penguin. With H. Giles.
1998. Eigenvoices for speaker adaptation. *ICSLP 98*. Vol. 5. 1771-1774. With R. Kuhn, P. Nguyen, J.C. Junqua, L. Goldwasser, S. Fincke, K. Field, and M. Contollini.
1998. The syntax and semantics of *olsem* in Bislama. In Pearson, M., ed. *Recent papers in Austronesian Linguistics*. Los Angeles: UCLA. With M. Meyerhoff.
1997. Enhancement of esophageal speech by injection noise reduction. *ICAASP annual journal of speech technology*. With H. Javkin and M. Galler.
1996. Acoustic analysis and language attitudes in Detroit and Windsor. In Meyerhoff, Miriam (ed.). Philadelphia: UPenn Press.
1996. Family values: The evidence from folk linguistics. In Eliasson, S. and Jahr, E. H., ed. *In memory of Einar Haugen*. Berlin: de Gruyter. With D. R. Preston.
1995. Linguistic accommodation: Essay #41. In H. Goebel, P.H. Nelde, Z. Stary & W. Wolck (eds.), *Contact Linguistics: An International Handbook of Contemporary Research*. Berlin: de Gruyter. With H. Giles
1995. A multi-parameter speech -training system. *Proceedings of the European Speech Communication Association: Workshop on Speech and Language Technology for Disabled Persons*, Stockholm, Sweden. July, 1993. 137-141. With Javkin, H., N. Antonanzas-Barroso, A. Das, Y. Yamada, N. Murata, H. Levitt, K. Youdelman.
1994. *A manual for teaching assistants in linguistics*. Santa Barbara, CA: UCSB Department of linguistics.
1994. Resistance to creolization: an intergroup and interpersonal account of the processes involved. *Language and Communication* 14:4. 313-330. With M. Meyerhoff.
1992. The masculine generic: A view from the child. *Proceedings of the first annual Women and Language conference*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Berkeley Press. 415-433
1991. Review of Mannheim, B. 1989. *Language of the Inca since the European invasion*. Austin: University of Texas Press. In *New Scholar* 11:2. Santa Barbara: UCSB Press.

### Patents

Enhancement of Esophageal Speech by Injection Noise Reduction. **U. S. Patent Granted**, November 1998, with H. Javkin and M. Galler.

A New Method for Concatenative Synthesis. **U. S. Patent Granted**. December 2000, with Steve Pearson and Nick Kibre.

Esophageal Speech Detection and Rejection. **U. S. Patent Application**, February 1997, with H. Javkin, M. Galler, and R. Boman.

## Presentations

### Invited

- 2021 **Distinguished Research Lecture:** Language, speech perception and the Law: An unhappy intersection  
STaRT Conference, Rice University
- 2021 **Organizer and presenter:** Linguistics Matters: Language Variation and Racial Justice
- 2017 **Plenary Lecture:** Speech perception and Phonological organization  
Accent Conference, Łódź, Poland
- 2016 **Plenary Lecture:** Implicational variables and intra- vs. interethnic social meaning  
YLPM, Poznan, Poland
- 2016 **Plenary Workshop:** Experimental phonetics, speech perception and social knowledge  
YLPM, Poznan, Poland
- 2016 **Invited participant:** Methods and models on language variation  
University of Wellington, Wellington, NZ  
**Invited lecture:** Implicational models across variables
- 2016 **Invited lecture:** Implicational variables and the intersection of ethnicity and gender  
Victoria University of Wellington, NZ
- 2015 **Invited participant:** Methods and models on language variation  
University of Wellington, Wellington, NZ
- 2013 **Invited lecture:** What we don't know we know  
International Congress of Linguistic Science, Geneva, Switzerland
- 2012 **Invited lecture:** Attitudes and awareness  
Variation of Language Attitudes: Mechanisms and stakes:  
Lausanne, Switzerland
- 2010 **Plenary lecture:** Dialect Perception: Where Perception and Production Meet  
Experimental applications in Sociolinguistics, Groningen, The Netherlands
- 2009 **Plenary lecture:** Perception, Attitudes, and Sociolinguistic Variation  
Summer School of Sociolinguistics, Edinburgh, UK

- 2009                   **Plenary lecture:** Perceptual experiments and phonetic variation: Finding out what speakers don't know they know and vice versa  
Polish Linguistics Meeting, Poznan, Poland
- 2008                   **Invited lecture:** Morphing precepts: how variation in one domain gets perceptually co-opted for another  
York University, York, UK
- 2008                   **Plenary lecture:** Morphing precepts: how variation in one domain gets perceptually co-opted for another  
Neue Wege der Dialektologie, Kiel, Germany
- 2008                   **Invited lecture:** Perception's effect on production: An argument for embracing the complexities  
Newcastle University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK
- 2008                   **Invited lecture:** Production and perception  
Edinburgh University, Edinburgh, UK
- 2008                   **Plenary panel member:** Phonetics  
Plenary symposium on Sociolinguistics and Linguistic Theory  
Annual meeting of the LSA, Chicago
- 2006                   **Plenary lecture:** The perception of phonological variation: some issues of perceptual dialectology  
Colloque International 'Phonologie du français contemporain', Louvain (Belgium), July 6-8, 2006.
- 2005                   Speech perception and dialect perception: a new model  
University of Texas at Austin's Colloquium series
- 2004                   The role of social information in the modeling of speech perception  
LSA panel on Modeling sociophonetic variation, Boston
- 2003                   Everything you always wanted to know about language (but were afraid to ask)  
Society of Rice University Women
- 2003                   **Plenary address:** "Language attitudes and language purism"  
Conference on Linguistic Purism, University of Bristol, UK
- 2002                   Invited presentation: "Sociolinguistics and speech technology"  
International symposium on speech sciences, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2002                   Chair, Language and women in the 19th century  
American Studies Conference, Houston, TX
- 2002                   "Where dialect perception and speech perception meet"  
Indiana University's Speech Science Laboratory Colloquium Series
- 2001                   **Plenary address:** "Dialect perception and speech perception"

NWAV 30

- 2001 "At the perception/ production interface"  
Functional Approaches to Grammar Symposium, UC-Santa Barbara
- 2001 "Folk Linguistics"  
Iowa State University, Departments of Anthropology, Linguistics
- 2000 "Has English change In the last 100 years?"  
Rice Historical Society
- 2000 "Automated recognition and synthesis of speech: problems and solutions"  
LACUS
- 2000 International Workshop on Speech Perception; Utrecht, The Netherlands  
Invited participant
- 2000 "Social Factors and phonetic perception"  
Texas A & M Colloquium Series
- 1999 Friends of Fondren Author's Fair  
Invited panelist
- 1989 "Workshop on folk linguistic research," with Dennis Preston  
NWAV 18

Refereed

- 2018 English variation in the classroom: A linguistic approach in a Houston  
High School  
Accents 2018, Łódz, Poland
- 2018 New approaches to scaling up: tracking variation from individual to  
group to language  
NWAV 47, New York City
- 2018 (Sub)urbanization, local identities, and linguistic behavior: mapping /ai/  
variation across Houston  
NWAV 47, New York City
- 2013 Chinese American English vowel variants: evidence for an emerging  
Anglo identity?  
NWAV 42, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2012 Implicational variables in intra-variety style: Ethnicity vs. Gender  
NWAV 41, Bloomington, IND
- 2011 Implicational variables in Houston AAE  
NWAV 40, Washington DC
- 2011 Testing people's knowledge of which they don't know they are aware  
IPrA, Manchester, UK



- 2011 Ethnicity and the perception of final glottalization  
LSA 11, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2010 Ethnicity effects on the perception of final  
/t/ and /d/ glottalization  
NWAV 39, San Antonio TX
- 2009 /t/, /d/-glottalization and vowel variation in Houston AAE  
NWAV 38, Ottawa Canada
- 2006 Language, perception, and "remarkable times": Using demography in  
sociolinguistic research  
NWAV35, Columbus, OH
- 2006 Linguistic security, ideology, and vowel perception  
AILA, Milwaukee
- 2005 Folk linguistics and pragmatics  
IPRA, Riva del Garda, Italy
- 2003 Monophthongization of /o/  
Atlanta, LSA
- 2002 "Language standards, the media, and globalization"  
with Miriam Meyerhoff; NWAV 31
- 2000 "Chipping Away at the perception/production Interface"  
NWAV29
- 2000 "The social construction of a standard speaker"  
LSA
- 1999 Speech perception and speech synthesis  
LSA
- 1998 "A new method of concatenative synthesis," with Steve Pearson and Nick  
Kibre  
ICSLP-98
- 1998 "Dialects and speech impediments in clinical speech therapy: some  
sobering thoughts about attitudes in action"  
NWAV27
- 1997 "Acoustic correlates of superior esophageal speakers,"  
with H. Javkin and James Reed  
Acoustics Society of America
- 1997 "Enhancement of esophageal speech by injection noise reduction,"  
with H. Javkin and M. Galler  
ICASSP-97
- 1997 "Social factors and phonetic perception"  
LSA

- 1996 "Out' and 'About' with Detroiters"  
NWAV 25
- 1996 "Syntactic properties of the Bislama 'olsem' construction," with M. Meyerhoff ; Austronesian Formal Linguistics Society
- 1995 "Acoustic analysis and language attitudes in Detroit and Windsor"  
"Discourse functions of Bislama 'olsem'," with M. Meyerhoff  
NWAV 24
- 1994  
Chair: North American Vowels Session  
NWAV 23
- 1993 "An intergroup account of resistance to creolization," with M. Meyerhoff  
NWAV 22
- 1992 "Language and the industry: a film on the media's use and abuse of language, for use in introductory linguistics classes"  
NWAV 21
- 1992 "The masculine generic: a view from the child"  
Berkeley Women and Language Conference
- 1991 "Language maintenance: the case of Romany"  
NWAV 20
- 1991 "Language acquisition and the case of the "generic" masculine"  
International conference on Language and Social Psychology

#### Ph. D. Dissertations

- 2018 Lisa Jeon, Mapping the sociolinguistic impact of urbanization
- 2017 Ru-Ping Tso, Speech perception and orthographic characters in Tawanese Mandarin
- 2016 Penelope Howe, Tonogenesis in Malagasy
- 2013 Ann Olivo. Strong Island Sound: Ethnicity and Language in Long Island, NY
- 2013 Katherine Nelson. A phonetic inventory of Nez Perce
- 2011 Christopher Taylor. Power to Represent: The Spatialized Politics of Style in Houston Hip Hop
- 2011 Viktoria Papp. The Female to Male Transgender Voice: Physiology vs. Performance in Production
- 2010 Andrew Pantos. Measuring Implicit and Explicit Attitudes Toward Foreign-Accented Speech
- 2010 Christian Koops. Sociophonetic Knowledge in Speech Perception
- 2010 Elizabeth Brunner. Imitation, Awareness, and Folk Linguistic Artifacts
- 2010 Michael Colley. Diphthongization in Brazilian Portuguese