

Ph.D. Program in Speech-Language- Hearing Sciences

Fall 2020 Colloquium

Wednesday, September 16, 2020

2:45pm-4:00 p.m., [via ZOOM](#)

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*How do Children with Different Communication Disorders Determine
the Structure and Meaning of Sentences?*

Although child language research has substantially evolved in the last years, investigation on complex syntax is still at its early stages. Syntax is an under researched language aspect in communication disorders, particularly in comparison to other areas such as phonology, lexicon and morphosyntax. Different syntactic constructions give us ways of examining how children with various types of language disorders determine the structure and meaning of sentences in general. The first part of this presentation will consist of studies that investigated syntactic assignment of predicates and reflexives. The second part will be comprised by studies that investigated how children resolve syntactic ambiguity. Although ambiguities do not occur often in daily communication, they provide another way of examining how children determine the structure and meaning of sentences in general.

Syntactic processing is related to suprasegmental and cognitive aspects. The role of prosody and working memory on syntactic structuring by children with language disorders will also be discussed.

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