

MATTHEW SAYERS, MS CCC-SLP

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EDUCATION

PhD	Communication Sciences and Disorders Temple University Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Mentor: Nadine Martin, PhD	In progress
MS	Speech-Language Pathology La Salle University Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	2012
BA	Latin American Studies Johns Hopkins University Baltimore, Maryland	2005

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Verbal short-term memory impairments in aphasia

Translational research

Psychometrics

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Aphasia Rehabilitation Research Laboratory
Eleanor M. Saffran Center 2019 to Present
Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

Projects

- Design and implementation of a large-scale test of naming and repetition in aphasia, including stimulus design, norming, and implementation.
- Application of a test of verbal short-term memory in aphasia to the identification of mild cognitive impairment in older adults: behavioral testing, collection of brain imaging.
- Investigation of structural priming as a treatment for agrammatism in aphasia: stimulus design, collection of eye-tracking data.

- Quasi-experimental post hoc analyses on relationships between input verbal short-term memory impairments and naming.
- Quasi-experimental post hoc analyses on serial position effects in sentence repetition in aphasia.

Laboratory Responsibilities

- Consenting participants and background testing.
- Submission of IRB protocols and modifications.
- Database management: coding, scrubbing, and analysis.
- Recruitment
- Supervision of student volunteers.
- Experimental programming.

TEACHING INTERESTS

Assessment and Rehabilitation of Acquired Language Disorders

Neuroanatomy

Anatomy and Physiology of the Speech and Hearing Mechanism

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

Awarded May 2021

Teaching in Higher Education Certificate

- Completed coursework focused on the application of evidence-based teaching practices for students in higher education.
- Participated in structured mentoring and teaching experiences designed to promote efficacious, engaging, and reflective teaching practices.

Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

Jan 2021 to May 2021

Teaching Assistant, Communication Sciences and Disorders

- Served as a teaching assistant for Development of Speech and language, an undergraduate course with 57 students, covering topics related to language acquisition.
- Designed and implemented three class sessions, including development and recording of the lecture and PowerPoint slides, interactive quizzes, and discussion board.
- Developed rubrics for skill building assignments.
- Moderated discussion boards.
- Assisted with grading.

Temple University, Philadelphia PA

Sept 2020 to Dec 2020

Teaching Assistant, Communication Sciences and Disorders

- Served as a teaching assistant for Human Neuroscience, an undergraduate course with approximately 60 students, covering basic neurological anatomy and physiology and its application to the study of communication sciences and disorders.
- Delivered a weekly review session to reinforce topics presented in in-class lectures.
- Developed interactive learning activities.
- Assisted with grading.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Cooper University Hospital, Camden NJ

March 2015 to Aug 2019

Speech-Language Pathologist

- Evaluated and treated swallowing, speech-language, voice, and cognitive disorders in an urban acute care hospital.
- Coordinated with medical teams, hospitalists, nursing, and therapy staff to optimize patient care in all adult hospital units, including ICU, CCU, Trauma ICU, Intermediate Care Unit, and Med-Surg.
- Independently performed and interpreted video fluoroscopic swallow studies.
- Participated in decision-making process for alternative means of nutrition, and tracheostomy sizing, capping, and decannulation.
- Served as an educational representative of the department to various hospital services, developing and delivering presentations to support evidence-based practice, interdisciplinary cooperation, and obtain additional sources of consults.
- Researched, developed, and implemented new procedures and protocols for the department.
- Mentored graduate students in speech-language pathology.

Little Flower Manor, Darby PA

Aug 2014 to Feb 2015

Speech-Language Pathologist

- Evaluated and treated speech, language, cognitive, and swallowing disorders in geriatric patients in a skilled nursing facility setting.
- Participated in end-of-life plan of care discussions including appropriateness for PEG and transition to hospice care.
- Submitted Medicare Part-A and -B billing (ICD-9, ICD-11, and G-codes).

Good Shepherd Penn Partners, Philadelphia PA

Aug 2013 – Aug 2014

Clinical Fellow in Speech-Language Pathology

Brain Injury Rehabilitation Center

- Evaluated and developed individualized treatment plans for adults with brain injuries, including traumatic brain injury, stroke, tumors and cancer of the central nervous system, encephalopathy, and ventriculoperitoneal shunt malfunctions.

- Delivered speech-language therapy for acquired neurological dysfunction, including aphasia, apraxia, dysarthria, cognitive linguistic deficits, and dysexecutive syndrome.
- Collaborated with physical therapy, occupational therapy, recreational therapy and neuropsychology for co-treatment as indicated.

Long Term Acute Care Hospital

- Provided dysphagia and cognitive linguistic evaluation and treatment to adult inpatient medically complex patients.
- Represented the speech-language service in weekly interdisciplinary rounding.
- Independently interpreted flexible endoscopic evaluation of swallowing (FEES).
- Coordinated with pulmonology and respiratory therapy to determine appropriateness for tracheostomy tube downsizing, capping, decannulation, and feeding while on mechanical ventilation.
- Provided coma stimulation to minimally conscious patients.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer reviewed publications

Sayers, M., Laval, D., Reilly, J., & Martin, N. (2021) Integrity of input verbal short-term memory ability predicts naming accuracy in aphasia. *Aphasiology*.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/02687038.2022.2043233>

Litovsky, C. P., Finley, A. M., Zuckerman, B., Sayers, M., Schoenhard, J. A., Kenett, Y. N., & Reilly, J. (2022). Semantic flow and its relation to controlled semantic retrieval deficits in the narrative production of people with aphasia. *Neuropsychologia*, *170*, 108235.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neuropsychologia.2022.108235>

Sayers, M., Greenspan, W., & Martin, N. (In press) Integrating verbal short-term memory into the assessment and treatment of aphasia. *Perspectives of the ASHA Special Interest Groups*

Refereed abstracts

Sayers, M., Laval, D., Reilly, J., & Martin, N. (2021, October 16-18) *Integrity of input verbal short-term memory predicts naming accuracy and error types*. [Conference abstract] 58th Annual Meeting of the Academy of Aphasia, Philadelphia, PA, United States.

Sayers, M., Laval, D., & Martin, N. (2021, September 10-11) *Relationships between serial position effects in sentences and working memory load effects*. [Conference abstract] 15th Annual Eleanor M. Saffran Conference on Cognitive Neuroscience & Rehabilitation of Communication Disorders, Philadelphia, PA, United States.

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES

Guest Lecturer, “Attention and executive function impairments,” Foundations and Rehabilitation of Language and Cognitive Disorders in Aphasia, Temple University, November 15, 2021.

Poster Presentation, “Relationships between serial position effects in sentences and working memory load effects,” 15th Annual Eleanor M. Saffran Conference on Cognitive Neuroscience & Rehabilitation of Communication Disorders, September 10, 2021.

Proseminar Presentation, “Integrity of input verbal short-term memory predicts naming accuracy and error types,” Temple University Proseminar, October 16, 2020.

Poster Presentation, “Integrity of input verbal short-term memory predicts naming accuracy and error types,” 58th Meeting of the Academy of Aphasia, October 20, 2020.

Conference Lecture, “Utilizing speech-language pathology to improve patient outcomes,” Neurovascular and Stroke Symposium, March 17, 2019.

Interdisciplinary training, “Improving communication outcomes with patients with tracheostomies,” Annual training provided to Psychology Department at Cooper University Hospital, 2016-2019.

HONORS AND AWARDS

First Summer Research Initiative Award 2020, 2022
Competitive grant funding summer research valued at \$6,000, awarded to students underrepresented in their field of study.

Saffran Conference Student Scholar 2021

Graduate Clinical Service Award 2012
Award provided to graduate students in speech-language pathology who demonstrate excellence in evaluation and treatment in the Speech-Language-Hearing Community Clinic.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Speech-Language Hearing Association, 2014-Present