Manuel Raúl Meléndez Luján

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EDUCATION

May 2018 — Bachelor of Science in Psychology, *Summa Cum Laude*
The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP)
Minor: Mathematics
Senior Thesis: *Impact of Auditory and Visual Comprehension Exposures on Spoken Word Production in Bilinguals*

Honors and Activities

2018	Outstanding Senior in Psychology Award
2018	Academic Achievement Award
2018	Senior Honors Candidate Award
2018	Outstanding Research Award
2018	Campus Office of Undergraduate Research Initiatives (COURI) Outstanding Student Award
2017-2018	Mentored Experiences in Research, Inquiry, and Creativity for Undergraduate Scholars **(**MERITUS) Undergraduate Fellowship Award
2017	Summer Internship at Learning Research and Development Center LRDC
2016-2017	Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) position in Bilingual Cognition Laboratory at UTEP (funded by NSF)
2014-2018	College of Liberal Arts Dean's List

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

9/17 – 5/18 — **MERITUS program undergraduate research assistant, UTEP**
Mentor: Dr. Wendy Francis

- Helped to design a new experiment on the effects of context variability on bilingual memory for concrete and abstract words
- Selected appropriate stimuli, randomized and counterbalanced stimulus sets, assigned participants to conditions
- Programmed the experiment using PsyScope software
- Conducted individual experiment sessions with participants
- Entered, processed, and analyzed data and prepare for presentation

09/16 – 09/17 — **REU (Research Experiences for Undergraduates) position in Bilingual Cognition Laboratory at UTEP**
Mentor: Dr. Wendy Francis

- Assisted with two experiments for the NSF grant
- Helped select experimental stimuli, randomized and counterbalanced stimulus sets and task orders, assigned participants to conditions
- Helped program bilingual experiments using PsyScope software
- Conducted individual experiment sessions with participants

- Performed data entry, processing, and analysis
- Prepared and presented posters with co-authors
- Will assist with manuscript preparation

05/17 – 07/17 **Intern at Learning Research and Development Center (LRDC) at the University of Pittsburgh**
Mentor: Dr. Charles Perfetti

- Selected word stimuli with appropriate characteristics and created sentences that contained the words
- Programmed experimental protocol
- Conducted individual experiment sessions using ERP equipment
- Presented findings at a poster session

01/17 – 06/17 **Undergraduate Research assistant in Psycholinguistic Research on Bilingualism and Reading (PROBAR) Laboratory at UTEP**
Mentor: Dr. Ana Schwartz

- Conducted individual experiment sessions with research participants
- Transcribed audio files in English and Spanish
- Performed data entry, processing, and analysis

WORK EXPERIENCE

01/18 – 5/18 **Teaching Assistant at UTEP**
Professor: Dr. Iva Ivanova Course: Cognitive Psychology

- Help preparing, grading, proctor, and talk with students about exams
- Tutor students and assist with assignments and concepts
- Hold review sessions to prepare students for exams

08/14 – 7/16 **Concession Supervisor at SODEXO, El Paso, TX**

- Prepared concession stands for sales at events, including doing inventories and providing products to be sold
- Maintained optimal functioning of machinery at concession stands
- Supervised between 3 to 8 stands per event

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- **Meléndez Luján, M.R.**, Francis, W.S. (2018, April). *The Role of Context Variability in Bilingual Memory for Concrete and Abstract Words*. Poster presented at COURI Symposium, El Paso, TX.
- **Meléndez Luján, M. R.**, Tsuboi, N., Negrón, J., Guedea, E. L., & Francis, W. S. (2017, December). *Impact of auditory and visual comprehension exposures on spoken word production in bilinguals*. Poster presented at UTEP's psychology department honors' theses research poster session, El Paso, TX.
- Tsuboi, N., **Melendez Luján, M. R.**, Guedea, E. L., Negrón, J. A., & Francis, W. S. (2017). Effects of visual and auditory comprehension

episodes on later spoken word production. *Abstracts of the Psychonomic Society, 22,* 162.

- **Meléndez Luján, M. R.**, Tsuboi, N., Negrón, J., Guedea, E. L., & Francis, W. S. (2017, October). *Impact of auditory and visual comprehension exposures on spoken word production in bilinguals*. Poster presented at ARMADILLO, the Southwest Cognition Conference, College Station, TX.
- Tsuboi, N., **Meléndez Luján, M. R.**, Guedea, E. L., & Francis, W. S. (2017, October). *Short-term and long-term impact of listening and reading exposures on spoken word production*. Poster presented at ARMADILLO, the Southwest Cognition Conference, College Station, TX.
- **Meléndez Luján, M. R.**, Muth, K., Stafura, J., Perfetti, C. (2017, July) *Do Words Care Where You See Them, or Just How Often? An ERP Study on the Effects of Context Diversity and Word Frequency during Reading*. Presented at LRDC, Pittsburgh, PA.

CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT

12/17 – 05/18 **Treasurer - Psi Chi Honor Society**

- Hold responsibility for financial management
- Involved in all monetary transactions and keep record of them
- Help organize meetings, fundraisers, and volunteer activities

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

01/16 – 5/16 **Boys & Girls Club of El Paso**

- Created a healthy and enriching environment for 20 kids (ranging ages from 3 to 15 years) through games and prosocial activities
- Tutored kids with their school assignments
- Cleaned and maintained the establishment

SKILLS

- Fluent in English and Spanish, Conversational in French
- Extensive use of MS PowerPoint and Word
- Proficient in MS Excel and SPSS
- Experience with experiment programming software, including PsyScope and E-Prime
- Experience with Woodcock-Munoz Language Survey-Revised and Woodcock-Johnson III Compuscore & Profiles Program