

MALAK ELMESSIRY

Curriculum Vitae, March 2023

Department of Neuroscience & Department of Psychology and Human Development
Vanderbilt University
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EDUCATION

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

August 2019 – Present

- Bachelor of Arts in Neuroscience
- Minor in Language Science
- Candidate for Graduation May 2023
- GPA: 3.595

RESEARCH INTERESTS

The interplay between language and cognition; bilingualism; multilingualism; code-switching; psycholinguistics; sociolinguistics; memory; misinformation; experiences within bilingualism; language acquisition

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant

January 2020 – Present

Building Knowledge Lab at Vanderbilt University | Nashville, TN

- Recruited participants, designed, and launched experiments, coded, and analyzed experimental data to explore the inner workings of the human memory system through various studies across age groups
- Investigating the memorial impacts of different linguistic constructions of short-form political fact-checking tweets on combatting misinformation through a research project entitled “The Focus Construction Project,” comprised of over 300 participants and two experiments

Littlejohn Summer Research Scholar & VUSRP Fellow

Summer 2021

Vanderbilt University Summer Research Program (VUSRP) | Nashville, TN

- Completed ten weeks of full-time research work with Dr. Lisa Fazio in the Building Knowledge Lab
- Presented at a roundtable presentation and at the Spring 2022 Vanderbilt Undergraduate Research Fair

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Elmessiry, M., Pillai, R. M., Brown-Schmidt, S., & Fazio, L. K. (2022 April). “Examining the effect of question phrasing on memory for fact-checks” in the 2022 Spring Vanderbilt Undergraduate Research Fair, Nashville, TN

Elmessiry, M., Pillai, R. M., Brown-Schmidt, S., & Fazio, L. K. (2022 April). “Examining the effect of question phrasing on memory for fact-checks” in the 94th Annual Midwestern Psychological Association Conference, Chicago, IL

Elmessiry, M., Pillai, R. M., Brown-Schmidt, S., & Fazio, L. K. (2023 Feb). “Examining the effect of question phrasing on belief revision” in the Society for Personality and Social Psychology 2023 Annual Convention, Atlanta, GA

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, & GRANTS

Reverend Beverly A. Asbury Award for Interfaith Dialogue (\$400)

April 2022

Vanderbilt University Interfaith Scholar Fellowship (\$800)

August 2022 – Present

Kojaian Global Fellowship and Global Summer Fellowship (\$8,500)

May 2022

LittleJohn Summer Research Scholarship (\$1,000)

Summer 2021

Vanderbilt Undergraduate Summer Research Program Fellowship (\$5,000)

Summer 2021

WORK EXPERIENCE

Learning Assistant for Developmental Neuroscience Course

August 2021 – December 2022

Department of Neuroscience: Vanderbilt University | Nashville, TN

- Lead small group discussions biweekly with students in an advanced-level developmental neuroscience course
- Collaborated with Dr. Elizabeth Catania and five other learning assistants to coordinate instruction
- Mastered practices based in pedagogical literature alongside learning assistants from various STEM courses

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

- President of the Vanderbilt Interfaith Council Fall 2019 – Present
Vanderbilt University | Nashville, TN
- Oversee, fund, and collaborate with spiritual organizations on campus alongside Vanderbilt’s Center for Spiritual and Religious Life (CSRL)
 - Fostered a pluralistic interfaith community through award-winning “Dialogue Dinners” and an annual Interfaith Thanksgiving event with over 100 attendees and a diverse set of speakers
 - Invited to the 2022 National Interfaith Leadership Summit in Chicago, IL to receive intensive leadership training
- Cofounder and Vice President of Minority Women in STEM Fall 2020 – Present
Vanderbilt University | Nashville, TN
- Built an inclusive community for minority women in STEM fields, with over 100 members within two years
 - Spearhead community service initiatives with local non-profits, such as UniCycle and the Mary Parish Center
- Member of the College of Arts and Science Dean’s Undergraduate Advisory Board Fall 2020 – Present
College of Arts and Science: Vanderbilt University | Nashville, TN
- One of 20 students in my class nominated by College of Arts & Science faculty to discuss with the A&S Dean and staff college affairs and advise decision-making
- Undergraduate Delegate for the University Diversity Council Fall 2020 – Present
Vanderbilt University | Nashville, TN
- Selected to represent the Interfaith Council in guiding the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Office, the University’s Vice Chancellor, Chancellor, and Provost on fostering a pluralistic and inclusive campus.

LANGUAGES & SKILLS

Languages: English (native) Egyptian Arabic (native), Modern Standard Arabic (proficient); Levantine Arabic (proficient); Spanish (limited working proficiency)

Skills: Windows and Mac, Microsoft Office, basic programming on R, survey design (Qualtrics & CloudResearch), participant management (RedCap)