

# Victoria Wagner, PhD

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## EDUCATION

### University of Houston

#### PhD in Developmental Psychology

May 2017

Focus: Cognitive Neuroscience

Dissertation: *The effects of age of acquisition and proficiency on the neural correlates of categorical perception of non-native speech: an fMRI study*

#### Master of Arts in Psychology

May 2013

Focus in Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience

Thesis: *Effects of perceived similarity and training on novel speech acquisition: an fMRI study*

### Rice University

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

May 2010

## POSITIONS

### University of St. Thomas, Houston, TX

Associate Professor of Psychology

Fall 2023-present

Director MA Applied Sport and Performance Psychology

Fall 2023-present

Assistant Professor of Psychology

Fall 2017-Spring 2022

### University of Houston, Houston, TX

Research Assistant, *Laboratory for the Neural Bases of Bilingualism*

Sept. 2010 – May 2017

Teaching Fellow, *Department of Psychology*

Fall 2012- Fall 2016

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## RESEARCH

### Research Interest

Speech perception and production

Reading

Student engagement and sense of belonging

Neuroimaging Techniques (fNIRS, fMRI, EEG)

## PUBLICATIONS

Stewart, P.E & Wagner, V.E. (under revision). Effects of the Pandemic on Campus Student Engagement. Submitted to *Student Engagement in Higher Education Journal*

Gorniak, S.L., **Wagner, V.E.**, Vaughn, K., Perry, J., Gulley Cox, L., Hibino, H., Hernandez, A. E., & Pollonini, L. (2023). Use of Functional Near Infrared Spectroscopy to Detect Cortical Activation Changes Concurrent with Memory Loss in Postmenopausal Women with Type II Diabetes, *Experimental Brain Research*, 241(6).

Gorniak, S.L., **Wagner, V.E.**, Vaughn, K., Perry, J., Gulley Cox, L., Hernandez, A. E., & Pollonini, L., (2020). Functional neuroimaging of sensorimotor cortices in postmenopausal women with type II diabetes, *Neurophoton*. 7(3) 035007  
<https://doi.org/10.1117/1.NPh.7.3.035007>

Woods, E. A., Hernandez, A. E., **Wagner, V. E.**, & Beilock, S. L. (2014). Expert athletes activate somatosensory and motor planning regions of the brain when passively listening to familiar sports sounds. *Brain and cognition*, 87, 122- 133.

## MANUSCRIPTS

**Wagner, V.E.**, Woods, E.A., & Hernandez, A.E., (manuscript) Age of acquisition and number of practice hours differentially affect brain activity of athletes.

**Wagner, V.E.**, Archila-Suerte, P., & Hernandez, A.E. (manuscript). The effects of age of acquisition and proficiency on the neural correlates of categorical perception of non- native speech

## PRESENTATIONS

**Wagner, V.E.**, & Lockerd, M. (March 2026). "Exploring the Relationship Between the Author Recognition Test and Grades in an Introductory College Course". Poster Presented at the meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Frisco, TX.

Scott, C. **Wagner, V. E.**, & Waite, L. (April 2019). " A Revised Psychology as Science Scale: new and improved?". Poster presented at the meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Albuquerque, NM.

**Wagner, V.E.**, Archila-Suerte, P., Bunta, F. & Hernandez, A.E. (May 2015). "The Effects of perceived similarity and training on novel speech acquisition: an fMRI study" poster presented at the 10th International Symposium on Bilingualism, New Brunswick, NJ.

**Wagner, V. E.**, Archila-Suerte, P., Zevin, J. & Hernandez, A.E. (April 2014). "Effects of age of acquisition on neural recruitment for non-native categorical perception" poster presented at the 2014 Cognitive Neuroscience Society annual meeting, Boston, MA.

**Wagner, V.E.**, Archila-Suerte, P., Bunta, F. & Hernandez, A.E. (November 2013). "The effects of perceived similarity and training on acquisition of novel speech sounds: an fMRI study" poster presented at 2013 Society for the Neurobiology of Language annual meeting, San Diego, C.A.

**Wagner, V.E.**, Woods, E., Beilock, S. & Hernandez, A.E. (October, 2012). "The effect of expertise and AOA in sport on the neural correlates of imagery for sport and environmental sounds" poster presented at 2012 Society for Neuroscience annual meeting, New Orleans, LA.

**Wagner, V.E.**, Woods, E., Beilock, S. & Hernandez, A.E. (April, 2011). "Brain activity during effortful auditory retrieval differentiates Expert and Non-Expert Athletes" poster presented at 2011 Cognitive Neuroscience Society annual meeting, San Francisco, CA.

### **Recent Mentored Student Presentations**

Chan, C. & **Wagner, V.E.** (March 2026). "Mental Health Benefits of Pickleball in Emerging Adults". Poster Presented at the meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Frisco, TX

Griffiths, A. & **Wagner, V.E.** (March 2026). "Relationship Between Social Media Use, Perceived Memory, and Working Memory in College Students ." Poster Presented at the meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Frisco, TX

Hodgdon, S. & **Wagner, V.E.** (March 2026). "How Grief and Student-Stress Impacts Self-Evaluations among College Students." Poster Presented at the meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Frisco, TX

Ibarra Salazar, A. & **Wagner, V.E.** (March 2026). "How are belonging, resilience, and ethnic identity related among first generation college students?" Poster Presented at the meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Frisco, TX

**Stepp, C.D. & Wagner, V.E.** (March 2026). "Evaluation of Stress, Wellbeing, mindfulness, and Job Satisfaction in EMS personnel." Poster Presented at the meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Frisco, TX

Venegas, S., Crawford, A. & **Wagner, V.E.** (March 2026) "The Relationship Between Types of Empathy and Hope in Adults". Poster Presented at the meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Frisco, TX

Stewart, P., Vallagomesa, C., **Wagner, V.E.** & Meier-Marquis, J. (March 2023) "Student Campus Engagement Modalities and Impacts of the Covid-19 Pandemic". Talk presented at the meeting of the meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Frisco, TX.

Bujard, R., Blanchard, B., Ramirez, A., & **Wagner, V.E.** (March 2023). "Effects of creative word associations on memorability" poster presented at the meeting of the meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Frisco, TX

Blanchard, B., Ramirez, A., Bujard, R., & **Wagner, V.E.** (March 2023). "Effect of English Education on Sentence Processing" poster presented at the meeting of the meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Frisco, TX

Ramirez, A., Bujard, R., Blanchard, B., & Wagner, V.E. (March 2023) . "Priming creativity with music and literature" poster presented at the meeting of the meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Frisco, TX

Stewart, P., Pomerantz, A., & **Wagner, V.E.**, (February 2023). "Effect of Event Format on Student Campus Engagement" poster presented at The Society for Personality and Social Psychology annual conference.

### **Additional Research experience**

Mentored over 30 student research-capstone projects presented at the University of St. Thomas' Undergraduate Research Symposium between 2019-2023.

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## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **University of St. Thomas, Houston, TX**

UNIV 1111 Freshman Symposium

PSYC 1332 General Psychology

PSYC 3339/5339 Human Growth and Development

PSYC 3434 Inferential Statistics

PSYC 4212 Neuropsychological Research Topics \*capstone for the Neuroscience minor\*

PSYC 4292 Directed Reading/ Independent Study \*variety of topics in including Psychology of Reading with 7 students and EEG Research Design with 5 students\*

PSYC 4320/6320 Sociocultural Perspectives on Sports

PSYC 4342 Psychology of the Adolescent

PSYC 4388/4389 Research in Psychology I/II

PSYC 4393 Special Topics: Psychology and Literature

PSYC 4435 Cognitive Psychology

PSYC 4436 Perception

PSYC 4438 Biopsychology

PSYC 6345 Research Program and Evaluation in Sport

### **University of Houston-main campus, Houston, TX**

Introduction to Cognitive Psychology

Research Methods lab

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## **SERVICE**

### **INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE**

Institutional Review Board

*Chair*

*Fall 2022-present*

*Committee member*

*Fall 2021-present*

Quality Enhancement Planning committee

October 2024- August 2025

*Chair, Assessment Subcommittee*

Curriculum Committee member

Fall 2022-Spring 2025

First Year Experience planning committee

Spring 2022-Fall 2023

First Year Experience Mentor

Fall 2019, 2021-2023

UST Transfer Orientation Panel

Fall 21, 22, Spring 22

Faculty Mentor for Rapid Online Course Development

Spring 2020-Fall 2021

UST Neuroscience Society faculty advisor

Spring 2020- Spring 2021

Promotion and Tenure Taskforce

Spring 2022-Fall 2023

Search committees

Divisional Dean of Human Services AY 23-24, 24-25  
Departmental: Clinical Mental Health Counseling, Philosophy AY 22-23, 24-25

#### **DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE**

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Director, MA in Applied Sport and Performance Psychology                           | Fall 2023-present      |
| Academic Advisor                                                                   | Spring 2018-present    |
| Search Committees for undergraduate and graduate programs                          | AY 20-21, 22-23, 23-24 |
| Freshman and Transfer Advising                                                     | Summers 2021-present   |
| Psi Chi/ Psychology Club, mentor and presenter                                     | Fall 2019- present     |
| Department event committee (career night, End of year banquet, MA program banquet) |                        |

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

##### **Research Reports**

Wagner, V.E. (2023). Early Childhood Learning in Private Schools. Written report and presentation for David Hao, Head of School, Veritas Christian Academy, Houston, TX.

Wagner, V.E. (2022). Lexile Framework and AR leveled reading. Written report for Amanda Archer, Lower School Principal, Westbury Christian School, Houston, TX.

##### **Presentation**

"#Learning Hacks" presented to Westbury Christian School Freshman Symposium, Westbury Christian School, Houston, TX. Spring 21, Fall 21, Spring 23.

"Wednesdays with Dr. Wagner" video blog on effective online learning tips for high school students. Westbury Christian School, Houston, TX. Spring 2020.

"What's App with Screen Time" presented to Southwest Houston Preschool Directors Group. Westbury Christian School, Houston, TX. 26 February 2020.