

# Antonia “Davi” Vitela

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## RESEARCH

Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience: speech perception, talker normalization, theories of speech communication, rhythm perception, cue weighting

## EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate, Speech, Language, & Hearing Sciences 2007 – Present  
Minor: Cognitive Science  
University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ  
Advisor: Andrew Lotto, Ph.D

B.S., Speech, Language, & Hearing Sciences 2002 – 2007  
Minors: Spanish, Theatre Arts  
University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ  
Graduated *Summa Cum Laude*

## STUDY ABROAD

University of College Cork, Cork, Ireland Spring 2006

University of Belgrano, Buenos Aires, Argentina Fall 2005

London at Guildhall University, London, England Summer 2004

## EMPLOYMENT

NRSA Predoctoral Fellow University of Arizona 2011 – Present  
Speech, Language, & Hearing Sciences  
Supported by: NIH/NIDCD  
Sponsor: Dr. Andrew Lotto

Graduate Research Associate University of Arizona 2009 – 2011  
Speech, Language, & Hearing Sciences  
Supervisor: Dr. Andrew Lotto

Graduate Research Assistant	University of Arizona Speech, Language, & Hearing Sciences Supervisor: Dr. Andrew Lotto	2007 – 2009
Lab Assistant	University of Arizona Speech, Language, & Hearing Sciences Supervisor: Dr. Julie Barkmeier-Kraemer	Spring 2007

## HONORS, AWARDS, & SCHOLARSHIPS

Student Travel Grant – Acoustical Society of America		05/2011
ASHA “Lessons for Success: Developing the Emerging Scientist” Conference Fellowship-Travel Award		April 27-29, 2011
Outstanding Graduate Student Award for the Dept. of Speech, Lang., & Hearing Sciences: Scholarship – U of A		2010
Outstanding Graduate Student Award for the Dept. of Speech, Lang., & Hearing Sciences: Mentor/Teaching Assistant – U of A		2010
Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences Travel Award		2010
Graduate and Professional Student Council Travel Grant – U of A	05/2009, 10/2009, 11/2010	
Student Travel Grant – Acoustical Society of America	05/2009, 10/2009, 11/2010	
Galileo Circle Scholar – College of Science, U of A		2009
Outstanding Senior Award – Speech, Lang., & Hearing Sciences, U of A		2007
Cassandra Davis Memorial Scholarship – Speech, Lang., & Hearing Sciences, U of A		2005
College of Science Highest Academic Distinction – U of A		2004
Inducted into Phi Beta Kappa		2004
City of London Arizona Educational Trust Inc. Scholarship Program		2004
Parents’ Association – ASUA Scholarship		2004
Rotary Academic Excellence and Community Volunteerism Scholarship		2002 – 2003
University Achievement Scholarship – U of A		2002 – 2006
Spirit of Discovery Scholarship – U of A		2002 – 2006

## PUBLICATIONS

**Vitela, A.D.**, Warner, N., & Lotto, A.J. (*under review*). Perceptual compensation for differences in speaking style. *Attention, Perception, and Psychophysics*.

## PRESENTATIONS

**Vitela, A.D.**, & Lotto, A.J. “Variables influencing the size of carrier-phrase dependent effects on speech perception.” 161<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Seattle, WA; May 27, 2011.

**Vitela, A.D.**, Story, B.H., & Lotto, A.J. “Extraordinary capabilities of the average spectrum.” 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience Society, Tucson, AZ; January 6, 2011.

**Vitela, A.D.**, Story, B.H., & Lotto, A.J. “Predicting the effect of talker differences on perceived vowel category.” 160<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Cancun, Mexico; November, 17, 2010.

Forster, K.I., **Vitela, A.D.**, & Hawthorne, K. “Absence of competition between word candidates.” Pre-Psychonomics Visual Word Recognition Conference, St. Louis, Missouri; November 17, 2010.

**Vitela, A.D.** “Adaptation to talker characteristics in speech perception: Look, Ma! No phonemes!” Arizona State University and University of Arizona Cognitive Science Conclave, Tempe, AZ; November 6, 2010.

**Vitela, A.D.**, Lotto, A.J., & Story, B.H. “Mini giants and other monstrosities of vocal tract averaging.” 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience Society, Tucson, AZ; January 7, 2010.

Whitaker, R.N., Kiley, R.J., Wong, A.A., **Vitela, A.D.**, & Lotto, A.J. “To pea or not to pea: Effects of stimulus range on speech cue weighting (or lack thereof).” 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience Society, Tucson, AZ; January 7, 2010.

**Vitela, A.D.**, Lotto, A.J., & Story, B.H. “Normalization for vocal tract differences using long term average spectrum.” 158<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, San Antonio, TX; October 27, 2009.

**Vitela, A.D.**, Sullivan, S.C., & Lotto, A.J. “Perceptual normalization for variation in speaking style.” 157<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Portland, OR; May 20, 2009.

**Vitela, A.D.** “Perceptual normalization for variation in speaking style.” Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences Spring 2009 Colloquium Series, University of Arizona; April 27, 2009.

**Vitela, A.D.** & Lotto, A.J. “Perceptual normalization for reduced speech: Phonetic tuning vs. spectral contrast.” 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience Society, Tucson, AZ; January 9, 2009.

Lotto, A.J., **Vitela, A.D.**, Leibold, L. & Sullivan S.C. “Perceptual insertion of phonetic segment induced by speech-shaped noise.” 2008 Meeting of the American Auditory Society, Scottsdale, AZ; March 7, 2008.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Instructor for undergraduate course: World of Sound (SP H 263)

Fall 2010

- Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, University of Arizona  
Supervising Instructor: Dr Andrew Lotto

- Listed as preceptor but had full responsibility for all aspects of the course, including preparing lectures, giving lectures, grading, and holding office hours.

Guest lecturer in undergraduate course: World of Sound (SP H 263)

Spring 2009/10/11

- Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, University of Arizona  
Instructor: Dr Andrew Lotto
  - “Talker Normalization” on April 28, 2009 and April 29, 2010
  - “Sound Localization” on February 9, 2010
  - “Perfect Pitch and Amusia” on April 6, 2010
  - “Real Speech, Accents, and Talker Variance” on April 21, 2011

Preceptor for undergraduate course: World of Sound (SP H 263)

Spring 2009/10

- Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, University of Arizona  
Instructor: Dr. Andrew Lotto

## FUNDING

Principal Investigator, *General auditory model of adaptive speech perception*  
– 1F31DC011698-01, (Sponsor: Dr. Andrew Lotto), NIH/NIDCD.

01/01/11-12/31/12

F31 – Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards for  
Individual Predoctoral Fellowships to Promote Diversity in Health-  
Related Research

Research Supplement to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research

2007 – 2010

Supplement to: *Formation and tuning of complex auditory categories*,  
National Institutes of Health (R01), Dr. Andrew Lotto,  
Principal Investigator, with co-PI Dr. Lori L. Holt

## UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

General Auditory Effects (with Dr. Andrew Lotto)

Spring 2007

- Investigated general auditory effects, received human subjects training, received basic training on Adobe Audition, helped with stimuli creation, attended regular lab meetings

Otoacoustic Emissions (with Dr. Ted Glatke)

Fall 2006

- Conducted literature review on OAEs, received basic training on performing OAE tests and interpreting the resultant emission reports

Fundamental Frequency (f0), Gender, & Vocal Tract (with Dr. Brad Story)

Spring 2005

- Recruited subjects, received basic training on how to record speech samples and use Praat, analyzed fundamental frequencies

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience Society  
Acoustical Society of America