

Kwanlada Srijomkwan

Troy, NY 12180 | 617-448-5387 | srijok@rpi.edu

ABOUT ME

I am a first year Cognitive Science PhD student at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, working on semantic agents. I have research experience in several fields of cognitive science and computer science, presenting in several conferences. My true passion lies in teaching—in bringing wonder, self-confidence, and opportunities to others. As a result, I have consistently sought to teach, tutor, and mentor others throughout my academic career.

Research Interests: computational neurolinguistics, speech comprehension, Bayesian cognition, machine-brain resource rationality, fMRI, natural language processing, neural networks, cognitive neuropsychology of language.

EDUCATION

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Doctor of Philosophy, Cognitive Science

Troy, NY
Expected May 2030

Johns Hopkins University, Krieger School of Arts & Sciences
Bachelor of Arts, Cognitive Science honors, Phi Beta Kappa

Baltimore, MD
May 2025

- GPA: 3.99
- 2025 [Glushko Outstanding Undergraduate Cognitive Scientist Prize](#)
- Dean's List (Fall 2021-25)

PUBLICATIONS

McCloskey, M., Im, E., Wong, K., Luo E., Upadya, N. **Srijomkwan, K.**, Chen, C. (in press). Effector-independence in writing. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance*.

Srijomkwan, K., et al. The Cancellation of Human Sounds Using Synthesized Soundwaves. *Journal of Physics: Conference Series*, vol. 1380, no. 1, 2019, p. 012123., <https://doi.org/10.1088/1742-6596/1380/1/012123>.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Cognitive Neuroscience Lab

Jan 2023 – Present

Advisor: Michael McCloskey

- Investigate cognitive representations of motor plans in writing, focusing on effector (in)dependence.
- Design experiments to answer research questions, for example, does the transfer of writing motor plan between two effectors introduce additional latency?
- Recruit and collect data from 40-50 college student participants per semester through SONA Psychology Research Portal.
- Code and analyze writing stroke patterns and reaction time data.
- Observed patient data collection through Zoom using tools such as PsychToolBox for one semester.

Center for Speech and Language Processing

Sep 2023 – Dec 2023

Advisor: Kenton Murray

- Create a review of available Thai language datasets for NLP training, machine learning, and machine translation.

Research Assistant, Phonetics and Phonology Lab

Aug 2022 – May 2023

Advisor: Colin Wilson

- Investigate role of tone in Thai language automatic speech recognition.
- Conducted a study on tone assignment of English Loanwords in Thai.
- Participate in lab meetings.

Mentor: Jane Li, PhD Candidate**Jan 2022 – May 2022**

- Assisted in researching morphological representation of English plural morphemes.
- Annotated speech data using Praat software.
- Piloting experiments and providing feedback on experimental design.
- Running participants of speech research in sound booth.

PRESENTATIONS

“Effector Independence in Writing,” Omega Psi Annual Cognitive Science Conference 2024, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, 2024.

“Tone assignment of English Loanwords in Thai,” DREAMS: Day of Undergraduate Research in Engineering, Arts, Medicine, and the Sciences Showcase 2022, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, poster presenter, 2022.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- G Suite Tools (Google docs, sheets, slides, etc.)
- Communication tools (Discord, Slack, Teams)
- Learning Management Systems (Canvas, Blackboard)
- Python (including Pytorch for deep learning)
- Java, C, C++
- R (especially for Bayesian modeling with Stan)
- SPM12 for fMRI preprocessing and analysis
- git version control
- MATLAB (PsychToolBox)
- Praat Software (linguistic audio analysis)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Introduction to Cognitive Science Teaching Assistant**Aug 2025 – Present*****Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute*****Troy, NY**

- Assist in teaching Introduction to Cognitive Science (COGS2120), a course dedicated to exploring the various aspects of studying the mind.
- Develop and Teach 5 guest lectures on Neuroscience, Linguistics, and Cognitive Development.
- Improve upon existing course schedule and assignments to better serve the need of 52 students per semester.

Cognitive Development Teaching Assistant**Jan 2024 – May 2025*****Johns Hopkins University*****Baltimore, MD**

- Assist in teaching Cognitive Development (AS.050.239/639), a cognitive neuroscience and psychology course, covering theoretical frameworks of early development, biology of development, sexual differentiation, perception and action, imitation, and the development of object permanence, numerical cognition, theory of mind, intelligence, and language acquisition.
- Manage up to 20 undergraduate and graduate students per semester as the only teaching assistant in the course, collaborating directly with teaching faculty.
- Design exam questions, grade coursework, and host exam review and weekly office hours.

Data Structure Course Assistant**Jan 2023 – May 2025*****Johns Hopkins University*****Baltimore, MD**

- Assist students in Data Structures course, using technical communications skills to help students understand content covering lists, stacks, queues, trees, heaps, priority queues, graphs, hash tables, and searching and sorting algorithms.
- Conduct over 150 hours of office hour guiding students in debugging complex object-oriented programming projects and providing engaging learning experiences through practical hands-on assistance.
- Graded over 200 coding assignments and examinations, collaborating with 10-CAs team to ensure fair grading.

Language and Mind Teaching Assistant**Aug 2024 – Dec 2024*****Johns Hopkins University*****Baltimore, MD**

- Assist in teaching Language and Mind (AS.050.102), the introductory Linguistics course at Johns Hopkins University, covering basic phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, and sociolinguistics, with optional material in computational linguistics.
- Collaborate with graduate teaching assistants to design assignments and examinations.
- Hold weekly recitation to guide students through linguistic problem sets, encouraging development of practical linguistics skills.

First Language Acquisition Teaching Assistant

Aug 2023 – Dec 2024

Johns Hopkins University

Baltimore, MD

- Assist in teaching First Language Acquisition (AS.050.348/648), an upper-level linguistics and cognitive-psychology course, consisting of undergraduate and graduate students, covering the empiricist/rationalist theoretical frameworks, monolingual and multilingual acquisition, and foundational studies in phonological, lexical, morphological, and syntactic development from prenatal up to 4 years of age.
- Assist students in understanding empirical research literature on infant monolingual and bilingual acquisition of language, including phonological, lexical, and morphosyntax development.
- Design exam questions, graded coursework, and hosted exam review and weekly office hours.

Teaching Assistant (English Writing Class)

Jun 2023 – July 2023

Brewster Academy

Wolfeboro, NH

- Assisted Thai international students with academic writing skills necessary for high school and college, including position papers, literary analysis, scientific writing, and essential knowledge about plagiarism and academic integrity.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Practicum in Language Disorders

Dec 2023 – August 2024

The League for People with Disabilities Inc.

Baltimore, MD

- Facilitated 5 discussion groups for aphasia patients per weeks, focusing on communication skills, communication accessibility, and independent living through assistive technology.
- Advocated for aphasia-friendly assistive technology with the Maryland Department of Disabilities Assistive Technology program.
- Create aphasia-friendly materials for case management and group activities.

Office Assistant

Jan 2022 – Dec 2022

Johns Hopkins University, Engineering Innovation Office

Baltimore, MD

- Assist in organizing engineering summer courses for high school students.
- Compile contacts list for marketing and learning materials for engineering course, focusing on accessibility.
- Analyze and report course quality assessment evaluations.
- Inventory and manage laboratory supplies for course activities.

LEADERSHIP AND INVOLVEMENT

Senior Advisory Member

June 2024 – Present

Johns Hopkins University, Omega Psi Cognitive Science Society

Baltimore, MD

- Mentor current co-presidents in organization skills and administrative tasks.
- Collaborate with the National Omega Psi Cognitive Science Society.
- Provide guidance and advice to members.

Co-President

May 2023 – May 2024

Johns Hopkins University, Omega Psi Cognitive Science Society

Baltimore, MD

- Manage a team of executive board members to organize 5-6 academic events per semester.
- Increased event participation by 40% in the first semester as co-president.
- Mentor first-year cognitive science students in course selection and research.

Event Coordinator

Johns Hopkins University, Omega Psi Cognitive Science Society

Aug 2022 – May 2023

- Wrote and distributed weekly newsletter to over 300 subscribers.
- Managed speaker and faculty outreach for Omega Psi Annual Conference, inviting two plenary speakers to present at the conference and collaborating with faculty to provide extra credit for conference attendance.
- Organized an alumni panel discussion on career paths in Cognitive Science.

Co-President

May 2023 – May 2024

Johns Hopkins University, Thai Student Association

Baltimore, MD

- Encourage community engagement of Thai International students and Thai-American students.
- Raise awareness of Thai and Southeast Asian culture through inclusive campus events.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Royal Thai Scholarship

Apr 2020 - Present

Thailand, Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research, and Innovation

Thailand

- National scholarship awarded to one Cognitive Science scholar for undergraduate up to doctorate degree abroad.