



Language Science Colloquium 2018-19

Monday, January 14th

Time: 11:00-12:30 pm

Location: Social Sciences Plaza, Building-B, Room 2214

Lunch provided.

Brandy Gatlin-Nash, School of Education, UC Irvine

“Why They Be Talkin’ Like That?” A Look at Language Variation and Literacy

How do we promote academic achievement among children from disadvantaged backgrounds? In an increasingly competitive society, the need to address this question has, perhaps, never been more apparent. For this research presentation, I will discuss my work, which prioritizes understanding the needs of children from racially, ethnically, economically, and linguistically diverse backgrounds. Specifically, I will discuss my research that has examined relations among language variation, namely nonmainstream American English or dialect, and literacy achievement among students in early developmental stages of reading. I will discuss recently published work and work in progress examining relations among both spoken and written dialect use and language and literacy measures among elementary-age students. I will also include a discussion of my ongoing research, which will explore similarities and differences among bilingual and bidialectal learners in order to determine potential implications for improvement in assessment and instruction among linguistically diverse students.

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