

**Perception and Production of Phonetic Segments:
A Comparison of Simultaneous Bilinguals, L2 Learners and Heritage Language Learners**
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There is ample evidence to indicate that perception and production of phonetic segments—consonants and vowels—in a second language (L2) is affected by the age of acquisition of L2. Research indicates that early L2 learners produce and perceive phonetic segments in an L2 differently from monolingual native speakers of that L2. In other words, L1 affects L2. What is less well-known is that, at least for early L2 learners, the influence of L1 and L2 is bidirectional. Specifically, early L2 learners' production and perception of L1 sounds is also unlike that of monolingual native speakers of their L1. That is, L2 affects L1. Similar results have been reported for simultaneous bilinguals. Thus, it appears that regardless of age of acquisition, the development of phonetic perception and production in the two languages of bilinguals is not independent. In this talk, the similarities and differences in phonetic perception and production by bilinguals and heritage language learners will be discussed.