

Nichole Houle, PhD, CCC-SLP

Pronouns: she/her/hers

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2024- Assistant Professor, Division of Speech and Language Pathology, *Binghamton University State University of New York, Decker College of Nursing*

EDUCATION

2021-24 Postdoctoral Fellow, Stepp Lab for Sensorimotor Rehabilitation Engineering, *Boston University*
Advisor: Cara E. Stepp

2016-21 PhD Communicative Sciences and Disorders, Acoustic Phonetics and Perception Lab, *New York University*
Advisor: Susannah V. Levi

2009-14 Dual Degree BS/MS Communication Sciences and Disorders, *College of Saint Rose*

GRANTS

Submitted ASH Foundation, New Investigators Research Grant, “Identifying the relationship between vocal gender congruence and vocal effort in transfeminine people,” Submitted.

2022-24 NIH F32, Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Individual Postdoctoral Fellowship, “Effect of producing a desired fundamental frequency on measures of vocal hyperfunction in transgender speakers,” Impact Score: 18, Awarded.

2021-22 T32 Fellow, Ruth L. Kirschstein Institutional National Research Service Award for Postdoctoral Research Training in Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences at Boston University

HONORS, AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS

2022 F32 Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Individual Postdoctoral Fellowship

2022 American Speech, Language, and Hearing Association Pathways Program Awardee

2022 NYU 2022 Outstanding Dissertation Award Nominee for Public Health and Allied Health

2021 T32 Ruth L. Kirschstein Institutional National Research Service Award for Postdoctoral Research Training in Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences at Boston University

2021 Acoustical Society of America Technical Area Pick for Speech Communication for “Acoustic differences between voiced and whispered speech in gender diverse speakers”

2021 NYU Steinhardt 2021 Outstanding Dissertation Award Nominee

2019 Doctoral Research and Travel Grant from New York University

2019 NYU Student Government Assembly Conference Fund Award

2018 Tureen Fellowship from Department of CSD at New York University

2012 PROgeny Award from ASHA

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

- Houle, N.,** Feaster, T., Mira, A., Meeks, K., Stepp, C. E. (2024). Sex differences in the speech of persons with and without Parkinson's disease. *American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology*, 33(1), 96-116. https://doi.org/10.1044/2023_AJSLP-22-00350
- Houle, N.,** Lerario, M. P., Levi, S.V. (2023). Spectral analysis of strident fricatives in cisgender and transfeminine speakers. *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 154(5), 3089-3100. <https://doi.org/10.1121/10.0022387>
- Houle, N.,** Goudelias, D., Lerario, M. P., Levi, S. V. (2022). Effect of anchor term on auditory-perceptual ratings of feminine and masculine speakers. *Journal of Speech, Language, Hearing Research*, 65(6), 2064-2080. https://doi.org/10.1044/2022_JSLHR-21-00476
- Houle, N.,** Johnson, A. M. (2021). Relationships across clinical measures of vocal quality and functioning and their relationship with patient perception. *American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology*, 30(6), 2668-2680. https://doi.org/10.1044/2021_ajslp-21-00128
- Houle, N.,** Levi, S. V. (2021). Effect of phonation on perception of femininity/masculinity in transgender and cisgender speakers. *Journal of Voice*, 35(3), 497.e23-497.e37. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jvoice.2019.10.011>
- Houle, N.,** Levi, S. V. (2020). Acoustic differences between voiced and whispered speech in gender diverse speakers. *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 148(6), 4002-4013. <https://doi.org/10.1121/10.0002952>

Published Abstracts

- Houle, N.,** Levi, S. V. (2023). Gender expression in productions of /s/ and /ʃ/. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 153(3_supplement), A367.
- Houle, N.,** Levi, S. V. (2019). Acoustic differences between normally phonated and whispered speech. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 145(3), 1934-1934.
- Houle, N.,** Levi, S. V. (2018). Perception of femininity in normally phonated and whispered speech. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 143(3), 1923-1924.

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks

- Houle, N.** (2024, February). The effects of altering fundamental frequency on measures associated with vocal hyperfunction. Invited colloquium presenter for the Department of Biomedical and Clinical Sciences at Linköping University on February 19, 2024. Virtual Presentation.
- Houle, N.,** Battipaglia, J. (2023, September). Find your voice: The science of trans-affirming voice therapy. Invited co-presenter for the American Academy of Neurology LGBTQIA+ Section Spotlight on September 13, 2023. Virtual Presentation.
- Houle, N.,** Bunta, F., Holt, Y., (2022, November). Defining diversity through research, education, and practice: Developing professionals. Invited master class at the American Speech-Language Hearing Association Convention. November 17 – 19, 2022. New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Houle, N.,** Abu el Adas, S., Kabakoff, H. (2022, September). Sharing session: Experiences as a postdoctoral trainee. Invited panelist for New York University's Doctoral Seminar Fall 2022.

- Houle, N., Holt, Y., Byers, E.** (2021, September). Speech science instrumentation in diverse populations: Perception and production of gender. Invited panelist for ASHA SIG 19 Speech Science Live Virtual Discussion.
- Houle, N.** (2018, October). Voice lab: Acoustic analysis in evaluation of voice disorders. Invited talk for Communicative Sciences and Disorders Online Immersion session, New York University, New York, NY.
- Houle, N.** (2018, June). Perception of femininity in voiced and whispered speech. Invited presentation for Voice and Articulation Workshop, Kingsborough Community College, Brooklyn, NY.

Conference Presentations

- Benson Meyer, E., **Houle, N.**, Levi, S. V. (Accepted). The influence of listener gender on sibilant perception. Abstract submitted to the American Speech-Language Hearing Association Convention. December 5-7, 2024. Seattle, WA.
- Houle, N., Stepp, C. E.** (2023). Examining the relationship between fundamental frequency and measures of vocal hyperfunction in cisgender speakers. Poster presented at the American Speech-Language Hearing Association Convention. November 16-18, 2023. Boston, MA.
- Houle, N., Levi, S. V.** (2023). Gender expression in productions of /s/ and /ʃ/. Poster presented at the 184th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America. May 8-12, 2023. Chicago, IL.
- Houle, N., Feaster, T., Mira, A., Meeks, K., Stepp, C. E.** (Withdrawn). Sex differences in the speech of persons with and without Parkinson's disease. Poster accepted for presentation at the 15th International Conference on Advances in Quantitative Laryngology, Voice, and Speech Research 2023. March 30 – April 1, 2023. Phoenix, AZ.
- Houle, N., Goudelias, D., Levi, S. V.** (2021). Differences across auditory-perceptual ratings of gender, femininity/masculinity on three scales. Technical talk presented to the American Speech-Language Hearing Association Convention. November 18-20, 2021. Washington, D.C.
- Goudelias, D., **Houle, N.**, Levi, S. V. (2021). Differences in the descriptions of stereotypical female, male, feminine, and masculine vocal qualities. Poster presented to the American Speech-Language Hearing Association Convention. November 18-20, 2021. Washington, D.C.
- Houle, N., Johnson, A. M.** (2020). Relationships across measures of vocal quality and functioning and their relationship with patient-reported severity. Technical talk presented to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention. San Diego, CA. (Convention canceled).
- Houle, N., Levi, Aama, Y., Leveille, C., Rist, J., Levi, S. V.** (2020). Normally phonated versus whispered speech: Differences in vowel-space area and duration. Poster presented at the 179th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America. Chicago, IL. (Convention canceled).

- Houle, N., Johnson, A. M. (2020).** Relationships among objective and subjective assessment measures and their relationship with patient-perceived severity of voice disorder. Oral Presentation at NYU Steinhardt's 8th Annual Research and Scholarship Showcase. April 22, 2020. New York, NY.
- Houle, N., Levi, S. V. (2019).** Qualitative descriptions of stereotypes of vocal gender, femininity, and masculinity. Poster presented at the American Speech-Language Hearing Association Convention. November 21-23, 2019. Orlando, FL.
- Houle, N., Levi, S. V. (2019).** Acoustic differences between voiced and whispered speech across transwomen, ciswomen, and cismen. Poster presented at the American Speech-Language Hearing Association Convention. November 21-23, 2019. Orlando, FL.
- Houle, N., Levi, S. V. (2019).** Acoustic differences between normally phonated and whispered speech. Poster presented at the 177th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America. May 13-17, 2019. Louisville, KY.
- Houle, N., Levi, S. V. (2018).** Effect of phonation on perception of femininity. Poster presented at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention. November 15-17, 2018. Boston, MA.
- Houle, N., Levi, S. V. (2018).** Perception of femininity in normally phonated and whispered speech. Poster presented at the 175th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America. May 7-11, 2018. Minneapolis, MN.
- Houle, N., Pickering, J., & Kisenwether, J. (2015).** Effects of experience and reasons for judgment when perceiving gender based on isolated vowels. Poster presented at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention. November 12-14, 2015. Denver, CO.
- Houle, N., Paine, S., Pickering, J. (2012).** Enhancing cultural competence: A classroom project with transgender clients. Poster presented at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention. November 15-17, 2012. Atlanta, GA.

TEACHING

Boston University, Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

Guest Lecturer:

SAR SH523 Introduction to Speech Science: Fall 2021 (Residential)

New York University, Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders

CSCD-GE 2125 Speech Science Instrumentation

Online Course Lead: Fall 2021

Online Instructor: Spring 2020, Summer 2020, Spring 2021

Residential Instructor: Fall 2020

Residential Lab Instructor: Fall 2019

CSCD-GE 2037 Voice Disorders

Online Instructor: Spring 2019, Summer 2019, Fall 2019

CSCD-GE 2002 Anatomy and Physiology of Speech and Swallowing

Online Instructor: Fall 2018

Guest Lecturer:

CSCD-GE 2037 Voice Disorders: Spring 2020 (Residential)

SERVICE

- 2025-27 Member, Speech Communications Committee, Acoustical Society of America
- 2023 Ad hoc Grant Reviewer for ESF-Flanders Research Foundation (FWO)
- 2021-25 Member, Professional Development Committee for ASHA SIG 19
- 2021 Resident Editor Journal of Voice Editorial Board
- 2020 Student Resident Editor for Journal of Voice Editorial Board
- 2019 Student Judge at NYU Steinhardt Research and Scholarship Symposium

Ad hoc Reviewer for:

Journal of Voice, Journal of Phonetics, Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research, Journal of Communication Disorders, Journal of the Acoustical Society of America

RESEARCH AND MENTEE EXPERIENCE

- 2022-23 Pathways Program, American Speech-Language Hearing Association
Mentee of Dr. Sona Patel

- 2021-22 Mentoring Academic-Research Careers (MARC) Program, American Speech-Language Hearing Association
Mentee of Dr. Ryan Branski

- 2021-24 STEPP Lab, Sensorimotor Rehabilitation Engineering
Boston University, Boston, MA
Postdoctoral Fellow – laboratory of Dr. Cara E. Stepp

- 2019- The New School for Social Science Research,
New York, NY
Speech Scientist – consultant for Dr. Elisa Monti

- 2018-19 NYU Langone, Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery
New York, New York
Doctoral Student Researcher- laboratory of Dr. Aaron M. Johnson

- 2016-21 Acoustic Phonetics and Perception Laboratory
New York University, New York, NY
Doctoral Student Researcher – laboratory of Dr. Susannah V. Levi

- 2011-14 College of Saint Rose, Albany, NY
Undergraduate Student Researcher & Graduate Student Researcher – supervised by Dr. John Pickering and Dr. Jessica Kisenwether

CERTIFICATION, LICENSURE, AND AFFILIATIONS

- 2021- Member, Acoustical Society of America
- 2021- Speech and Language Pathology License in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- 2021- Member, ASHA Special Interest Group 19: Speech Science
- 2019- Member, World Professional Association for Transgender Health
- 2017- Member, ASHA Special Interest Group 3: Voice and Upper Airway Disorders
- 2017-21 Speech and Language Pathology License in the State of New York

- 2016- Certificate of Clinical Competency from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
- 2015-18 Speech and Language Pathology License in the State of Connecticut

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Jul 2017- Jun 2019	ExecuSearch, Per diem SLP	New York, NY
Mar - Aug 2016	Wolcottview Manor, Full-time SLP	Wolcott, CT
May - Jun 2016	Alliance Rehab, Per diem SLP	Bristol, CT
Oct 2014 -Mar 2016	Paradigm Healthcare, CF/Full-time SLP	Waterbury, CT
Jan 2013 - Aug 2014	College of Saint Rose, Graduate Clinician	Albany, NY