

# Dr. Anna Samara

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## EDUCATION/QUALIFICATIONS

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July 2020	Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (HEA) <i>FHEA: PR189238</i>
2009 - 2013	PhD in Psychology, Bangor University, UK  Thesis title: “ <i>Statistical Learning of Orthographic Patterns in Typically Developing and Dyslexic Populations</i> ”
2007 - 2008	MSc in Cognitive Neuropsychology (Distinction), UCL, UK
2002 - 2006	BSc in Psychology (8.44/10, equivalent to First Class Honors) Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AuTh), Greece

## EMPLOYMENT

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From 08/2019	Lecturer in Psychology, Human Sciences, Greenwich U.
2016 - 2019	ERC funded Postdoctoral Research Associate, Liverpool U. <i>PI: B. Ambridge. Cross-linguistic acquisition of sentence structure.</i> Honorary Research Associate, UCL PALS (with E. Wonnacott)
2014 - 2016	ESRC funded Postdoctoral Research Associate, UCL PALS. <i>PI: E. Wonnacott. The cognitive causes of regularity in language.</i>
3 - 6/2009	Research Assistant, AuTh (PI: E. Masoura)
1 - 9/2005	Research Assistant, AuTh (PI: K. Tsapkini)

## AWARDS AND OTHER HONOURS

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2020	Nominated for outstanding personal support, Student Led Teaching Awards, Greenwich University
2017	Nominated for outstanding teaching supervision and personal support, UCLU Student choice Teaching Awards

## RESEARCH FUNDING

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under review	BA/Leverhulme Small Research Grants SRG 2020-21 ( <b>PI; £10,000</b> ) <i>An Experimental Investigation of Language Variation by Context Using Artificial Language Learning</i>
in preparation	ESRC New Investigator Grant ( <b>PI; £180,000 over three years</b> ) <i>Spelling as Statistical Learning</i>

10/2020	Experimental Psychology Society Small Research Grant ( <b>PI; £3,500</b> ) <i>Disentangling spellers' sensitivity to morphology-based rules and patterns of letter co- occurrence. A semi-artificial orthography approach</i>
03/2020	Competitive Research Travel Bid, Institute of Lifecourse Development, Greenwich U. ( <b>£1,082</b> )
12/2019	Competitive Early Career Researcher Travel Bursary, Greenwich U. ( <b>£750</b> )
2009 - 2013	Marie-Curie Early Stage Researcher (ESR) Fellowship ( <b>£108,450</b> ) <i>FP7-PEOPLE-2007-1-1-Initial Training Network ELDEL</i>

## PUBLICATIONS

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- **Samara, A.**, Singh, D., & Wonnacott, E. (2019). Statistical learning and spelling: Evidence from an incidental learning experiment with children. *Cognition*, 182, 25-30. (**5-year IF: 3.843**)
- **Samara, A.**, Smith, K., Brown, H., & Wonnacott, E. (2017). Acquiring variation in an artificial language: Children and adults are sensitive to socially conditioned linguistic variation. *Cognitive Psychology*, 94, 85-114. (**5-year IF: 4.269**)
- Smith, K., Perfors, A., Feher, O., **Samara, A.**, & Wonnacott, E. (2017). Language learning, language use, and the evolution of linguistic variation. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society* 372: 20160051. (**5-year IF: 6.736**)
- **Samara, A.**, & Caravolas, M. (2016). Artificial grammar learning in dyslexic and nondyslexic adults: Implications for orthographic learning. *Scientific Studies of Reading*, 21, 76-97. (**2019 IF: 2.910**)
- Caravolas, M., & **Samara, A.** (2015). Learning to read and spell words in different writing systems. In A. Pollatsek & R. Treiman (Eds.) *Handbook of Reading*. Oxford University Press.
- **Samara, A.**, & Caravolas, M. (2014). Statistical learning of novel graphotactic constraints in children and adults. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, 121, 137-155. (**5-year IF: 2.867**)

### *Under review (with preprints)*

- Singh, D., **Samara, A.**, & Wonnacott, D. Statistical and explicit learning of graphotactic patterns with no phonological counterpart: Evidence from an artificial lexicon study with 7- 8-year-olds and adults. Under revision, submitted to *Journal of Memory and Language*. doi: 10.31234/osf.io/8px7n (**5-year IF: 3.924**)
- Brown, H., Smith, K., **Samara, A.** & Wonnacott, E. Semantic cues in language learning: An artificial language study with adult and child learners. Under review. *Language, Cognition, & Neuroscience*. doi: 10.31234/osf.io/7hq2c (**2019 IF: 1.925**)

### *In preparation*

- **Samara, A.**, Saul, J., & Wonnacott, E. (in preparation). Regularization of unpredictable variation in child language learning: The influence of working memory. *To be submitted on COGSCI 2021*.

- **Samara, A.**, Wonnacott, E., & Ambridge, B. (in preparation). Learners constrain their linguistic generalizations using preemption but not entrenchment: Evidence from artificial language learning and computational modelling with adults.

## CONFERENCE ORAL PAPERS AND POSTERS

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- **2020.** 1 paper at SSSR Conference, California, US [cancelled due to Covid-19]
- **2019.** Interdisciplinary Advances in Statistical Learning, San Sebastian, Spain: 2 posters with Ambridge, B. & Wonnacott E. and Singh, D. & Wonnacott, E.
- **2018.** CLS meeting, Reading, UK: 1 poster, with Singh, D. & Wonnacott, E.
- **2017.** (1) AMLaP, Lancaster, UK: 2 posters with Singh, D. & Wonnacott, E. and Smith, K., Brown, H., Miller, C., & Wonnacott, E.; (2) Interdisciplinary Advances in Statistical Learning. Bilbao, Spain: 2 posters with Singh, D. & Wonnacott, E. and Saul, J. & Wonnacott, E.
- **2015.** (1) BUCL, Boston, US: 1 poster with Smith, K., Brown, H., Fehér, O., & Wonnacott, E.; (2) SRCD Biennial Meeting, Philadelphia, US: 1 poster with Smith, K., Brown, H., & Wonnacott, E.; (3) New Directions in Implicit and Explicit Language Learning Symposium, Lancaster, UK: 1 poster with Wonnacott, E.
- **2013.** EPS Meeting, Bangor, UK: 1 paper with Caravolas, M.
- **2012.** (1) SSSR Conference, Montreal, Canada: 1 paper with Caravolas M.  
(2) CRL Summer Workshop, York, UK: 1 paper with Caravolas M.
- **2011.** International Conference on Reading, Spelling, and Writing Development, Prague, Czech Republic: 1 paper with Caravolas M.
- **2009.** 27<sup>th</sup> European Workshop on Cognitive Neuropsychology, Bressanone, Italy: 1 paper with Butterworth, B.

## INVITED TALKS

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11/2020	Typical & atypical language acquisition seminar series, Potsdam U.
06/2020	Webinar on Psycholinguistics & Research Methods, Munich U.
11/2019	CREL seminar series, Greenwich U.
02/2018	Language & Cognition seminar series, UCL
11/2017	Language & Cognitive Development seminar, Oxford U. School of Psychology seminar series, Bangor U.

## RESEARCH IMPACT ACTIVITIES

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2017-2018	<i>Studying children's spelling development in the lab: an artificial orthography approach.</i> Public engagement talk for staff in research participating primary schools.
06.2018	<i>Second language learning in the primary years.</i> Facilitator on teachers workshop organized by Dr. Wonnacott (UCL) and Dr. Brown (Nottingham Trent University).

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### **External Examiner**

2019-2024 External Examiner, Canterbury Christ Church University

### **Programme Leader**

From 07.2020 MSc Child & Adolescent Psychology, Greenwich U.

### **Module Leader**

From 09.2019 Child & Education Psychology (BSc Psychology, Greenwich U.)  
48 students; 4.3/5 satisfaction on 2020 EvaSys report (n=17)

### **Module Contributor (indicative)**

From 2020 Cognitive Psychology & Neuroscience, Cross-Cultural Psychology (BSc Psychology, Greenwich U.); Child & Adolescent Psychology (MSc Child & Adolescent Psychology, Greenwich U.)  
2016 - 2019 Development of Communication & Cognition (BSc PALS, UCL)  
2015 - 2018 Development of Speech Perception & Production (BSc PALS, UCL)  
2012 - 2014 Dyslexia & Effective Intervention (BSc Psychology, Bangor U.)  
2011 & 2013 Learning & Language (BSc Psychology, Bangor U.)  
2012 & 2013 Theoretical Background to Teaching of Dyslexic Learners (MSc Conversion, Bangor U.)

### **Other teaching experience**

From 01.2021 Casual Teaching Fellow (Techniques in Neuroscience. MSc Applied Neuroscience, King's College London)

### **Supervisor**

From 2016 I am a co-supervisor to 1 PhD student at UCL (ongoing)  
2020-2021 4 BSc Psychology and 4 MSc Child & Adolescent Psychology students, Greenwich U. (first supervisor)  
2019-2020 3 BSc Psychology and 1 MSc Child & Adolescent Psychology, Greenwich U. (first supervisor)  
2017-2019 3 BSc Psychology and Language Sciences, UCL (first supervisor)  
2016-2017 1 intercalated BSc (iBSc) student, UCL (co-supervisor)  
2014-2016 3 MSc Language Sciences, UCL (co-supervisor)

## ACADEMIC CITIZENSHIP & EXTERNAL RECOGNITION

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- Local Network Lead for the UK Reproducibility Network at Greenwich U.
- Member of the Experimental Psychology Society
- Reviewer for Cognition, Developmental Psychology; Dyslexia; Educational Psychology; First Language; Frontiers in Psychology; JEP: LMC; JECP; Language Learning, SSR; Cognitive Science, Quality & Quantity
- Reviewer for CogSci 2020 and the Child Language Symposium (CLS)
- Grant reviewer on the NSF's Linguistics programme

## REFERENCES

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Available upon request