

Dr. Anna Samara

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EDUCATION

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|-------------|--|
| 2009 – 2013 | PhD in Psychology
Bangor University, UK
Thesis title: "Statistical Learning of Orthographic Patterns in Typically Developing and Dyslexic Populations"
<i>Supervisor: Dr Markéta Caravolas</i> |
| 2007 – 2008 | MSc in Cognitive Neuropsychology (Distinction)
University College London, UK
Dissertation title: "Symbolic Distance Effects in a Stroop-like Counting Interference Task with Arabic Numerals"
<i>Supervisor: Professor Brian Butterworth</i> |
| 2002 – 2006 | BSc in Psychology
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece
Dissertation title: Numerical Abilities in a Pure Alexic Patient following a Right Hemisphere Lesion: A Case Study"
<i>Supervisor: Dr Kyrana Tsapkini</i> |

RESEARCH EMPLOYMENT

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|-------------------|---|
| 10/2016 - present | Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Liverpool & Honorary Research Associate, PALS, University College London
Cross-Linguistic Acquisition of Sentence Structure (PI: Dr Ben Ambridge) |
| 03/2014 – 09/2016 | Postdoctoral Research Associate, PALS, University College London
The cognitive and interactional causes of regularity in language (PI: Dr Elizabeth Wonnacott) |
| 08/2009 - 08/2012 | Marie Curie Early Stage Researcher, Bangor University
Implicit and explicit learning in spelling (PI: Dr Markéta Caravolas) |
| 3-6/2009 | Research Assistant, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
Contributions of IQ and working memory to reading accuracy and text comprehension in children (PI: Dr Elvira Masoura) |
| 1-9/2005 | Research Assistant, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
Inhibitory effects by inflected forms (PI: Dr Kyrana Tsapkini) |

PUBLICATIONS

- **Samara, A.**, Singh, D., & Wonnacott, E. (2019). Statistical learning and spelling: Evidence from an incidental learning experiment with children. *Cognition*, 182, 25-30

- **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.
- 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.
- **Samara, A.**, & Caravolas, M. (2016). Artificial grammar learning in dyslexic and nondyslexic adults: Implications for orthographic learning. *Scientific Studies of Reading*, 21, 76-97.
- 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.

Under review

- Brown, H., Smith, K., **Samara, A.** & Wonnacott, E. Semantic cues in language learning: An artificial language study with adult and child learners. Revised and resubmitted at *Journal of Memory and Language*

In preparation

- **Samara, A.**, Saul, J., & Wonnacott, E. (in preparation). Regularization of unpredictable variation in child language learning: The influence of working memory.
- **Samara, A.**, & Caravolas, M. (in preparation). Unimpaired learning of small/large fragments in adult developmental dyslexic readers: Evidence from an artificial grammar learning task.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- **Samara, A.**, & Caravolas, M. (2013). Intact implicit skill learning in dyslexic adults: Evidence from the artificial grammar learning task. Paper presented at the EPS Meeting, Bangor, UK.
- **Samara, A.**, & Caravolas, M. (2012). Learning novel graphotactics in children and adults. Paper presented at the SSSR Conference, Montreal, Canada.
- **Samara, A.**, & Caravolas, M. (2012). Artificial grammar learning in typical and dyslexic adult learners. Invited talk at the CRL Summer Workshop, York, UK.
- **Samara, A.**, & Caravolas, M. (2011). Statistical learning of novel graphotactic regularities in adults. Paper presented at the International Conference on Reading, Spelling, and Writing Development, Prague, Czech Republic.
- **Samara, A.**, & Butterworth, B. (2009). Symbolic distance effects in a Stroop-like counting interference task with Arabic numerals. Paper presented at the 27th European Workshop on Cognitive Neuropsychology, Bressanone, Italy.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS (RECENT)

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| 2018 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Language Symposium (CLS) meeting. Reading, UK [1 poster, with Singh, D. & Wonnacott, E.] |
| 2017 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP). Lancaster, UK [2 posters with Singh, D. & Wonnacott, E., and Smith, |

- K., Brown, H., Miller, C., & Wonnacott, E.]
- International Conference on Interdisciplinary Advances in Statistical Learning. Bilbao, Spain [2 posters with Singh, D. & Wonnacott, E., and Saul, J. & Wonnacott, E.]
- 2015 • Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD). Boston, US [1 poster with Smith, K., Brown, H., Fehér, O. & Wonnacott, E.]
- Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) Biennial Meeting. Philadelphia, USA [1 poster with Smith, K., Brown, H., & Wonnacott, E.]
- New Directions in Implicit and Explicit Language Learning Symposium. Lancaster, UK. [1 poster with Wonnacott, E.]

INVITED TALKS

- 2018 • University College London, Language & Cognition seminar series
- 2017 • Oxford University, Language & Cognitive Development seminar
- Bangor University, School of Psychology seminar series

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Bangor University

- 2011 & 2013 Learning and Language (Markéta Caravolas; Marie-Josephe Tainturier)
- 2012 & 2013 Theoretical Background to Teaching of Dyslexic Learners (Ann Cook)
- 2012 - 2014 Dyslexia and Effective Intervention (Markéta Caravolas)

Supervision

- 2011 Adrian Tan (BSc Psychology summer intern)
- Laura Haggett (MSc Psychological Research intern)
- 2012 Cameron Downing (BSc Psychology lab intern)
- Kathryn Francis (MSc Psychological Research intern)

UCL

- 2016 & 2017 Development of Communication and Cognition (Elizabeth Wonnacott)
- 2015 - 2018 Eye tracking demo for Development of Communication and Cognition (Valerie Hazan)

Supervision

- 2018 (ongoing) Tarisa Tan & Jungha Lee (BSc PALS students)
- 2017-2018 Cheryl Ann Chew (BSc PALS student)
- Luke Martin (Research assistant)
- 2016 (ongoing) Daniela Singh (PhD student co-supervised with Dr. Wonnacott)
- 2016-2017 Chantal Miller (intercalated BSc (iBSc) student)
- 2015-2016 Jo Saul (MSc Language Sciences student)
- 2014-2015 Daniela Singh & Ayse Aktas (MSc Language Sciences students)
- Julie Joubert & Gill Kinchen (volunteer lab interns)

EXTERNAL RECOGNITION

- Nominated for outstanding teaching supervision and personal support at the UCLU student choice teaching awards 2017

- Peer reviewing: I frequently review for peer-reviewed journals (Cognition, Developmental Psychology; Dyslexia; Educational Psychology; First Language; Frontiers in Psychology; JEP: LMC; JECP; Language Learning, SSR) and have acted as a grant reviewer on the National Science Foundation (NSF)'s Linguistics program.

RESEARCH SKILLS

- Computer programming (PsychoPy, R)
- Experience in the implementation of Bayesian hierarchical models and Bayes Factor analyses
- Extensive experience of designing, implementing, and analysing behavioural experiments, including experience with eye-tracking methods in language research.
- Extensive experience with experiment generation software (Eprime, Gorilla) and data analysis software (R, SPSS, Excel).