

Dr. Anna Samara

School of Human Sciences, University of Greenwich
Old Royal Naval College, Park Row, London, SE10 9LS

Email: a.samara@gre.ac.uk

Website: <https://anna-samara.netlify.app>

EDUCATION/QUALIFICATIONS

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

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

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

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

10/2020	Experimental Psychology Society Small Research Grant (PI; £3,500) <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. (£1,082)
12/2019	Competitive Early Career Researcher Travel Bursary, Greenwich U. (£750)
2009 - 2013	Marie-Curie Early Stage Researcher (ESR) Fellowship (£108,450) <i>FP7-PEOPLE-2007-1-1-Initial Training Network ELDEL</i>

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 (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
- 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

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

- **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.** 27th European Workshop on Cognitive Neuropsychology, Bressanone, Italy: 1 paper with Butterworth, B.

INVITED TALKS

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

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

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

External Examiner

2019-2024 External Examiner, Canterbury Christ Church University

Programme Leader

From 07.2020 MSc Child & Adolescent Psychology, Greenwich U.

Module Leader

From 09.2021 Child & Education Psychology (BSc Psychology, Greenwich U.)

Module Contributor

2020 Cognitive Psychology (BSc Psychology, Greenwich U.)
Current Issues in 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)
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

- 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 National Science Foundation (NSF)'s Linguistics programme

REFERENCES

Available upon request