

Dr. Christine Cuskley

School of English Language, Literature and Linguistics
Centre for Behaviour and Evolution
Newcastle University, Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK
EMAIL: ccuskley@gmail.com
WEB: ccuskley.github.io

EDUCATION

PhD (July 2013), School of Philosophy, Psychology and Language Sciences, University of Edinburgh. Dissertation: *Shared cross-modal associations and the emergence of the lexicon*.

MSc (December 2008), Evolution of Language and Cognition, University of Edinburgh. Dissertation: Cross-modality and the origins of language.

BA (May, 2005), Psychology, American University, Washington, D.C.

EMPLOYMENT

Lecturer in Language and Cognition (March 2019 – Present) School of English Language, Literature and Linguistics and Centre for Behaviour and Evolution, Newcastle University.

British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow (January 2016 – Present), University of Edinburgh, Centre for Language Evolution (2016–2019), University of Newcastle, Centre for Behaviour and Evolution (2019–present)

Teaching Fellow (September 2018 – March 2019), University of Edinburgh, Linguistics and English Language.

Postdoctoral Researcher (January 2015–December 2015), Institute for Scientific Interchange (Fondazione ISI), Turin, Italy: January 2015–December 2015

Postdoctoral Researcher (January 2013–December 2014), Institute for Complex Systems (ISC–CNR), Università La Sapienza, Rome, Italy.

Parental leave: January 2017 – August 2017; July 2011 – January 2012

RESEARCH OUTPUT

MANUSCRIPTS

Cuskley, C., Dingemanse, M., Kirby, S., van Leeuwen, T. (forthcoming). Cross-modal associations and synaesthesia: Categorical perception and structure in vowel-colour mappings in a large online sample. *Behavior Research Methods* (special issue on Big Data).

Cuskley, C., Kirby, S. & Loreto, V. (2018). A social approach to rule dynamics using an agent based model. *Topics in Cognitive Science*, doi: 10.1111/tops.12327

Cuskley, C., Castellano, C., Colaiori, F., Loreto, V., Pugliese, M., & Tria, F. (2017). The regularity game: Investigating linguistic rule dynamics in a population of interacting agents. *Cognition*, 159, 25–32.

Cuskley, C., Simner, J. and Kirby, S. (2015). Phonological and orthographic influences in the bouba-kiki effect. *Psychological Research*, 81(1), 119–130.

Cuskley, C., Colaiori, F., Castellano, C., Loreto, V., Pugliese, M., and Tria, F. (2015). The adoption of linguistic rules in native and non-native speakers: Evidence from a Wug task. *Journal of Memory and Language*, 84, 205–223.

Colaiori, F., Castellano, C., Cuskley, C., Loreto, V., Pugliese, M. and Tria, F. (2015). General three-state model with biased population replacement: Analytical solution and application to language dynamics. *Physical Review E*, 91, 012808

Cuskley, C., Pugliese, M., Loreto, V., Colaiori, F., Castellano, C. & Tria, F. (2014). Internal and external dynamics in language: Evidence from verb regularity in a historical corpus of English. *PLoS One*, 9(8): e102882.

- Cuskley, C. (2013b). Mappings between linguistic sound and motion. *Public Journal of Semiotics*, 5(1), 39–62.
- Cuskley, C. and Kirby, S. (2013). Synaesthesia, cross-modality and language evolution. In: Simner, J. and Hubbard E.M. (Eds) *Oxford Handbook of Synaesthesia*, pp. 869–907.
- Simner, J., Cuskley, C. and Kirby, S. (2010). What sound does that taste? Cross-modal mappings across gustation and audition. *Perception*, 39(4), 553–569.

OTHER

- Cuskley, C. (2017). The Field of Linguistics. In Shackelford, T.K. and Weekes–Shackelford, V.A. (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Evolutionary Psychological Science*. Springer.
- Cuskley, C. (2016). Evolution of Language. In: Miller, H.L. (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Theory in Psychology*. SAGE: CA.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Chimento, M., Cuskley, C. & Kirby, S. (2018). Modelling strangers: Population size, fluidity, and complexity in shared cultural systems. Cultural Evolution Society Conference, Tempe, AZ, Oct 22–24, 2018 (to be presented by M. Chimento)
- Cuskley, C. (2017). The Sensory Theory of Protolanguage Emergence. Protolang 5, Barcelona, Spain. 26 September – 28 September, 2017.
- Cuskley C., Monechi B., Gravino P. and Loreto V. (2016). The Evolution Of Collaborative Stories. In S.G. Roberts, C. Cuskley, L. McCrohon, L. Barceló–Coblijn, O. Fehér & T. Verhoef (eds.) *The Evolution of Language: Proceedings of the 11th International Conference (EVOLANG11)*.
- Cuskley, C., Castellano, C., Colaiori, F., Loreto, V., Pugliese, M. & Tria, F. (2014). Frequency and stability of linguistic variants. In: Cartmill, E., Roberts, S., Lyn, H. & Cornish, H. (Eds.), *The Evolution of Language: Proceedings of the 10th International Conference*, p. 417–418. London: World Scientific. London: World Scientific.
- Pugliese, M., Loreto, V., Cuskley, C., Castellano, C., Colaiori, F., & Tria, F. (2014). The role of coordination in regularization. In: Cartmill, E., Roberts, S., Lyn, H. & Cornish, H. (Eds.), *The Evolution of Language: Proceedings of the 10th International Conference*, p. 260–261. London: World Scientific. (Presented by M. Pugliese)
- Pugliese, M., Cuskley, C., Loreto, V., Castellano, C., Colaiori, F., & Tria, F. (2014) Agent-based models of consensus in language dynamics. Meeting of the German Physical Society, focus session on Complex Systems Approaches to Language and Communication. Dresden, March 30–April 4, 2014. (Presented by M. Pugliese)
- Cuskley, C., Kirby, S. & Simner, J. (2010). Cross-modality: reviving iconicity in the evolution of language. In: A.D.M. Smith, M. Schouwstra, B. de Boer and K.Smith (Eds.) *The Evolution of Language: Proceedings of the 8th International Conference*, p. 309–310. London: World Scientific. (Hurford Prize winner)

INVITED TALKS

- “Frequency and stability in social, cultural, and linguistic systems” at The making of opinions: A multidisciplinary point of view. (CNRS Lyon, France, 6 June 2018)
- “Linguistic frequency and regularity: Internal and external dynamics” at Understanding and Misunderstanding: Cognition, Communication and Culture. (Lisbon, Universidade de Lisboa, 6 May 2014)
- “Cross-modality and language”, Opening for University of Aarhus Cognition and Behaviour Lab (Denmark, August 23, 2013)
- “Linguistic and communicative cross-modality: Improving and expanding the methodology” Workshop on Cross-modal associations and language: Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics (Nijmegen, Netherlands, July 9, 2009)

GRANTS

British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship (£260,086), *Emergence and dynamics of linguistic rules across complex populations*

AWARDS

Edinburgh University Student Association (EUSA) Teaching Award nominee (2016, 2018)
Hurford Prize, Evolution of Language International Conference (2010)

TEACHING

Origins and Evolution of Language, Lead: lectures and assessment. University of Edinburgh, Linguistics and English Language, Autumn 2018. Joint honours (3–4th year undergraduate) and postgraduate course.

Foundations of Evolution, Lead: lectures, assessment, and tutorials. University of Edinburgh, Linguistics and English Language, Autumn 2016, 2018. Postgraduate course.

Language Evolution in the Lab, Co-lead: Practical research methods course. Lectures and assessment. University of Edinburgh, Linguistics and English Language, Spring 2018. Postgraduate course.

Psychology of Language, Lead: including course design, lectures, and assessment. University of Edinburgh, Open Studies; 2010–2012. Access course (SCQF level 7).

Evolution of Cognition, Lead: including course proposal, design, lectures, and assessment. University of Edinburgh, Open Studies, 2010–2012. Access course (SCQF level 7).

Linguistics: The Science of Language, Co-lead: including course proposal, design, and lectures. University of Edinburgh, Open Studies; 2012. Access course (not assessed).

Sensation and Perception, Lead: including course proposal, design, and lectures. University of Edinburgh, Open Studies, 2012. Access course. (not assessed)

Linguistics, Tutor: University of Edinburgh, Linguistics and English Language, 2008–2012. Undergraduate 1st and 2nd year, including introductory linguistics, acoustic phonetics, and empirical methods in sociolinguistics.

SUPERVISION

- Chimento, M. (2018). Modelling strangers: Social Factors, complexity, and memory in morphological systems. University of Edinburgh, MSc Evolution of Language and Cognition
- de Rooij, L. (2018). Cultural transmission in an iterated learning task: the effect of animated motion on language structure. University of Amsterdam, Masters in Brain and Cognitive Sciences.
- Voosloo, M. (2018). An investigation into the impact of segregation on creole genesis using agent-based modelling. University of Edinburgh, Linguistics and English Language Undergraduate Honours Dissertation
- Giannoulaki, I. (2016). Experimental evidence for the effect of group size and verbal teaching on cumulative cultural evolution. University of Edinburgh, MSc Evolution of Language and Cognition.
- Foster, E. (2013). Are Taste Terms Non-Arbitrary? Evidence from a large-scale cross-linguistic survey. University of Edinburgh, Linguistics and English Language Undergraduate Honours Dissertation
- Brand, J. (2012) The cultural emergence of structure and sound symbolism in an artificial sound-taste language. University of Edinburgh, MSc Evolution of Language and Cognition

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

EDITING

- Cuskley, C., Flaherty, M., Little, H. McCrohon, L., Ravignani, A., & Verhoef, T. (Eds.) (2016). The Evolution of Language: Proceedings of the 11th International Conference (EvoLang12). doi: 10.12775/3991, available online at <http://evolang.org/torun/proceedings/index.html>
- Roberts, S.G., Cuskley, C., McCrohon, L., Barceló-Coblijn, L., Fehér, O & Verhoef, T. (Eds.) (2016). *The Evolution of Language: Proceedings of the 11th International Conference* (EvoLang11). doi:10.17617/2.2248295, available at <http://evolang.org/neworleans/>

REVIEWING

Science, Language and Speech, Language and Cognition, British Journal of Psychology, Topics in Cognitive Science, Cognitive Science, Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory and Cognition, Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance, Advances in Complex Systems, Interaction Studies, PLoS One. See verified Publons profile for complete review information: <https://publons.com/author/1508161/christine-cuskley#profile>

WORKSHOPS

- **CreativEvolang: Creativity and Innovation in the Evolution of Language** (Lead Organiser), EvoLang 2016 Satellite Workshop. More info: <http://creativevolang.wordpress.com>
- **The Emergence of Consensus and Misunderstanding** (Lead Organiser). Workshop. Rome, Italy, February 24–25, 2013. More info: <http://emergcons.wordpress.com>

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- **Creating Communication**, an installation of interactive experimental games investigating language evolution, the Edinburgh International Science Festival Experimentarium, Summerhall, April 13–19, 2018.
- **Sing the Gloaming**, outdoor art installation of sung phonaesthemes and sculptures (Sanctuary Dark Skies Art Festival, Galloway, 23–24 September 2017). Inspired by Cuskley & Kirby (2013).
- **Learn Ferro**, a sequence learning game on display at the Language exhibit (Deutsches Hygiene-Museum, Dresden, Germany). 26 September 2016 – 20 August 2017. More info: bit.ly/ferrovid
- **CreaStoria**, a game of collaborative flash fiction. Debuted September 2015 at Kreyon Day: Sperimenta la tua Creatività, Palazzo Esposizioni, Rome. Finalist at iGamer4 competition in Paris, France, January 29–31, 2016.
- **Sensory Dining**, Edinburgh International Science Festival (expert panel member), The Jam House, Edinburgh: 10th April 2012.
- **Synaesthesia and Language**, Edinburgh International Science Festival (interactive experiment and informational poster), National Museum of Scotland, 8–14 April 2009.

SKILLS

Programming: Proficient: Python, R, Java/Processing, JavaScript; Intermediate: C++. **Web:** HTML/HTML5; CSS/SCSS; Bootstrap; JavaScript incl. p5js, d3js, jQuery; Flask (Python) web framework; Heroku; MongoDB. **Languages:** Fluent Italian.