

Greg Woodin

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ESRC-funded PhD student in English Language and Applied Linguistics at the University of Birmingham. Linguist and cognitive scientist researching metaphor, gesture, iconicity, and mental simulation.

Education

PhD (2019 – present) with Professor Jeannette Littlemore, Dr Bodo Winter, and Dr Marcus Perlman
English Language and Applied Linguistics, University of Birmingham

MA (2018-2019)
Distinction in Social Research, University of Birmingham

MA by Research (2017-2018) with Professor Jeannette Littlemore and Dr Bodo Winter
Passed with no corrections in English Language and Applied Linguistics, University of Birmingham

BA (hons.) (2014-2017)
First class degree (average 80%) in English Language, University of Birmingham

Publications

- Perlman, M. & **Woodin**, G. (accepted). A complete real-world theory of language should explain how iconicity remains a stable property of linguistic systems. *Cognition* [Commentary].
- **Woodin**, G., Winter, B., Perlman, M., Littlemore, J. & Matlock, T. (2020). 'Tiny numbers' are actually tiny: Evidence from gestures in the TV News Archive. *PLOS One*.
- **Woodin**, G. & Winter, B. (2018). Placing abstract concepts in space: quantity, time and emotional valence. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 9, 2169: 1-14.

Presentations

- **Protolang 7 2021 – Talk – University of Düsseldorf**. The iconic impetus of language: From sensorimotor simulation to the lexicon.
- **Birmingham English Language Postgraduate Conference 2021 – Talk – University of Birmingham**. The iconic impetus of language: From sensorimotor simulation to the lexicon.
- **Birmingham-Budapest Doctoral Seminar 2021 – Talk – University of Birmingham & Eötvös Loránd University**. Building a multimodal corpus with the TV News Archive.
- **Psycholinguistics Coffee 2021 – Talk – University of Edinburgh**. 'Tiny numbers' are actually tiny: Evidence from gestures in the TV News Archive.
- **5th International Conference on Figurative Thought and Language 2020 – Talk – Sofia University**. Tiny numbers are actually tiny: Gestural evidence from the TV News Archive. Funded by ESRC.
- **UK Cognitive Linguistics Conference 2020 – Poster – University of Birmingham**. The effect of conceptual metaphors on the interpretation of data visualisations.
- **English Language Research Seminar 2019 – Talk – University of Birmingham**. The spatial organisation of abstract thought.
- **PG Tips 2019 – Talk – University of Birmingham**. Using the TV News Archive for gesture research.
- **Language and Cognition at Birmingham 2019 – Poster – University of Birmingham**. More is mostly up: Vertical trumps horizontal in spatial metaphors for quantity.
- **12th International Symposium on Iconicity in Language and Literature 2019 – Talk – Lund University**. Degrees of metaphoricity: a large-scale, quantitative analysis of iconic gestures in the TV News Archive. Funded by ESRC.
- **Birmingham English Language Postgraduate Conference 2019 – Talk – University of Birmingham**. Degrees of metaphoricity: a large-scale, quantitative analysis of gestures in the TV News Archive.
- **The Creative Power of Metaphor 2019 – Poster – University of Oxford**. Degrees of metaphoricity: a quantitative gesture analysis. Funded by ESRC.
- **Spatial Cognition 2018 – Poster – University of Tübingen**. Placing abstract concepts in space: quantity, time and emotional valence.

- **Figurative Language: Experimental and Corpus-Based Studies 2018 – Poster – University of Nottingham.** Thinking metaphorically: what do figurative language and metaphoric gestures reveal about thought?
- **Researching and Applying Metaphor 2018 – Talk – Hong Kong Polytechnic University.** The continuity of metaphor? Horizontal and vertical metaphors in the spatialization of time, quantity and valence. Funded by School of EDACS and College of Arts & Law.
- **Research Poster Conference 2018 – Poster – University of Birmingham.** Thinking metaphorically: what do language and gesture reveal about thought?
- **Birmingham English Language Postgraduate Conference 2018 – Talk – University of Birmingham.** Metaphors of space: recent developments and new questions in Conceptual Metaphor Theory.

Teaching Experience

- **Realising Opportunities (RO) Academic Skills Module (ASM) Reflective Tutor.** Providing feedback on reflective pieces written by students enrolled on the ASM programme.
- **Teaching Assistant 2021 – UG Applied Linguistics Module – University of Birmingham.** Leading two seminars per week and marking assessments.
- **PG Tips 2021 – Workshop – University of Birmingham.** Linear and logistic regression in R.
- **PG Tips 2021 – Talk – University of Birmingham.** A crash course in statistical modelling.
- **PG Tips 2020 – Workshop – University of Birmingham.** Using R and RStudio for data wrangling and visualization.

Peer-Reviewing Experience

- Time heals all wounds: Analysis of changes in temporal focus and implicit space-time mappings among survivors of the 2018 China earthquake overtime. *Language and Cognition*.
- The influence of metaphor-congruent motor action on word learning of adults and children. *Journal of Cognitive Psychology*.
- An implicit task reveals space-time associations along vertical and diagonal axes. *Psychological Research*.
- Towards a corpus-based description of speech-gesture units of meaning: the case of the circular gesture. *International Journal of Corpus Linguistics*.
- Un-box LIS signs: conceptual metaphors comprehension through the eyes of hearing speakers. *Language and Cognition*.
- The vertical time-space association. *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*.
- Is there an iconic motivation for the morphophonological distinctions between noun-verb pairs in American Sign Language? *Language and Cognition*.
- Cultural evolution leads to vocal iconicity in an experimental iterated learning task. *Journal of Language Evolution*.
- Quantifying the speech-gesture relation with massive multimodal datasets: Informativity in time expressions. *PLOS One*.
- Figurative meaning in multimodal work by an autistic artist and vlogger: A cognitive semantic approach. *Language and Cognition*.
- 'Living things': Combative metaphors and urban youth culture in Abolore Akande Adigun's (9ice) hip hop music. *Metaphor and the Social World*.
- Low numbers from a low head? Effects of observed head orientation on numerical cognition. *Psychological Research*.
- The vertical and horizontal pair-order effect among Mandarin speakers: Number and time might not be associated through spatial mediation. *Acta Psychologica*.

Academic Experience

- **Committee Member for Birmingham English Language Postgraduate Conference 2021** (February 2021). Reviewing abstract submissions and chairing conference sessions.
- **Panel Chair for UK Cognitive Linguistics Conference 2020** (July 2020)
- **Research Assistant at University of Birmingham** (Jun 2018 – Jun 2020). Running reaction time tests and conducting statistical analyses for research placement with Professor Jeannette Littlemore, Professor John Barnden, and Dr Eirini Mavritsaki

- **Committee Member for UK Cognitive Linguistics Conference 2020** (Jan 2020 – Mar 2020) – Reviewing abstract submissions
- **Student Member of Quinquennial Vice-Chancellor's Integrated Review** (Nov 2019 – Mar 2020). Participating in review of School of History and Culture at University of Birmingham
- **Teaching Associate at University of Birmingham** (Oct 2017 – Mar 2020). Running eye-tracking experiments and data-cleaning with Dr Gareth Carroll
- **Transcript Checker at University of Birmingham** (Dec 2018). Anonymising transcripts for 'Death before birth' research project with Professor Jeannette Littlemore
- **Research Centre Assistant at University of Birmingham** (Oct 2017 – June 2018). Organising Corpus Linguistics Summer School 2018 with Dr Florent Perek, and social media and events promotion for Centre for Corpus Research with Professor Michaela Mahlberg
- **Research Assistant at University of Birmingham** (Jun 2017 – Oct 2017). Analysing gestures in the TV News Archive with Dr Bodo Winter and Dr Marcus Perlman
- **Research Assistant at University of Birmingham** (Jun 2017 – Oct 2017). Coding quantitative data and transcribing spoken data with Professor Jeannette Littlemore
- **Research Assistant (Scholarship) at University of Birmingham** (May 2016 - Aug 2016). Transcribing spoken data using ELAN for pilot study with Professor Jeannette Littlemore
- **Freelance Writer at University of Birmingham** (May 2016 - Aug 2016). Writing for Higher Education project with Professor Susan Hunston, and interviewing Professor Mark Ryan and writing short piece relaying his findings to general public
- **Research Assistant at University of Birmingham** (May 2016 - Jun 2016). Transcribing spoken data for Multimodal Metaphor in Advertising study with Dr Paula Pérez-Sobrino

Awards and Achievements

2021

- Awarded **HEFi Horizon Award** for completing five modules relating to higher education teaching.

2018

- Awarded **Constance Naden Medal** for submitting the highest quality thesis for the MPhil/MRes/MA by Research degree across the College of Arts and Law.
- Awarded **ESRC Midlands Graduate School DTP Studentship**. 1+3 programme. Annual payment consists of course fees (£4,260) and maintenance award (£14,777).
- Offered **AHRC Midlands3Cities DTP Studentship** (£14,777 course fees + £4,260 maintenance award).

2017

- Highly Commended in Language & Linguistics category of **The Undergraduate Awards Programme** 2017.
- Awarded **College of Arts & Law Masters Scholarship** to undertake MA by Research in English Language and Applied Linguistics at the University of Birmingham. Worth £4,195.
- Awarded **Gwyneth Fox Award** for having highest mark overall (80.291) enrolled on the English Language or the English Language and Linguistics single honours programmes. Worth £250.

2015

- Won **Vera Adamson Prize** for being the first-year undergraduate deemed to have produced "the most outstanding work in the field of Modern English Language". Worth £100.
- Won the **Sonnenschein Prize**, given to "first year students whose performance in their examinations is deemed to be of sufficient merit". Worth £75.
- Longlisted for the **Notting Hill Editions Essay Prize 2015** amongst names such as Hilary Mantel.

2014

- Awarded **Access to Birmingham (A2B) Scholarship** for undergraduate study. Worth £4,500.
- Received **unconditional offer** to undertake undergraduate degree at the University of Birmingham.

Editorial and Writing Experience

- **Editorial Assistant at Redbrick** (Oct 2017 – July 2018)
- **Freelance Journalist at Vice, tmrw, and Mantality** (July 2017 – July 2018)
- **Clubs Editor at Birmingham Wire** (Mar 2016 – June 2018)

- **Music Editor** at **Redbrick** (Aug 2016 - June 2017)
- **Careers Editor** at **Redbrick** (Jan 2016 - Aug 2016)

Miscellaneous

- Interviewed for Metaphor & Emotion video alongside **Zoltán Kövecses**, **Marianna Bolognesi**, **Jeannette Littlemore**, and **Francesca Citron** (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ttUEG6Lafz>)
- Interviewed for **Metaphor Column** and interviewed Jeannette Littlemore for RAAM Fall 2020 Newsletter
- Passed **British Sign Language exams** 101 and 103 (prior to postponement of exams due to COVID-19)