

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. *Journal of Cognition*, 3(1): X: 1–3.
- **Woodin**, G., Winter, B. & Padilla, L. (2021). Conceptual metaphor and graphical convention influence the interpretation of line graphs. *IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics*.
- **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

- **Embodied Situated Language Processing (ESLP) 2021 – Talk – Virtual**. Conceptual metaphor and graphical convention influence the interpretation of line graphs.
- **IEEE Visualization & Visual Analytics (VIS) 2021 – Talk – Virtual**. Conceptual metaphor and graphical convention influence the interpretation of line graphs.
- **Protolang 7 2021 – Talk – University of Düsseldorf**. The iconic impetus of language: From sensorimotor simulation to the lexicon.
- **Potsdam Embodied Cognition Group 2021 – Talk – University of Potsdam**. Conceptual metaphor and graphical convention influence the interpretation of line graphs.
- **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

- **Teaching Assistant 2021 – UG Fundamentals of Language: Sounds and Words.** Leading two seminars per week and marking assessments (10 weeks).
- **Realising Opportunities (RO) Academic Skills Module (ASM) Reflective Tutor 2021.** 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 (10 weeks).
- **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

- Implicit effect of abstract/concrete components in the categorization of Chinese words. **Journal of Cognitive Psychology.**
- 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.**

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.

Academic Experience

- **Research Assistant at University of Birmingham** (Jun 2021 – July 2021). Conducting literature review and scraping tweets for polarization study with Professor Jack Grieve and Dr Matteo Fuoli
- **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

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>)
- Passed **British Sign Language exams** 101 and 103 (prior to postponement of exams due to COVID-19)
- Interviewed for **Metaphor Column** and interviewed Jeannette Littlemore for RAAM Fall 2020 Newsletter