

## Personal Profile

ESRC-funded graduate and first-year 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, Dr Marcus Perlman  
English Language and Applied Linguistics, University of Birmingham  
Thesis title: The sensorimotor basis of multimodal communication

### **MA (2018-2019)**

Distinction in Social Research, University of Birmingham

Dissertation title: More is mostly up: Vertical trumps horizontal in spatial metaphors for quantity

### **MA by Research (2017-2018)** with Professor Jeannette Littlemore, Dr Bodo Winter

Passed with no corrections in English Language and Applied Linguistics – University of Birmingham

Thesis title: Degrees of metaphoricality: A quantitative gesture analysis

### **BA (hons.) (2014-2017)**

First class degree (average 80%) in English Language – University of Birmingham

Dissertation title: Horizontal and vertical metaphors in the spatialization of time, quantity, and valence

## Publications

- **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. & Padilla, L. (under review).** Conceptual metaphor and graphical convention influence the interpretation of data visualizations. *IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics*.
- **Woodin, G. & Perlman, M. (in prep).** The iconic impetus of language: From sensorimotor simulation to the lexicon.
- **Woodin, G. (2019).** Ritual. *Ad Alta: the Birmingham Journal of Literature*, 10: 35.
- **Woodin, G. & Winter, B. (2018).** Placing abstract concepts in space: quantity, time and emotional valence. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 9, 2169: 1-14.
- **Woodin, G. (2018).** Aquariva. *Ad Alta: the Birmingham Journal of Literature*, 10: 27.

## Presentations

- **PG Tips 2020 – Workshop – University of Birmingham.** Using R and RStudio for data wrangling and visualization.
- **5th International Conference on Figurative Thought and Language – 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.
- **12<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Iconicity in Language and Literature 2019 – Talk – Lund University.** Degrees of metaphoricality: 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.

## Academic Experience

### Research Assistant at University of Birmingham (June 2018 – Present)

- Running reaction time tests and conducting statistical analyses for ‘Exploring different types of creativity in metaphor’ research placement with Professor Jeannette Littlemore, Professor John Barnden, and Dr Eirini Mavritsaki

### Panel Chair for UK Cognitive Linguistics Conference 2020 (July 2020)

- Hosting Zoom session and introducing speakers

### Committee Member for UK Cognitive Linguistics Conference 2020 (Jan 2020 – Mar 2020)

- Reviewing abstract submissions to conference

### Student Member of Quinquennial Vice-Chancellor's Integrated Review (Nov 2019 – Mar 2020)

- Participate 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
- 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 co-occurring with number metaphors 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 for Maths, Music & Metaphor study with Professor Jeannette Littlemore

### Research Assistant (Scholarship) at University of Birmingham (May 2016 - Aug 2016)

- Transcribing spoken data using ELAN for Maths, Music & Metaphor 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
- Interviewing Professor Mark Ryan about his research on electronic voting 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

## Peer-Reviewing Experience

- Pyers, J. & Emmorey, K. Is there an iconic motivation for the morphophonological distinctions between noun-verb pairs in American Sign Language. *Language and Cognition*.

- Anonymous. Cultural evolution leads to vocal iconicity in an experimental iterated learning task. *Journal of Language Evolution*.
- Cánovas, C. P., Valenzuela, J., Carrión, D. A., Olza, I., Ramscar, M. Quantifying the speech-gesture relation with massive multimodal datasets: Informativity in time expressions. *PLOS One*.
- Hartman, J. & Paradis, C. Figurative meaning in multimodal work by an autistic artist and vlogger: A cognitive semantic approach. *Language and Cognition*.
- Anonymous. 'Living things': Combative metaphors and urban youth culture in Abolore Akande Adigun's (9ice) hip hop music. *Metaphor and the Social World*.
- Götz, F. J., Böckler, A. & Eder, A. B. Low numbers from a low head? Effects of observed head orientation on numerical cognition. *Psychological Research*.
- Chen, L. & Xiao, C. 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

### 2018

- Awarded the Constance Naden Medal, given to the student who submits 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 (MA Social Research + PhD English Language & Applied Linguistics) at the University of Birmingham with an October 2018 start. Annual payment consists of course fees (£4,260) and a 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 an MA by Research in English Language and Applied Linguistics at the University of Birmingham for 2017/18. Worth £4,195.
- Awarded the Gwyneth Fox Award, awarded to the student with the highest mark overall (80.291) enrolled on the English Language or the English Language and Linguistics single honours programmes. Worth £250.

### 2015

- Won the Vera Adamson Prize, given to 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 in BA English Language at the University of Birmingham.

## Miscellaneous

- Interviewed for Metaphor & Emotion video alongside Zoltán Kövecses, Marianna Bolognesi, Jeannette Littlemore, and Francesca Citron (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ttUEG6Lafz>)
- Member of the Association for Researching and Applying Metaphor (RAAM) 2020/2021
- Interviewed for Metaphor Column, interviewed Jeannette Littlemore, and contributed an extended abstract about a recent article submission for RAAM Fall 2020 Newsletter
- Passed British Sign Language exams 101 and 103 (prior to postponement of exams due to COVID-19)