

# Annie Holtz

PHD STUDENT · RESEARCHER · SUBJECT TUTOR (LINGUISTICS)

Dugald Stewart Building, 3 Charles Street, EH8 9AD, Edinburgh, Scotland

✉ [annie.holtz@ed.ac.uk](mailto:annie.holtz@ed.ac.uk) | 🌐 [annieholtz.github.io/](https://annieholtz.github.io/) | 📞 [annie-holtz-91455618a](tel:+441315561818)

## Research Interests

Typology, syntax, phonology, artificial language learning, language acquisition, language development & metascience.

## Education

### The University of Edinburgh

PHD IN LINGUISTICS AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE

- Supervisors: Dr. Jennifer Culbertson and Prof. Simon Kirby.
- Topic: Typological effects of competition between cognitive biases at different levels of the linguistic system.

*Edinburgh, Scotland*

*Sep. 2019 - current*

### The University of Edinburgh

MA(HONS) ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS

- Awarded a First Class degree with Honours.
- Dissertation: An experimental investigation of harmony and isomorphism in the noun phrase.

*Edinburgh, Scotland*

*Sep. 2015 - Jul. 2019*

## Research Experience

### The Centre for Language Evolution

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

- PI: Dr. Jennifer Culbertson.
- Project name: Connecting cognitive biases and typological universals in syntax.
- Fixed-term position as RA, recruiting and running participants.

*Edinburgh, Scotland*

*Apr. 2019 - May 2019*

### Edinburgh Laboratory for Language Development

RESEARCH ASSISTANT (VOLUNTEER POSITION)

- PI: Prof. Mits Ota.
- Assisted with programming, planning and running studies.
- Was lead experimenter for a long-term study on segmentation abilities in infants.
- Recruited participants and trained new cohort of research assistants.

*Edinburgh, Scotland*

*Jan. 2017 - Apr. 2019*

## Publications

- **Holtz, A.** (in press) Ambiguity and variable phonological rules: The challenge of TD Deletion in US English. *Proceedings of ConSOLE 29*.
- Martin, A., **Holtz, A.**, Abels, K., Adger, D., and Culbertson, J. (2020). [Experiment evidence for the influence of structure and meaning on linear order in the noun phrase](#). *Glossa*, 5(1):1–21.
- **Holtz, A.** (2019). An experimental investigation of harmony and isomorphism in the noun phrase. Dissertation published in the *Proceedings of the 2019 conference of the Undergraduate Linguistics Association of Britain*.

## Conference Contributions

- **Holtz, A.**, Culbertson, J., Kirby, S. and Martin, A. (2021) An experimental investigation of item-specific word order preferences. *LELPGC21*, Edinburgh (online)
- **Holtz, A.** (2021). Ambiguity and variable phonological rules: The challenge of TD Deletion in US English. *ConSOLE XXIX*, Leiden University (online).
- Ota, M., **Holtz, A.** and Skarabela, B. (2019) Syllable repetition is privileged over consonant repetition in infant word segmentation. *BUCLD 44*, Boston, MA.
- **Holtz, A.** (2019). Challenging Functional Explanations of Variable TD Deletion in American English. *The 69th Language Lunch at Edinburgh*, Edinburgh, UK.
- **Holtz, A.** (2019). Cognitive biases and how they shape typology. *The 2019 conference of Undergraduate Linguistics Association of Britain*, Queen Mary University of London, London, UK.
- **Holtz, A.** (2018). Mutual exclusivity and synonymy avoidance: Two sides of the same coin. *The 2018 conference of Undergraduate Linguistics Association of Britain*, Edinburgh, UK.

- Ota, M., Barrera Navarro, M., Go, L., Heimann, J., **Holtz, A.**, Little, S., O'Connor, R. and Skarabela, B. (2018). Do British mothers use less exaggerated infant-directed speech than American mothers?, *Child Language Symposium*, Reading, UK.

## Honors & Awards

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- 2019 **Awarded** Department of Linguistics and English Language full PhD Scholarship  
 2015 **Awarded** Outstanding performance in English Language and Literature

*University of Edinburgh*  
*Bexhill College*

## Teaching

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### Simulating Language

TUTOR/MARKER

- Course teaching students to run models of language evolution using Bayesian methods.
- Honours and postgraduate level course.

*The University of Edinburgh*  
*Spring 2021 & 2022*

### Linguistics and English Language 1A

TUTOR

- Introductory course in linguistics covering syntax, phonology, phonetics, morphology and semantics.
- Pre-honours level course.

*The University of Edinburgh*  
*Autumn 2021*

### LEL2D: Cross-linguistic Variation: Limits and Theories

MARKER AND SUBSTITUTE TUTOR

- Course on typological variation, focusing on morphosyntax and phonology.
- Pre-honours level course.

*The University of Edinburgh*  
*Spring 2020*

### Skills Centre

TUTOR

- JsPsych tutor doing one-on-one appointments with students to work on their code.
- Academic writing tutor doing one-on-one appointments with students to work on their writing.

*The University of Edinburgh*  
*Mar 2020-current*

### Online Experiments

TUTOR

- Short course in using JsPsych to programme online experiments.

*The University of Edinburgh*  
*Jan. 2020*

## Professional Activities & Services

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- Board member for The Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe (2021-present)
- Member of The Cognitive Science Society (2020-present)
- Member of The Linguistics Society of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (2019-present)
- Ad hoc reviewer for *The Journal of the Undergraduate Linguistics Association of Britain* and *The ConSOLE Proceedings*
- Ad hoc conference reviewer for *ULAB Conference* and *ConSOLE*
- Editor for *The ConSOLE Proceedings* (2021-present)
- Programme representative for MA in Linguistics and English Language at Edinburgh (2016-2019)
- Vice-president and social secretary for the Edinburgh Linguistics Society (2019-2020)
- Conference chair for the Linguistics and English Language Postgraduate Conference (2020)
- Committee member for the Edinburgh Symposium for Historical Phonology (2019)

## Outreach

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### Language Evolves!

DEMONSTRATOR

- Travelling to schools or hosting online sessions introducing the concept of language evolution in primary schools.

*Edinburgh*  
*Autumn 2019, 2021*

### UK Linguistics Olympiad

DEMONSTRATOR

- Helping during practice sessions in schools that are interested in entering the Linguistics Olympiad.

*Edinburgh*  
*Autumn 2019*

## Skills

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**Languages** Swedish (native), English (fluent), Italian (basic)

**Programming** JavaScript, Python, R, LaTeX

**Tools and Packages** jsPsych, PsychoPy, Audacity, Praat, CLAN

**Platforms** Microsoft Teams, Zoom, Gather, Blackboard Collaborate