

Annie Holtz

PHD STUDENT · RESEARCHER · SUBJECT TUTOR (LINGUISTICS)

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Research Interests

Typology, syntax, phonology, artificial language learning, cognition, language acquisition & 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.**, Kirby, S., and Culbertson, J. (forth.) The influence of category-specific and system-wide preferences on cross-linguistic word order patterns. In *Proceedings of the 44th annual meeting of the cognitive science society*. Toronto, Cognitive Science Society.
- **Holtz, A.** (2021) [Ambiguity and variable phonological rules: The challenge of TD Deletion in US English](#). In Holtz, Annie, Iva Kovač, Rasmus Puggaard-Rode, and Joanna Wall, eds. *ConSOLE XXIX: Proceedings of the 29th Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe* (26-28 January 2021, Leiden University). Leiden: Leiden University Centre for Linguistics.
- 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.

Editor

- **Holtz, Annie**, Iva Kovač, Rasmus Puggaard-Rode, and Joanna Wall, eds. 2021. [ConSOLE XXIX: Proceedings of the 29th Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe](#) (26-28 January 2021, Leiden University). Leiden: Leiden University Centre for Linguistics.

Conference Contributions

- **Holtz, A.**, Culbertson, J. and Kirby, S. (2022) Postnominal adjectives and prenominal genitives as reflections of cognitive preferences. *ConSOLE XXX*, Nantes University (online).
- **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

2022	Nominated Students' Association Teaching Award – Student Tutor of the Year	<i>Edinburgh University</i>
2019	Awarded Department of Linguistics and English Language full PhD Scholarship	<i>University of Edinburgh</i>
2015	Awarded Outstanding performance in English Language and Literature	<i>Bexhill College</i>

Teaching

Simulating Language

The University of Edinburgh

TUTOR/MARKER

Spring 2021 & 2022

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

Linguistics and English Language 1A

The University of Edinburgh

TUTOR

Autumn 2021

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

LEL2D: Cross-linguistic Variation: Limits and Theories

The University of Edinburgh

MARKER AND SUBSTITUTE TUTOR

Spring 2020

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

Skills Centre

The University of Edinburgh

TUTOR

Mar 2020-current

- 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.

Online Experiments

The University of Edinburgh

TUTOR

Jan. 2020

- Short course in using JsPsych to programme online experiments.

Professional Activities & Services

- 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

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

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