

Annie Holtz

PHD STUDENT · RESEARCHER · SUBJECT TUTOR (LINGUISTICS)

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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.

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

- 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

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

- 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