

Elisa Gavard

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER

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Academic Positions

Postdoctoral Researcher

2026-2027

Université Grenoble Alpes, LaRAC

ATENA Project: changing perceptions and increasing acceptance of digital tools incorporating AI among teachers.

Qualification for the position of Associate Professor

2025

Section 16 – Psychology and Ergonomics

Teaching Assistant (ATER)

2023-2025

Aix-Marseille Université, UFR ALLSH, Cognitive Psychology Department, CRPN (UMR 7077)

Full-time contract (192 hours per year).

PhD candidate

2020-2023

Aix-Marseille Université, CNRS, CRPN (UMR 7077)

Teaching assistant (192 hours over 3 years).

Thesis funded with a personal grant obtained from the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research (ED 356 – Cognition, Langage, Éducation).

Education

PhD in Psychology

July 2025

Aix-Marseille Université, CNRS, CRPN (UMR 7077)

Thesis title: The role of semantic and syntactic prediction and statistical learning in normal reading and developmental dyslexia. Manuscript (in French) available in open access on [HAL](#).

Under the supervision of Dr. Johannes C. Ziegler, CNRS, Aix-Marseille Université.

Defended on **July 05, 2024**.

Jury members: Prof. Ram Frost, Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Dr. Christophe Pallier, INSERM-CEA Cognitive Neuroimaging Unit; Dr. Christine Assaiante, CNRS, Aix-Marseille Université; Stéphanie Massol, Université Lumière Lyon 2.

MSc in Psychology and Neuropsychology

June 2020

Aix-Marseille Université, with highest honours.

Year 2 dissertation: The role of semantic and syntactic prediction in reading, under the supervision of Dr. Johannes C. Ziegler, CNRS, Aix-Marseille Université.

Year 1 dissertation: Normal cognitive aging: the evolution of mental representations over time, under the supervision of Marlène Abadie, Aix-Marseille Université.

BA in Psychology

June 2018

Aix-Marseille Université, with high honours.

Certificate in Human and Social Sciences, pathway in Psychology

June 2018

Université de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, QC, Canada.

International university exchange through the Quebec Student Exchange Program in the 3rd year of BA in Psychology (PQÉ, BCI, AMU).

Publications

Publication summary: 4 publications in international peer-reviewed journals (3 of them as first author), with 56 citation, h-index: 3 (source [Google Scholar](#)). Shared first or last authorship is indicated with an asterisk.

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

- [4] **Gavard, E.**, Chanoine, V., Geringswald, F., Anton, J-L., Cavalli, E., Ziegler, J.C. (2025). Neural Networks for Semantic and Syntactic Prediction and Visuo-Motor Statistical Learning in Adult Readers with and without Dyslexia. *Neurobiology of Language*, 6, 1-34. <https://doi.org/10.1162/nol.a.8>
- [3] **Gavard, E.**, Ziegler, J.C. (2024). Semantic and Syntactic Predictions in Reading Aloud: Are Good Predictors Good Statistical Learners? *Journal of Cognition*, 7(1): 40, pp. 1–17. <https://doi.org/10.5334/joc.363>
- [2] **Gavard, E.**, Ziegler, J.C. (2022). The Effects of Semantic and Syntactic Prediction on Reading Aloud. *Experimental Psychology*, 69(6), 308-319. <https://doi.org/10.1027/1618-3169/a000568>
- [1] Abadie, M., Gavard, E., Guillaume, F. (2021). Verbatim and gist memory in aging. *Psychology and aging*, 36(8), 891-901. <https://doi.org/10.1037/pag0000635>

In the Pipeline

- [2] **Gavard, E.**, Tardi, Y., Ziegler, J.C., Chanoine, V. (in preparation). A machine learning-based pipeline to decode typical and dyslexic readers using fMRI data.
- [1] **Gavard, E.**, Sein, J., Anton, J-L., Ziegler, J.C. (in preparation). Investigating predictive reading and statistical learning in university students with and without dyslexia through diffusion-weighted imaging.

Conference Presentations

Invited Talks

- [1] **Gavard, E.** (2026, April 24). Predictive reading and statistical learning: what fMRI reveals about high-functioning adults with dyslexia. EMC research seminar, Lyon, France.

Conference Talks

- [3] **Gavard, E.**, Chanoine, V., Geringswald, Y., Anton, J-L., Cavalli, E., Ziegler, J.C. (2025, September 3-5). Semantic and Syntactic Predictions in Reading Aloud and Statistical Learning: An fMRI Study in University Students With Dyslexia [Paper presentation]. European Society for Cognitive Psychology, Sheffield, UK.
- [2] **Gavard, E.**, Ziegler, J.C., (2024, May 23-25). Semantic and syntactic predictions in reading aloud: are good predictors good statistical learners? [Paper presentation]. Implicit Learning Seminar, Marseille, France.
- [1] **Gavard, E.**, Ziegler, J.C., (2023, September 6-9). The effects of semantic and syntactic prediction on reading aloud. In J. Grainger (Chair), Word and Sentence Reading [Symposium]. European Society for Cognitive Psychology, Porto, Portugal.

Conference Posters

- [4] **Gavard, E.**, Chanoine, V., Geringswald, Y., Anton, J-L., Cavalli, E., Ziegler, J.C., (2024, July 10-12). Semantic and syntactic predictions in reading and visuo-motor statistical learning: an fMRI study in dyslexic students [Poster presentation]. International Mind, Brain and Education Society, Leuven, Belgium. <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/poster>
- [3] **Gavard, E.**, Ziegler, J.C., (2024, June 5-7). Semantic and syntactic predictions in reading aloud: are good predictors good statistical learners? [Poster presentation]. Conference on Interdisciplinary Advances in Statistical Learning, San Sebastian, Spain. <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/poster>
- [2] **Gavard, E.**, Chanoine, V., Geringswald, F., Tan, Y., Cavalli, E., Anton, J-L., Ziegler, J.C., (2023, October 24-26). Semantic and syntactic prediction in reading and statistical learning: an fMRI study in dyslexia [Poster presentation].

presentation]. Society for the Neurobiology of Language, Marseille, France.
<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/poster>

[1] **Gavard, E.**, Ziegler, J.C., (2022, June 1-3). The role of prediction and statistical learning in reading [Poster presentation]. Conference on Interdisciplinary Advances in Statistical Learning, San Sebastian, Spain.
<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/poster>

Workshop Posters

[1] **Gavard, E.**, Ziegler, J.C., (2022, July 3-4). The role of prediction and statistical learning in reading [Poster presentation]. From Association to Cognition, Marseille, France.
<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/poster>

Fellowships and research fundings

Doctoral and postdoctoral fellowships

2026 – Two-year individual post-doctoral fellowship granted by Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (European Commission H2026, EU proposal 101274661 – PREDYS, 2027-2029)

2020 – Three-year individual doctoral fellowship granted by the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research (ED356 – Cognition, Langage, Éducation, 2020-2023).

Research fundings

2022 – ILCB research funding to support the PREDYS project (€1250) within the CPP ILCB "Multimodal study of brain multimodal study of the brain networks involved in language and communication" promoted by the CNRS INSB (CNRS no. 17020, ANSM no. 2017-A03614-49).

Teaching and Supervision

Lectures and Courses (582 hours)

Aix-Marseille Université, UFR ALLSH, Cognitive Psychology Department

Psychological assessment method, BA 3rd year, 2024-2025 (48 hours)

Statistics for psychologists, BA 2nd year, 2023-2025 (46 hours)

Methods and Statistics, BA 1st year, 2023-2024 (10 hours)

Methodology for university work in psychology, BA 1st year, 2023-2024 (36 hours)

Cognitive psychology, BA 2nd year, 2020-2025 (340 hours)

Cognitive neuropsychology, BA 3rd year, 2020-2024 (76 hours)

Cognitive psychology, BA 1st year, 2020-2021 (26 hours)

Mentoring

Marine Royer, CFUO de Tours, co-supervision of a research dissertation, AMU, 2025-2026.

Clémentine Casolis, BA 2nd year in psychology, co-supervision of a research internship, AMU, 2025

Lou Billard-Zucca, BA 2nd year in psychology, supervision of a research internship, AMU, 2024

Myriam Jout, BA 3rd year in psychology, co-supervision of a research dissertation, AMU, 2018-2019.

Other Scientific Activities

Ad Hoc Reviewer

2024 – L'Année Psychologique/Topics for Cognitive Psychology

2025 – Frontiers in Psychology

Professional memberships

2023-2025 – European Society for Cognitive Psychology (ESCOP).

2023-2025 – Society for the Neurobiology of Language (SNL)

Administrative responsibilities

2024-2025 – Member of the "ComCom" communication working group (GT) following the creation of the new CRPN centre (UMR 7077, AMU, CNRS).

Reflection on the laboratory's communication, supply of useful information for the CRPN website, reflection on the dissemination of scientific activities within the CRPN but also to the outside world via social networks.

2024-2025 – Invited to CRPN (UMR 7077, AMU, CNRS) boards to represent post-docs.

2023-2025 – Member of the board of the Cognitive Psychology Department (UFR ALLSH, AMU).

2023-2024 – Elected alternate representative of the PhD students at the CRPN (UMR 7077, AMU, CNRS).

Ensuring communication between doctoral students and laboratory management, managing office allocations, welcoming new doctoral students, taking part in laboratory board.

2021-2023 – Elected representative of the PhD students at the LPC (UMR 7290, now the CRPN).

Ensuring communication between doctoral students and the laboratory management, managing office allocations, welcoming new doctoral students, managing a doctoral student budget (e.g. equipment, office equipment, conferences), taking part in laboratory board.

2018-2020 – Elected representative of the BA students at the Cognitive Psychology Department council (UFR ALLSH, Aix-Marseille University).

Organisation of scientific events

2025 – Co-organiser of the PhD and post-doctoral student retreat of the CRPN (UMR 7077), taking place from 30 June to 2 July 2025 in Montclar-les-2-Vallées (France).

Management of the scientific committee (preparation of the programme of scientific presentations).

2024 – Co-organiser of the 11th Implicit Learning Seminar from 23 to 25 May 2024 at Aix-Marseille Université, Saint-Charles campus (Marseille, France).

Management of the event's communication ([website](#)), proofreading and approval of abstracts (57 participants), preparation of the programme.

2023 – Co-organiser of the PhD and post-doctoral student retreat of the LPC (UMR 7290), taking place from 4 to 7 July 2023 in Saint-Bonnet-en-Champsaur (France).

Management of the scientific committee (preparation of the programme of scientific presentations) and supervision of the retreat (26 participants).

Technical Skills

Experimental tools: fMRI, Eye-tracking (EyeLink).

Experiment design: E-Prime, LabVanced (online experiment), OpenSesame.

Statistical modelling: R & Python (programming languages), RStudio, MATLAB, MNE-Python (beginner) MRIcron, DSI Studio, Jasp, Jamovi, statistical power analysis (GPower).

Collaborative and reproducible writing: RMarkdown, LaTeX, Overleaf, Zotero.

Open Science: Open Science Framework (OSF), OpenNeuro.

Neuropsychology: cognitive assessment.