

Ruthe Foushee

2121 Berkeley Way West, Berkeley, CA 94709
foushee@berkeley.edu 520.664.6126

EDUCATION

PhD Candidate, University of California Berkeley Expected: 2020
Developmental Psychology
Advisors: Mahesh Srinivasan & Fei Xu
Proposed thesis: *Learning from overheard speech: Interactions of linguistic complexity, learner socialization, and attention*

B.A., Harvard College 2013
Honors Linguistics, Certificate in Latin American Studies
Thesis: *What we mean when we talk about things: Pragmatic units of quantification in Tseltal Maya*

HONORS & AWARDS

Patrice L. Engle Dissertation Grant in Global Early Child Development Fall 2019
Center for Effective Global Action Fieldwork Funding Fall 2019
National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship 2016 – 2019
National Living Lab Researcher Stipend 2016
Thomas Murphy Fellowship at the Center for Childhood Creativity 2015 – 2018
Berkeley Fellowship for Graduate Study 2014 – 2016
David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies Research Grant Winter 2013
Dunwalke Summer Research Fellowship Summer 2012
Carey Lab Grant Summer 2011
Harvard College Research Program Grant Spring 2011
Harvard College Research Program Grant Spring 2010

Travel Grants

Berkeley Psychology Department Travel Awards (3) Summers 2016, 2017, 2019
Paula Menyuk Travel Award (2) 2014, 2017
Berkeley Graduate Assembly Travel Awards (2) Spring, Summer 2015

TEACHING & MENTORSHIP

Instructor, UC Berkeley Linguistics
Language Acquisition (Ling 146) Summer 2019

Graduate Student Instructor, UC Berkeley Psychology
Psychology of Sleep (Psych 153) Fall 2018
Language Development (Ling C146 / Psych C143) Spring 2015

Reader, UC Berkeley
Cultural Psychology Summer 2018

Undergraduate Research Apprentice Program Mentor, UC Berkeley Fall 2014 –
54 students from Linguistics, Psychology, Cognitive & Computer Science

Undergraduate Summer Internship Mentor, UC Berkeley Summers 2015 – 2019
21 Interns, 30 hours/week

Living Lab 'Research Toy' Design Supervisor, Bay Area Discovery Museum 2016
2 UC Berkeley undergraduates funded via an education stipend from the National Living Lab

Undergraduate Thesis Advisor, UC Berkeley
Allison Fong, Psychology (co-advised with Fei Xu) 2019–2020
Grace Horton, Psychology (co-advised with Mahesh Srinivasan) 2019–2020
Stella Lim, Psychology (co-advised with Fei Xu) 2015–2016

Tutor, Statistics Fall 2015
Student attending UC Berkeley Extension School

Homeschool Teacher, Grade 5 Fall 2013 – Spring 2014
Cambridge, MA

English Language Instructor Fall 2011 – Spring 2012
Escola McKinney, Natal, RN, Brazil

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Language and Cognitive Development Lab, Berkeley, CA Fall 2014 –
Graduate student, PI: Mahesh Srinivasan

Berkeley Early Learning Laboratory, Berkeley, CA Fall 2014 –
Graduate student, PI: Fei Xu

Center for Childhood Creativity, Sausalito, CA Spring 2015 – Fall 2018
Research Fellow, Supervisor: Dr. Helen Hadani

Exploratorium Math Team, San Francisco, CA Spring 2017 – Fall 2017
Collaborating Researcher, Project Supervisor: Dr. Josh Gutwill [handout]

Harvard Lab for Developmental Studies, Cambridge, MA Fall 2010 – Fall 2013
Research Assistant, PIs: Susan Carey & Jesse Snedeker

Fieldwork, Chiapas, Mexico Spring 2011, Summer & Winter 2012
Thesis student, Advisor: Dr. Peggy Li

Harvard Linguistics Department, Cambridge, MA Spring 2011 – Spring 2014
Research Assistant, Supervisors: Drs. Michael Becker & Lauren Eby Clemens

SELECTED EMPLOYMENT

Harvard Lab for Developmental Studies, Cambridge, MA Fall 2013 – Summer 2014
Lab Coordinator, PI: Jesse Snedeker.

University of Arizona Mexican-American Studies Department, Tucson, AZ Summer 2009
Education Intern

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles

Ellwood-Lowe, M., **Foushee, R.**, & Srinivasan, M. (submitted). What causes the word gap? Financial concerns systematically suppress child-directed speech.

Foushee, R., Srinivasan, M., & Xu, F. (submitted). Can preschoolers learn words and facts from naturalistic overheard speech?

Li, P., Chen, F., **Foushee, R.**, Barner, D., & Carey, S. (submitted). Variations in syntax or lexical semantics on object and substance kind construal: A Mayan case study.

Shtulman, A., **Foushee, R.**, Barner, D., Dunham, Y., & Srinivasan, M. (in press). When Allah meets Ganesha: Developing supernatural concepts in a religiously diverse society. *Cognitive Development*, 52. [\[pdf\]](#)

Srinivasan, M., **Foushee, R.**, Bartnof, A. & Barner, D. (2019). Linguistic conventionality and the role of epistemic reasoning in mutual exclusivity inference. *Cognition*, 189, 193–208. [\[repo\]](#) [\[pdf\]](#)

Srinivasan, M., Al-Mughairy, S., **Foushee, R.** & Barner, D. (2017). Learning language from within: Children use semantic generalizations to infer new word meanings. *Cognition*, 159, 11–24. [\[repo\]](#) [\[pdf\]](#)

Foushee, R., Falkou, N., & Li, P. (2016). ‘Two-pound cookies’ or ‘two pounds of cookies’: Children’s appreciation of quantity expressions. *Language Acquisition*, 24(4), 400–416. [\[pdf\]](#)

Refereed Conference Proceedings

Foushee, R., Srinivasan, M., & Xu, F. (2019). The impact of speech complexity on preschooler attention, preference of speaker, and learning. In *Proceedings of the 41st Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*. [\[pdf\]](#)

Foushee, R., Jansen, R., & Srinivasan, M. (2017). What counts as math? Relating conceptions of math with anxiety about math. In *Proceedings of the 39th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*. [\[pdf\]](#)

Foushee, R. & Srinivasan, M. (2017). Could both be right? Children's and adults' sensitivity to subjectivity in language. In *Proceedings of the 39th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*. [\[pdf\]](#)

Foushee, R. & Xu, F. (2016). Active overhearing: Development in preschoolers' skill at 'listening in' to naturalistic overheard speech. In *Proceedings of the 38th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*. [\[pdf\]](#)

Foushee, R., Griffiths, T., & Srinivasan, M. (2016). Lexical complexity of child-directed and overheard speech: Implications for learning. In *Proceedings of the 38th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*. [\[pdf\]](#)

Al-Mughairy, S., **Foushee, R.**, Srinivasan, M., & Barner, D. (2015). Daxing with a dax: Evidence of productive lexical structures in children. In *Proceedings of the 37th Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*. [\[pdf\]](#)

White Papers

*Hadani, H. & ***Foushee, R.** (2016). Reimagining school readiness: A literature review. [\[pdf\]](#)

Hadani, H., Kennedy, K., **Foushee, R.**, & Jaeger, G. (2017). Curious minds: What research tells us about building STEM connections in early childhood. [\[pdf\]](#)

PRESENTATIONS

Oral Conference Presentations

Foushee, R., Jansen, R., & Ellwood-Lowe, M. (2019). *How robust are scarcity inductions? A systematic replication of the scarcity priming literature*. Presented at the Psychology and Economics of Poverty Convening, Center for Effective Global Action, Berkeley, CA. [\[slides\]](#)

Foushee, R. & Srinivasan, M. (2019). *Children and adults' sensitivity to subjectivity in language*. Presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Baltimore, MD.

Foushee, R., Srinivasan, M., & Xu, F. (2019). *Can preschoolers learn words and facts from naturalistic overheard speech?* Presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Baltimore, MD.

Foushee, R. & Srinivasan, M. (2017). *Children's prolonged metalinguistic development in understanding relative and subjective adjectives*. Presented at the Boston University Conference on Language Development 42, Boston, MA.

Foushee, R. & Srinivasan, M. (2017). *Could both be right? Children and adult's sensitivity*

to subjectivity in language. Presented at the 39th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, London, UK.

Foushee, R. & Xu, F. (2016). *Active overhearing: Development in preschoolers' skill at 'listening in' to naturalistic overheard speech*. Presented at the 38th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Philadelphia, PA.

Foushee, R., Griffiths, T., & Srinivasan, M. (2016). *Lexical complexity of child-directed and overheard speech: Implications for learning*. Presented at the 38th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Philadelphia, PA.

Foushee, R. (2016). *How do children learn new words and can board games teach them math? Educating students and parents through demonstrations of developmental psychology stimuli*. Presented at the National Living Laboratory Meeting, Boston, MA.

Foushee, R., Al-Mughairy, S., & Srinivasan, M. (2015). *Daxing with a dax: Evidence of productive lexical structures in children*. Presented at the Boston University Conference on Language Development 40, Boston, MA.

Al-Mughairy, S., Foushee, R., & Srinivasan, M. (2015). *Daxing with a dax: Evidence of productive lexical structures in children*. 37th Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Pasadena, CA.

Foushee, R. (2015). *'Stuff-dividers': Interpretation and production of optional plural morphology in Tzeltal Maya*. Presented at the IX Congresso Internacional da ABRALIN, Belem, Brazil.

Foushee, R. (2014). *What we mean when we talk about 'things': Pragmatic units of quantification in Tzeltal Maya*. 88th Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Minneapolis, MN

Poster Presentations

Williams, D.J., **Foushee, R.**, Morgan, J. & Luchkina, E. (2019). Skeptical 4-year-olds engage in social referencing with adults to interpret socially incongruent situations. Presented at the Berkeley – Stanford – Santa Cruz Developmental Psychology Meeting, Berkeley, CA.

Foushee, R. & Srinivasan, M. (2018). Faultless disagreement judgments track adults' estimates of population-level consensus over adjective-referent pairs. Presented at the 40th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Madison, WI. [poster]

Foushee, R., Xu, F., & Srinivasan, M. (2018). The 'Goldilocks Effect' in preschoolers' attention to spoken language. Presented at the 40th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Madison, WI. [poster]

Jansen, R., **Foushee, R.**, & Griffiths, G. (2018). A new similarity measure to reveal individual differences and growth in implicit number conceptions. Presented at the 40th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Madison, WI. [\[poster\]](#)

Jansen, R., **Foushee, R.**, & Srinivasan, M. (2018). When 7 is closer to 9 than to 8: An expanded measure of implicit number conception. Presented at the 1st Mathematical Cognition and Learning Society Conference, Oxford, UK. [\[poster\]](#)

Foushee, R., Jansen, R., & Srinivasan, M. (2017). Relating conceptions of math with anxiety about math. Presented at the 39th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, London, UK. [\[poster\]](#)

Foushee, R., Jansen, R., & Srinivasan, M. (2017). Low- and high- math anxiety individuals' representations of math: A multidimensional scaling analysis. Presented at the Mathematical Cognition and Learning Conference, Nashville, TN. [poster]

Foushee, R., Dubey, R., & Srinivasan, M. (2016). The impact of social structure and culture on mindset and math anxiety: Evidence from an Indian middle school. Presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX. [poster]

Foushee, R. & Srinivasan, M. (2017). Developing sensitivity to subjectivity in language. Presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX. [poster]

Bartnof, A., **Foushee, R.,** Barner, D. & Srinivasan, M. (2017). Do young children expect newly-learned words to be shared by others? Presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX. [poster]

Jansen, R., **Foushee, R.,** & Srinivasan, M. (2017). Broad definitions of math are linked to lower levels of math anxiety. Presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX. [poster]

Foushee, R. & Srinivasan, M. (2016). Sensing subjectivity: Semantic and epistemological development. Presented at the Psychology Department Poster Session, University of California, Berkeley.

Foushee, R. & Li, P. (2016). Counting pieces of stuff in Tseltal Maya. Presented at the Putting Fieldwork on Indigenous Languages to New Uses Workshop, Campinas, Brazil. [poster]

Foushee, R. & Srinivasan, M. (2016). Sensing subjectivity: Semantic and epistemological development. Presented at the 42nd Annual Meeting for the Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Austin, TX. [poster]

Foushee, R. & Xu, F. (2015). Active Overhearing. Presented at the 9th Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Columbus, OH. [poster]

Foushee, R. & Srinivasan, M. (2015). 'Sensing subjectivity': Children's semantic and epistemological development. Presented at the 9th Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Columbus, OH. [poster]

Foushee, R., Falkou, N., & Li, P. (2014). 'Two-pound cookies' or 'two pounds of cookies': Children's appreciation of quantity expressions. Presented at the Boston University Conference on Language Development 39, Boston, MA. [poster]

Foushee, R., Iqbal, Y., & Carey, S. (2011). Teaching 'ten': A study of number learning in toddlers. Presented at the Lab for Developmental Studies Internship Poster Session, Cambridge, MA.

Talks

How do we talk to children? Adults simplify their speech to children compared to adults less and less, across childhood

UC Berkeley Institute of Human Development Colloquium, Berkeley, CA Spring 2019

What is the 'joy of learning,' exactly?

Panel with the Center for Social Change

California Association for the Education of Young Children, Santa Clara, CA Spring 2019

Learning to learn in language development

UC Berkeley Institute of Human Development Colloquium, Berkeley, CA Spring 2018

Pattern recognition in language and cognitive development

Bay Area Discovery Museum, Sausalito, CA Fall 2017

The 'Goldilocks Effect' in preschooler attention to spoken language

ISearch, Max Planck Institute, Berlin, Germany Summer 2017

Could both be right? Children's and adults' sensitivity to subjectivity in language

UC Berkeley Institute of Human Development Colloquium, Berkeley, CA Spring 2017

Bridging research and practice in language development

Google Children's Centers Professional Development, Sausalito, CA Spring 2017

Is this kid doing math? 'Math concept' and the link to math anxiety

UC Berkeley Institute of Human Development Colloquium, Berkeley, CA Fall 2016

Faultless disagreement and the development of a subjective semantics

UC Berkeley Cognetwork Meeting, Berkeley, CA Fall 2016

Faultless disagreement and the development of subjective semantics

Berkeley-Stanford-UCSC Developmental Psychology Symposium Spring 2016

Overhearing as active language-learning

UC Berkeley Institute of Human Development Colloquium, Berkeley, CA Spring 2016

Do you hear what I hear?: Active overhearing in early language-learning

Bay Area Discovery Museum, Sausalito, CA Spring 2015

Subjective semantics: Semantic compositionality and theory of mind

UC Berkeley Institute of Human Development Colloquium, Berkeley, CA Spring 2015

Pragmatic units of quantification in Tseltal Maya

Harvard Linguistics Undergraduate Colloquium, Cambridge, MA Spring 2013

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Outreach

<i>Wonderfest Science Envoy Program</i>	Fall 2019 –
<i>Linguistics for Everyone</i>	AAAS Conferences; 2016, 2017
<i>Living Laboratory Research Educator</i>	Boston Museum of Science; 2011
	Bay Area Discovery Museum; 2014 – 2016

Advocacy & Service

<i>Co-Director, Graduate Assembly of Students in Psychology</i>	Fall 2015 – Spring 2017
<i>Director, Psychology Department Travel Award Committee</i>	Spring 2017 – Fall 2019
<i>Social Chair, Graduate Assembly of Students in Psychology</i>	Fall 2014 – Spring 2015
<i>Active Member, Graduate Student Workers Union</i>	Fall 2014 –
<i>Organizer, Outstanding Questions Undergraduate Reading Group</i>	Summers 2015 – 2017
<i>Co-Organizer, Undergraduate Developmental Poster Session</i>	Summers 2015 – 2016
<i>Active Learning Consultant, Aspire Education</i>	2016
<i>Contributing Author, CREATE Framework for Early Education</i>	2016
<i>Staff, TEDx Sausalito</i>	2016
<i>Ad Hoc Reviewer, Cognitive Science Society Meeting, CAMP</i>	

MEMBERSHIPS & PARTICIPATION

Societies

Society for Research in Child Development, Linguistics Society of America, Cognitive Science Society, Cognitive Development Society, Mathematical Cognition and Learning Society, Society of Children's Books Writers and Illustrators

Open Science

Databrary, Open Science Framework [[ORCID](#)], AsPredicted, Github (@foushee)

SKILLS & CERTIFICATIONS

Teaching English as a Second Language (TESOL) Certification	2011
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Languages

<i>Natural</i>	Native	English
	Near-Native	Spanish
	Extensive	Brazilian Portuguese, ASL
	Structural	Tseltal
<i>Artificial</i>	Extensive	R, Python, T _E X

Other

Eye-tracking (Tobii, SMI), Praat, Datavyu, Jupyter & .Rmd, CHAT, CLAN, Adobe Creative Suite