

# HELEN SHIYANG LU

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## EDUCATION

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- University of Southern California (USC)** 2018 - 2024  
Ph.D. Candidate in Developmental Psychology, Minor in Quantitative Methods  
M.A. in Psychology 2018 - 2020
- Advisor: Toben H. Mintz
  - Research Interests: Language acquisition, Statistical learning, Cognitive mechanisms
- University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)** 2014 - 2018  
B.A. in Psychology and Linguistics with a Specialization in Computing *Summa Cum Laude*
- Advisors: Catherine Sandhofer and Scott P. Johnson
  - Thesis: The effect of productive vocabulary and shape bias on toddlers memory for different perceptual features

## GRANTS & AWARDS

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- Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant - Linguistics, NSF** 2023 - 2025  
“Doctoral Dissertation Research: The Effects of Language Experience on Statistical Learning in Infants and Adults” (Co-PI, \$18,949)
- Department of Psychology Doctoral Research Grant Awards, USC** 2022  
\$1,600, fund to support student research in the department
- USC Graduate School Summer Research and Writing Grant, USC** 2020  
\$5,000 award granted to one or two graduate students nominated by their departments
- Department of Psychology Doctoral Research Grant Awards, USC** 2020  
\$3,200, fund to support student research in the department
- Department of Psychology Research Continuity Fund, USC** 2020  
\$945, fund to support online research during COVID-19
- Dornsife PhD Fellowship, USC** 2018 - Now
- Department of Psychology Highest Honors, UCLA** 2018  
Distinction of Highest Honors awarded to the top (10%) students in the Honors thesis cohort
- Undergraduate Research Scholars Program, UCLA** 2017  
\$5,000 merit-based award granted to students conducting advanced research in the STEM field

## PUBLICATIONS

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1. **Lu, H.S.** and Mintz, T.H. (in prep). Sensitivity of behavioral tasks in NAD learning: A contrast between two-alternative forced choice and familiarity rating methods.
2. Kosie, J. E., Zettersten, M., Abu-Zhaya, R., Amso, D., Babineau, M., Baumgartner, H. A., ...**Lu, H.S.**..., Lew-Williams, C. (under review). ManyBabies 5: A large-scale investigation of the proposed shift from familiarity preference to novelty preference in infant looking time. [doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/ck3vd](https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/ck3vd)

3. **Lu, H.S.** and Mintz, T.H. (2023). Dynamic action and human agents facilitate learning of non-adjacent dependencies in visual sequences. *Cognitive Science*, 47(9), e13344.  
[doi.org/110.1111/cogs.13344](https://doi.org/110.1111/cogs.13344)
4. **Lu, H.S.** and Mintz, T.H. (2021). Learning non-adjacent rules and non-adjacent dependencies from human actions in 9-month-old infants. *PloS One*, 16(6), e0252959.  
[doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0252959](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0252959)
5. **Lu, H.S.** and Mintz, T.H. (2021). Dynamic action facilitates learning of non-adjacent dependencies in visual sequences. In *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* (Vol. 43, No. 43). [PDF](#)

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## REFEREED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1. **Lu, H.S.** and Mintz, T.H., (2023). Twelve-month-olds Generalize Nonadjacent Dependencies From Artificial Speech Presented at a Natural Speech Rate. *Flash Talk* presented at Society for Research in Child Development 2023 Biennial Meeting, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA, March 2023
2. **Lu, H.S.** and Mintz, T.H., (2022). Human dynamic actions aid non-adjacent dependency learning in both infants and adults. *Talk* presented at Interdisciplinary Advances in Statistical Learning, Donostia/San Sebastian, Spain, June 2022
3. **Lu, H.S.** and Mintz, T.H., (2021). Dynamic action facilitates learning of non-adjacent dependencies in visual sequences. *Poster presentation* at the 43rd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Virtual Conference, July 2021
4. **Lu, H.S.** and Mintz, T.H., (2021). Learning non-adjacent rules and dependencies from human actions in 9-month-old infants: Actions sometimes speaker louder than words. *Online presentation* at Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development (BCCCD), Virtual Conference, January 2021
5. **Lu, H.S.** and Mintz, T.H. (2019). Visual rule learning: The connection between human actions and speech. *Poster* presented in *Cognitive Development Society*, Louisville, Kentucky, USA, October 2019
6. **Lu, H.S.** and Mintz, T.H. (2019). Visual rule learning: The connection between human body movements and speech. *Talk* presented at *14th Annual Symposium on Cognitive and Language Development*, Los Angeles, California, USA, May 2019
7. **Lu, H.S.**, Brady, S., Sanders, A., Johnson, S.P., and Sandhofer, C.M. (2018). What's in a word? The influence of productive vocabulary on toddlers' perceptual memory and shape bias. *Oral presentation* at *27th Annual Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference*, Los Angeles, California, USA, May 2018
8. **Lu, H.S.**, Brady, S., Sanders, A., Johnson, S.P., and Sandhofer, C.M. (2018). What's in a word? The relation of toddlers' productive vocabulary and feature memory. *Poster* presented at *13th Annual Symposium on Cognitive and Language Development*, Irvine, California, USA, May 2018
9. **Lu, H.S.**, Sanders, A., and Johnson, S.P. (2017). Indexing working memory capacity in infancy. *Poster* presented at *12th Annual Symposium on Cognitive and Language Development*, San Diego, California, USA, May 2017

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## TEACHING RELATED EXPERIENCES

**Teaching Assistant** for Statistics I with SPSS and R (PSYC274)  
University of Southern California  
Instructor: David Walsh, Rand Wilcox

Spring 2022, Fall 2022

**Teaching Assistant** for Developmental Psychology (PSYC336L) Spring 2021, Fall 2020  
 University of Southern California  
 Instructor: Leslie Berntsen, Frank Manis

**Center for Excellence in Teaching Future Faculty Training Workshops** Spring 2020  
 University of Southern California  
 Semester-long weekly workshops focused on teaching practices

**Teaching Assistant** for Experimental Research Methods in Psychology (PSYC314L) Spring 2019  
 University of Southern California  
 Instructor: William Breland

**Teaching Assistant** for Introduction to Psychology (PSYC100) Fall 2018  
 University of Southern California  
 Instructor: Ann Renken

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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**Stimulus Design Team Member** for ManyBabies 5 Project 2023-Now

**Organizer** for USC Department of Psychology Developmental Area Speaker Series 2021-2022

**Ad Hoc Reviewer** for 4th California Meeting in Psycholinguistics 2021

**Ad Hoc Reviewer** for Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience 2022

**Ad Hoc Reviewer** for Cognitive Psychology 2023

**Ad Hoc Reviewer** for Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development 2023 2022

## SKILLS

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### Languages

Mandarin Chinese (Native), English (Fluent), Cantonese (Intermediate)

### Experiment Related Techniques

Habituation Programs (Habit, PyHab, PyHab Online), GitLab, PsychoPy3, Qualtrics, Praat, Lookit, SR EyeLink Eyetracker System

### Programming Languages

R, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Python

[CV compiled on September 21, 2023]