

James Brand

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Education

Ph.D. (in progress), Psychology, Lancaster University, expected Autumn 2016

M.Sc., Evolution of Language and Cognition, University of Edinburgh, November 2012

B.A., English Language, Sheffield Hallam University, June 2010

Level 5 Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, Sheffield Hallam University, March 2010

Research Interests

How do cognitive biases shape our language? My research focuses on the different ways that our language is shaped by the brain, addressing how language acquisition and use can explain many fundamental properties of language. I adopt a variety of experimental techniques (such as cross-situational, artificial language and iterated learning paradigms) which is complimented by corpus based analyses, in order to produce robust and comprehensive empirical evidence. This approach is highly multidisciplinary, with the aim being to answer and generate research questions that have implications for areas of psychology, linguistics and the cognitive sciences.

Honors and Awards

Experimental Psychology Society Grindley Grant (2015)

Lancaster University Depermental studentship (2013-2016)

Publications

Brand, J., Monaghan, P., & Walker, P. (Under review). The changing role of form-to-meaning mappings for the growing vocabulary.

Talks

Brand, J., & Monaghan, P. (2016, May). Predictors of lexical stability in an artificially learnt language. Talk presented at Psycholinguistics in Flanders, Antwerp, Belgium.

- Brand, J., Monaghan, P., & Walker, P.** (2015, June). The changing role of form-to-meaning mappings for the growing vocabulary. Invited talk to the Phonetics Reading Group. Lancaster University, UK.
- Brand, J., Monaghan, P., & Walker, P.** (2015, June). The changing influence of form-meaning mappings during vocabulary development. Invited talk at the LangNet Workshop on Second Language Acquisition and First Language Acquisition. Lancaster University, UK.
- Brand, J., Monaghan, P., & Walker, P.** (2014, July). Iconicity and arbitrariness in language learning: Does vocabulary size matter? Talk presented at the 5th UK Cognitive Linguistics Conference. Lancaster University, UK.
- Brand, J., Monaghan, P., & Walker, P.** (2014, May). The changing influence of form-meaning mappings during vocabulary development. Talk presented at Alston Hall Child Language Workshop. Alston Hall, UK.

Other Presentations

- Brand, J., & Monaghan, P.** (2016, August). Predictors of lexical stability in an artificially learnt language. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Philadelphia.
- Brand, J., Monaghan, P., & Walker, P.** (2015, October). The changing influence of form-meaning mappings during vocabulary development. Poster presented at 1st LuCiD Mini-conference. Liverpool, UK.
- Brand, J., Monaghan, P., & Walker, P.** (2015, January). The changing influence of form-meaning mappings during vocabulary development. Poster presented at Experimental Psychology Society London Meeting. London, UK.
- Brand, J., Monaghan, P., & Walker, P.** (2013, December). Iconicity and arbitrariness in language learning: Does vocabulary size matter? Poster presented at Faculty of Science and Technology Christmas Conference. Lancaster University, UK.

Professional Activities and Service

- Organiser at the 5th Implicit Learning Seminar, Lancaster University, June 2016
- Set up the Lancater R User Group (LancsR) and Lancater Psychology GitHub, 2016
- ESRC International Centre for Language and Communicative Development Knowledge Exchange and Training Committee, 2014 - 2016
- Organiser of the Lancaster University Psychology Department Internal Seminar Series, 2014 - 2015

Public Engagement and Outreach

- Presenter at LuCiD and Lancaster BabyLab Campus in the City, May 2016
- Presenter at 'Kids say the funniest things' at the ESRC Festival of Social Sciences. Manchester Museum, UK, November 2015
- Supervisor for South Lakes Federation Poster competition, July 2015
- Presenter at LuCiD and Lancaster BabyLab Campus in the City, April 2015

Presenter at Lancaster University's UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service) open day, 2013 - 2014

Teaching

Teaching Assistant, 2nd Year Undergraduate Statistics (Instructor: Dr. Michelle To), 2015 - 2016

Teaching Assistant, 1st Year Undergraduate Statistics (Instructor: Dr. Callum Hartley), 2013 - 2016

Tutor, 2nd Year Undergraduate Statistics Surgery, 2016

Teaching Assistant, M.Sc. Analysing and Interpreting Psychological Data (Instructors: Dr. Michelle To and Dr. Robert Davies), 2015

Teaching Assistant, 1st Year Undergraduate Psychological Approaches, 2013 - 2015

Guest Lecturer, 1st Year Undergraduate Revision Session, 2014

Seminar Tutor, 2nd Year Undergraduate Cognitive Psychology, 2014

Seminar Tutor, 1st Year Undergraduate Understanding Psychology, 2013 - 2014

Tutor, 1st Year Undergraduate Statistics Surgery, 2014

Computing Proficiency

Proficient in using R (packages such as ggplot2, lme4, stringdist, effects, plyr)

Proficient in PsychoPy

Proficient in E-prime

Proficient in LaTeX

Proficient in SPSS

Proficient in Microsoft Office applications (Excel, PowerPoint, Word)

Familiar with Praat

Familiar with Python

Affiliations

Present:

ESRC International Centre for Language and Communicative Development (LuCiD)

Language and Communication Lab, Lancaster University

Member of the Cognitive Science Society

Past:

Centre for Research in Human Development and Learning, Lancaster University

Language Evolution and Computation Research Unit, University of Edinburgh
European Human Behaviour and Evolution Association

Last updated: May 26, 2016