

# James Brand

Department of Psychology  
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<https://jamesbrandscience.github.io>

## 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.

## Education

MARCH, 2017	<b>Ph.D. Psychology</b> ( <i>submitted</i> ) Lancaster University Title: <i>The role of cognitive factors on the development and evolution of the vocabulary</i> Supervisors: Prof. Padraic Monaghan & Dr. Peter Walker
NOV, 2012	<b>M.Sc. Evolution of Language and Cognition</b> University of Edinburgh
JUNE, 2010	<b>B.A. English Language</b> Sheffield Hallam University
MARCH, 2010	<b>CertTESOL (Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)</b> Trinity College London

## Employment

FEB, 2017 - <i>Present</i>	<b>Research Assistant, Lancaster University</b> PI: Dr. Michelle To Project: <i>Influence of anxiety on body perception for underweight and overweight individuals</i> Key roles: design and develop experiments, stimuli generation, recruit and test participants
DEC, 2016 - <i>Present</i>	<b>Research Assistant, Lancaster University</b> PI: Prof. Padraic Monaghan Project: <i>Investigating the role of multiple cues in word learning</i> Key roles: design and develop experiments, analyse data, contribute to manuscript preparation

## Publications

- Monaghan, P., **Brand, J.**, Frost, R.L.A., & Taylor, G. (Accepted, 2017). Multiple, noisy cues for word learning results in robust, generalisable learning. *Proceedings of the 39th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*. [pdf](#)
- Brand, J.**, & Monaghan, P. (2016). Predictors of lexical stability in an artificially learnt language. *Poster presented at the 38th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*. [poster pdf](#)
- Brand, J.**, Monaghan, P., & Walker, P. (Under review). The changing role of form-to-meaning mappings for the growing vocabulary. *Cognition*.
- Brand, J.**, & Monaghan, P. (In prep.). Experimental diachronics: Predictors of lexical stability and change in language evolution.

## Oral Presentations

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

## Poster Presentations

- Brand, J.**, & Monaghan, P. (2016, September). Simulating vocabulary change through the cultural transmission of language. Poster presented at 22nd Conference on Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing. Bilbao, Spain.
- Brand, J.**, Monaghan, P., & Walker, P. (2015, October). The role of sound-symbolism in form-meaning mappings during the development of the vocabulary. 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.

## Honors and Awards

SEPT, 2016	<b>Experimental Psychology Society</b> - Grindley Grant for International Conference Attendance: £500
NOV, 2015	<b>Experimental Psychology Society</b> - Grindley Grant for UK Conference Attendance: £500
OCT, 2013 - OCT, 2016	<b>Lancaster University</b> - Departmental Studentship: £14,000 annual stipend with fee waiver

## Professional Activities and Service

OCT, 2016 - <i>Present</i>	<b>Personal Statistics Tutor</b> 2nd year undergraduate statistics
OCT, 2013 - JAN, 2017	<b>Graduate Teaching Assistant</b> Lancaster University
JUNE, 2016	<b>Organiser at the 5th Implicit Learning Seminar</b> Lancaster University
OCT, 2014 - OCT, 2016	<b>Knowledge Exchange and Training Committee</b> ESRC International Centre for Language and Communicative Development
OCT, 2014 - OCT, 2015	<b>Internal Seminar Series Organiser</b> Department of Psychology, Lancaster University

## Public Engagement and Outreach

MAY, 2015; 2016	<b>Presenter at LuCiD and Lancaster BabyLab Campus in the City</b> Lancaster, UK
NOV, 2015	<b>Presenter at 'Kids say the funniest things' at the ESRC Festival of Social Sciences</b> Manchester Museum, UK
JULY, 2015	<b>Supervisor for South Lakes Federation Poster competition</b> Lancaster University
JUNE, 2013; 2014	<b>Presenter at Lancaster University UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service) open day</b> Lancaster University

## Teaching

2015; 2016	<b>M.Sc. Analysing and Interpreting Psychological Data</b> Teaching Assistant
2015; 2016	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Year Undergraduate Statistics</b> Teaching Assistant
2015	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Year Understanding Neuropsychology</b> Guest Lecturer
2015	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Year Undergraduate Statistics Surgery</b> Tutor
2014; 2016	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Year Undergraduate Cognitive Psychology</b> Seminar Tutor
2014	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Year Undergraduate Statistics Surgery</b> Tutor
2013; 2014	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Year Undergraduate Psychological Approaches</b> Teaching Assistant
2013; 2014	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Year Undergraduate Understanding Psychology</b> Seminar Tutor

## Computing Proficiency

Highly proficient in using <b>R</b>	Highly proficient in programming in <b>E-Prime</b>
Highly proficient in <b>SPSS</b>	Highly Proficient in programming in <b>PsychoPy</b>
Highly proficient in <b>Audacity</b>	Highly Proficient in programming in <b>OpenSesame</b>
Highly proficient in <b>Photoshop</b>	Highly proficient in using <b>Qualtrics</b>
Familiar with <b>Praat</b>	Highly proficient in <b>LaTeX</b>
Familiar with <b>jsPsych</b>	Highly proficient in <b>Microsoft Office applications</b>
Familiar with <b>Python</b>	

## Affiliations

### Present:

ESRC International Centre for Language and Communicative Development (LuCiD)

Language and Communication Lab, Lancaster University

Member of the Cognitive Science Society

Lancaster University Open 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

## References

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