

James Brand

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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	Ph.D. Psychology (<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	M.Sc. Evolution of Language and Cognition University of Edinburgh
JUNE, 2010	B.A. English Language Sheffield Hallam University
MARCH, 2010	CertTESOL (Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) Trinity College London

Employment

FEB, 2017 - <i>Present</i>	Research Assistant, Lancaster University 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>	Research Assistant, Lancaster University 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	Experimental Psychology Society - Grindley Grant for International Conference Attendance: £500
NOV, 2015	Experimental Psychology Society - Grindley Grant for UK Conference Attendance: £500
OCT, 2013 - OCT, 2016	Lancaster University - Departmental Studentship: £14,000 annual stipend with fee waiver

Professional Activities and Service

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

Public Engagement and Outreach

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

Teaching

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

Computing Proficiency

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

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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