

James W.A. Strachan

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Cognition, Motion, and Neuroscience Unit

Italian Institute of Technology

via Enrico Melen 83

16152 Genoa, Italy

BIOGRAPHY

MINDED Research Fellow

Cognition, Motion, and Neuroscience Unit

Italian Institute of Technology

2020 - 2022

Postdoctoral Researcher

Social Mind and Body Lab, Department of Cognitive Science

Central European University

2016 - 2020

PhD in Psychology

Professor Steve Tipper (thesis supervisor)

University of York

2013 - 2017

Thesis: Incidental learning of trust from identity-contingent gaze cues: boundaries, extensions and applications

Award date: July 14th 2017

MSc in Cognitive Neuroscience

Professor Andy Young (thesis supervisor)

University of York

2012 - 2013

Thesis: Involvement of the superior temporal sulcus in decoding social signals from faces

BSc in Psychology

University of York

2013 - 2016

FUNDING AND FELLOWSHIPS

MINDED MSCA-COFUND Fellowship

Research fellowship awarded as part of MSCA-COFUND Action

2020-2022

BA/Leverhulme Small Research Grants [SRG1920-100325; Co-PI]

Learning who to trust: How do we re-affiliate after social exclusion?

2020

£9,929

Wellcome Trust: Centre for Chronic Diseases and Disorders [Co-investigator]

Influencing Facial Trustworthiness in Sleep

2016

£6,988

AWARDS

YuFund, York Alumni Association

Grant for public engagement event Psych!York

£200

2016

Postgraduate Community Fund, York Graduate Student Association (GSA)

Grant for public engagement event Psych!York

£574

2016

International Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Granada, Spain

Accommodation Award

2016

UK National 3-Minute Thesis Competition

National Semi-Finalist

[URL]

2015

James W.A. Strachan

Curriculum Vitae

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Charbonneau, M., **Strachan, J.**, Winters, J., (2023). "The problem with solutions: Comment on "Blind alleys and fruitful pathways in the comparative study of cultural cognition" by Andrew Whiten". In: *Physics of Life Reviews* 44, pp. 61–63.
- Charbonneau, M., **Strachan, J.**, (2022). "From Copying to Coordination: An Alternative Framework for Understanding Cultural Learning Mechanisms". In: *Journal of Cognition and Culture* 22, pp. 451–466.
- Strachan, J.**, Curioni, A., Constable, M., Knoblich, G., Charbonneau, M., (2021). "Evaluating the relative contributions of copying and reconstruction processes in cultural transmission episodes". In: *PLOS One* 16 (9), e0256901.
- Strachan, J.**, Török, G., (2020). "Efficiency is prioritised over fairness when distributing joint actions". In: *Acta Psychologica* 210, p. 103158.
- Strachan, J.**, Constable, M., Knoblich, G., (2020). "It Goes With The Territory: Ownership Across Spatial Boundaries". In: *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance* 46 (8), pp. 789–797.
- Strachan, J.**, Guttesen, A., Smith, A., Gaskell, M., Tipper, S., Cairney, S., (2020). "Investigating the formation and consolidation of incidentally learned trust". In: *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory and Cognition, in press* 46 (4), pp. 684–698.
- Strachan, J.**, Sebanz, N., Knoblich, G., (2019). "The role of emotion in the dyad inversion effect". In: *PLOS One* 14 (7), e0219185.
- Strachan, J.**, Kirkham, A., Manssuer, L., Over, H., Tipper, S., (2017). "Incidental learning of trust from eye-gaze: Effects of race and facial trustworthiness". In: *Visual Cognition* 25 (7-8), pp. 802–814.
- Strachan, J.**, Tipper, S., (2017). "Examining the durability of incidentally learned trust from gaze cues". In: *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology* 70.10, pp. 2060–2075.
- Strachan, J.**, Kirkham, A., Manssuer, L., Tipper, S., (2016). "Incidental learning of trust: Examining the role of emotion and visuomotor fluency". In: *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory and Cognition* 42, pp. 1759–1773.
- Flack, T., Andrews, T., Hymers, M., Al-Mosaiwi, M., Marsden, S., **Strachan, J.**, Trakulpipat, C., Wang, L., Wu, T., Young, A., (2015). "Responses in the right posterior superior temporal sulcus show a feature-based response to facial expression". In: *Cortex* 69, pp. 14–23.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- Strachan, J.**, Curioni, A., McEllin, L., (2024). "Flexible Social Learning of Technical Skills: The Case of Action Coordination". In: *The Evolution of Techniques: Rigidity and Flexibility in Use, Transmission, and Innovation*. Ed. by M. Charbonneau. The Vienna Series in Theoretical Biology, MIT Press. Chap. TBC.
- Strachan, J.**, Knoblich, G., Sebanz, N., (2020). "Skill and Expertise in Joint Action". In: *The Routledge Handbook of Philosophy of Skill and Expertise*. Ed. by C. Pavese and E. Fridland. Chap. 29.

PREPRINTS AND WORKING MANUSCRIPTS

- Charbonneau, M., Curioni, A., McEllin, L., **Strachan, J.**, (2022). *Flexible cultural learning through action coordination*. Manuscript under revision. Preprint available from <https://psyarxiv.com/ahrgs>.
- Wolohan, F., **Strachan, J.**, (2021). *Testing the assumptions of belonging regulation: Gaze cueing and the learning of trust in excluded individuals*. Registered Report with Stage 1 in principle acceptance at *Cognition & Emotion*.

James W.A. Strachan

Curriculum Vitae

Strachan, J., Mayo, R., Sebanz, N., (2020). *When thinking about your partner gets in the way: Coordination failures in joint decision-making*. Preprint available from <https://osf.io/szeuw/>.

SUPERVISION & TEACHING

Guest Lecturer

November 2019

Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE), Budapest, Hungary

- * **Course:** Introduction to Cognitive Science (1 semester)
- * **Language:** English
- * **Number of students:** 40
- * **Educational level:** MSc in Computational and Cognitive Neuroscience
- * **Role:** Guest lecturer
- * **Teaching form:** Classroom lecturing
- * **Responsibilities:** Creating and delivering an individual lecture on joint attention and communicative gaze; Coordinating with course coordinator on topic and presentation

Guest Lecturer

2018-2019

Budapest University of Technology and Economics (BME), Budapest, Hungary

- * **Course:** Introduction to Social Cognition (1 semester)
- * **Language:** English
- * **Number of students:** 20
- * **Educational level:** MSc in Computational and Cognitive Neuroscience
- * **Role:** Guest lecturer
- * **Teaching form:** Classroom lecturing
- * **Responsibilities:** Creating and delivering an individual lecture on joint attention; Coordinating with course coordinator on topic and presentation

Graduate Teaching Assistant - Tutorial Lead

2013-2016

University of York, York, UK

- * **Course:** Psychology BSc (2 semesters per academic year, 9 1-hour slots per semester)
- * **Topics covered:** Cognitive Psychology; Social Psychology; Developmental Psychology; Perception; Attention; Cognitive Neuroscience; Research Methods; Statistics
- * **Language:** English
- * **Number of students:** 9 groups of c.15 students
- * **Educational level:** Undergraduate
- * **Role:** Teaching assistant
- * **Teaching form:** Seminar groups; Paper discussions; Small-group classroom teaching
- * **Responsibilities:** Leading a seminar group; Leading discussion; Small-group teaching; Seminar development on social cognition and perception; Coordination with course leader to develop learning objectives in line with course content; Training other teaching assistants on seminar content; Refining and revising seminar content

Graduate Teaching Assistant - Examination

2013-2016

University of York, York, UK

- * **Course:** Psychology BSc (2 semesters per academic year)
- * **Language:** English
- * **Number of students:** 30-40

James W.A. Strachan

Curriculum Vitae

- * **Educational level:** Undergraduate
- * **Role:** Teaching assistant
- * **Teaching form:** Essay and report marking; Student feedback
- * **Responsibilities:** Marking and evaluating student reports; Coordinating with course leader; Providing feedback to course leader on general trends in student performance for course refinement

Mentorship

2013-2022

University of York; CEU; IIT

- * **Number of Students:** 7 undergraduate students (University of York); 2 postgraduate interns (CEU; IIT); 1 Masters student (CEU/University of Vienna)
- * **Responsibilities:** Mentorship of undergraduate and Masters student projects; Training in research methodology, data analysis, scientific writing, and presentations

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Data collection: Motion capture (Vicon; Polhemus); Reaction time tasks (Python, MATLAB, PsychoPy, EPrime); Online experiments (jsPsych, Prolific)

Data analysis: R; JASP; SPSS

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Editorial roles

Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception & Performance

Consulting Editor

Ad-hoc reviewer

Acta Psychologica; Attention, Perception, and Psychophysics; British Journal of Psychology; Cognition; Cognition and Emotion; Cognitive Science; Experimental Psychology; Frontiers in Psychology; iScience; Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance; Journal of Experimental Social Psychology; Journal of Nonverbal Behaviour; PLOS One; Psychonomic Bulletin & Review; Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology; Scientific Reports; Visual Cognition

Society Memberships

Marie Curie Alumni Association (MCAA)

Member

Since 2022

Department Roles

Early Career Researcher Forum, Ordinary Member

Department of Psychology, University of York

2013-2016

Chair of the Psychology Society

Department of Psychology, University of York

2010-2011

Undergraduate Board of Studies Representative

Department of Psychology, University of York

2009-2012

James W.A. Strachan

Curriculum Vitae

University Roles

Co-Chair of the LGBT Society

York University Student Union (YUSU), University of York

2010-2011

IMPACT AND ENGAGEMENT

Psych!York

[URL]

Organising committee for all-day public engagement event staffed by early-career researchers

2016

Science and Technology Network Launch

[Video]

Invited talk at Royal Institution, London

2016

PUBLIC Seminar

[URL]

Public engagement seminar. Won Audience Favourite prize

2016

Shine School Outreach Program

[Program]

Outreach lecture to Yorkshire schools: Introduction to Psychology

2016

Science is Vital: York Chapter

[National Campaign URL]

Organised and hosted Science Is Vital event as part of national campaign

2015

YorNight Research Café

[URL]

European Researchers Night

2015

York Graduate Research School Launch

Invited talk at the University of York

2015

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Strachan, J., Török, G., (Mar. 2022). "Do people choose to be efficient or fair when allocating tasks in a joint action?" Symposium talk at the 64th Tagung experimentell arbeitender Psycholog:innen (TeaP; Conference of Experimental Psychologists).

Strachan, J., Charbonneau, M., Curioni, A., Constable, M., Knoblich, G., (Aug. 2020). "A methodology for distinguishing copying and reconstruction in cultural transmission episodes". Paper accepted for the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, online July 29-August 1, 2020.

Strachan, J., Charbonneau, M., Curioni, A., Constable, M., Sperber, D., Knoblich, G., (July 2019). "Active cultural transmission: Exploring the role of pedagogy in transmission and learning". Talk delivered at eighth Joint Action Meeting (JAM VIII) 2019, Genova, Italy.

Strachan, J., Török, G., Sebanz, N., (May 2019). "Investigating the role of fairness in task distribution". Poster presented at the Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science (DuCog), 2019, Dubrovnik, Croatia.

Strachan, J., Mayo, R., Sebanz, N., (Mar. 2019). "The role of generalised distrust in coordinated decision-making". Symposium talk delivered at the International Convention of Psychological Science (ICPS) 2019, Paris.

Strachan, J., Török, G., Sebanz, N., (Mar. 2019). "When Being Efficient Is Unfair: Investigating the Role of Fairness in Task Distribution". Poster presented at the International Convention of Psychological Science (ICPS) 2019, Paris.

Strachan, J., Constable, M., Knoblich, G., (Oct. 2018). "Ownership Effects Across Territory Boundaries." Poster presented at DisSelf conference and workshop in Porto, Portugal.

Strachan, J., Torok, G., Sebanz, N., (Sept. 2018). "To Be Fair... Investigating the drive towards fairness in task distribution". Poster presented at Social Cognition in Robots and Humans workshop in Hamburg, Germany.

James W.A. Strachan

Curriculum Vitae

Strachan, J., Mayo, R., Sebanz, N., (Aug. 2018). “Think For Yourself: When trying to coordinate leads to less efficient coordination strategies than acting individually.” Symposium talk given at meeting of the British Psychological Society Cognitive Section at Liverpool Hope University.

Strachan, J., Knoblich, G., Sebanz, N., (Feb. 2018). “Perceiving dyads as perceptual units”. Poster presented at the inaugural Interactive Eye Gaze Workshop at UCL, London.

Strachan, J., Knoblich, G., Sebanz, N., (July 2017). “Investigating the effect of joint speech on discrimination of truth”. Poster presented at the 8th Joint Action Meeting at Queen Mary University, London.

Strachan, J., Tipper, S., (Aug. 2016). “Incidental learning of trust does not result in distorted memory for the physical features of faces”. Poster presented at the 39th European Conference on Visual Perception in Barcelona.

Strachan, J., Tipper, S., (May 2016). “Effects of Real-World Social Group Status on Incidental Learning of Trust.” Poster presented at International Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Granada.

Strachan, J., Tipper, S., (Jan. 2016). “Investigating the Durability of Incidentally Learned Trustworthiness Impressions”. Talk presented at the January meeting of the Experimental Psychology Society, UCL, London.

Strachan, J. (Nov. 2015). “Learning to trust: Background learning of social information”. Invited seminar, Wentworth College, University of York.

Strachan, J., Tipper, S., (July 2015). “Incidentally learning of traits from gaze cues generalises to judgements of unrelated stimuli”. Poster presented at Social Cognition Workshop, Bangor University.

Strachan, J., Tipper, S., (May 2015). “Using scalar ratings to track changes in apparent trustworthiness induced by helpful and misleading gaze cues”. Poster presented at Vision Sciences Society Annual Conference, St. Pete Beach, FL.