

# Marieke Woensdregt

---

[Centre for Language Evolution](#)

University of Edinburgh

Room 1.15, Dugald Stewart Building

3 Charles Street, Edinburgh, EH8 9AD, UK

*Last updated:* July 4, 2017

*E-mail:* [marieke.woe@gmail.com](mailto:marieke.woe@gmail.com)

*Website:* [click here](#)

## Education

### University of Edinburgh

Ph.D., Linguistics and English Language (expected graduation: summer 2018)

TOPIC: *Modelling the co-evolution of language and mindreading.*

### University of Amsterdam

M.Sc. (Res.), Brain & Cognitive Sciences (track: Cognitive Science), Aug. 2014

1ST RESEARCH PROJECT: *Stats & Nets versus Rules & Symbols:*

*Re-opening the Debate on Learning Mechanisms for Artificial*

*Grammar Learning.* Supervised by Dr. Jelle Zuidema, University of Amsterdam.

2ND RESEARCH PROJECT: *Modelling the Role of Theory of Mind in*

*Language Acquisition.* Supervised by Prof. Dr. Simon Kirby,

University of Edinburgh.

LITERATURE THESIS: *On the Role of Intentionality in Explaining the*

*Information Sharing Gap Between Nonhuman and Human Great*

*Apes.* Supervised by Dr. Bridget Waller, University of Portsmouth.

B.Sc., Psychobiology (track: Psychobiology), Aug. 2012

THESIS PROJECT: *The relationship between phonology and morphosyntax*

*in sentence processing: An ERP study into Dutch past tense*

*allomorphs.* Supervised by Dr. Judith Rispens, University of Amsterdam.

B.A., Dutch Language & Culture, Aug. 2012

THESIS PROJECT: *On the Semantic Motivation and Disappearance of*

*Embedded V2 in Dutch Dialects.* Supervised by Dr. Hedde Zeijlstra,

University of Amsterdam.

## Publications

Woensdregt, M. & Smith, K. (2017). [Pragmatics and Language Evolution](#).

In Aronoff, M. (Ed), *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Linguistics*.

doi: [10.1093/acrefore/9780199384655.013.321](https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780199384655.013.321)

Woensdregt, M., Kirby, S., Cummins, C.R., & Smith, K. (2016).  
[Modelling the co-development of word learning and perspective-taking.](#)  
 In *Proceedings of the 38th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Cognitive Science Society*.

## Talks & Posters

- Woensdregt, M., Kirby, S., Cummins, C.R., & Smith, K. (2016).  
[Modelling the co-development of word learning and perspective-taking.](#)  
 Poster at 38th CogSci Conference, Philadelphia.
- Woensdregt, M., Smith, K., Cummins, C.R., & Kirby, S. (2016).  
[The Cultural Co-evolution Of Language And Mindreading.](#)  
 Talk at EvoLang XI, New Orleans.
- Woensdregt, M., Kirby, S., & Smith, K. (2015). *Modelling the interaction between language acquisition and the development of theory of mind.* Talk at IMPRS Workshop “Perspectives on the ontogeny of mutual understanding”, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen.
- Woensdregt, M., Kirby, S., & Smith, K. (2015). [Modelling the Role of Theory of Mind in Language Evolution.](#) Talk at Protolang 4, Rome.
- Woensdregt, M. & Zuidema, W.H. (2014). *Neural Networks, Algebraic Rules & Human Uniqueness.* Talk at EvoLang X, Vienna.
- Woensdregt, M. & Zuidema, W.H. (2014). *Neural Networks, Algebraic Rules & Human Uniqueness.* Poster at Nijmegen Lectures (“No miracles! A Darwinian view of the evolution of cognition, language and culture”), Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen.
- Woensdregt, M. & Zuidema, W.H. (2013). [Is Statistical Learning Sufficient to Learn Grammar? A New Neural Network to Solve the Marcus et al. \(1999\) Task.](#) Poster at Lorentz Center Workshop (“Modelling Meets Infant Studies in Language Acquisition: A Dialogue on Current Challenges and Future Directions”), Lorentz Center, Leiden, The Netherlands.
- Rispens, J. & Woensdregt, M. (2013). *Processing past tense allomorphs: an ERP investigation.* Talk at 11th International Symposium of Psycholinguistics, Tenerife.

## Other Research Experience

Research Assistant on experiment comparing perspective-taking abilities of mono- and bilinguals. Principal investigators: Dr. Chris Cummins and Prof. Dr. Antonella Sorace, University of Edinburgh.

Teaching & Supervision Experience	<p><b>Department of Linguistics &amp; English Language, University of Edinburgh</b></p> <p>Supervisor, M.Sc. Thesis Project of Yiyun Zhao titled “<i>Simulating the interaction between mindreading and language in development and evolution</i>” for <a href="#">MSc Evolution of Language and Cognition</a>, sem. 2, 2015/2016.</p> <p>Tutor, <a href="#">LEL1: Linguistics and English Language</a>, sem. 1+2, 2016/2017.</p> <p>Tutor, <a href="#">Child Bilingualism: Language and Cognition</a>, sem. 2, 2015/2016.</p> <p>Tutor, <a href="#">LEL2A: Linguistic Theory and the Structure of English</a>, sem. 1, 2015/2016.</p> <p>Tutor, <a href="#">LEL2D: Cross-linguistic Variation: Limits and Theories</a>, sem. 2, 2014/2015.</p> <p>Lab Demonstrator, <a href="#">Simulating Language</a>, sem. 2, 2014/2015; 2015/2016; 2016/2017.</p>
Awards & Funding	<p><a href="#">PPLS-Gray postgraduate publication prize</a>, University of Edinburgh June 2017</p> <p><a href="#">Principal’s Career Development PhD Scholarship</a> Jan. 2015 - Jan. 2018</p> <p><a href="#">Erasmus Grant for Internship Abroad</a> Sep. - Feb. 2014</p>
Academic Service	<p>Co-organiser <a href="#">LEL Postgraduate Conference</a>, University of Edinburgh, June, 2016.</p> <p>Reviewer for <a href="#">Evolang XI conference</a>, New Orleans, 2016.</p> <p>Student Member of Education Committee for <a href="#">MSc Brain &amp; Cognitive Sciences</a>, University of Amsterdam, Sep. 2012 - Aug. 2013.</p>
Public Outreach	<p>Author of articles on topics in ‘Neurolinguistics &amp; Aphasia’ for the Journal of the Amsterdam Network of Psycholinguists (<a href="#">het WAP</a>). Two articles per year, 2012-2016.</p> <p>Co-organiser “<i>Culture, Communication and Context</i>” event for <a href="#">Innovative Learning Week “Ideas in Play”</a>, Feb. 2016, University of Edinburgh.</p> <p>Volunteer “<i>Cultural Evolution in Action</i>” event for <a href="#">Innovative Learning Week</a>, Feb. 2015, University of Edinburgh.</p>
Languages & Skills	<p>Dutch (native), English (near-native), German (advanced), Frisian (advanced), French (intermediate), Spanish (basic)</p> <p>Python</p>