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Department of Linguistics  
University of Arizona  
Communication Rm. 114E

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2016 - present	<b>Assistant professor</b> Department of Linguistics, Graduate Interdisciplinary Program in Cognitive Science, Graduate Interdisciplinary Program in Second Language Acquisition and Teaching, University of Arizona
2014 - 2016	<b>Postdoctoral researcher</b> Department of Psychology, University of Pennsylvania
2006 - 2009	<b>Research assistant</b> Linguistic Data Processing, University of Cologne

## EDUCATION

2014	<b>University of Rochester</b> , Rochester, NY Ph.D., Brain & Cognitive Sciences <i>Dissertation:</i> Communicative efficiency, language learning, and language universals
2012	<b>University of Rochester</b> , Rochester, NY M.A., Brain & Cognitive Sciences
2011	<b>LSA summer institute</b> , University of Colorado at Boulder, Boulder, CO
2009	<b>University of Cologne</b> , Cologne, Germany M.A., Linguistic Data Processing, English, & Phonetics
2007	<b>Minsk State Linguistic University</b> , Minsk, Belarus B.A., English & German

## PUBLICATIONS

\* DENOTES EQUAL CONTRIBUTION

**Fedzechkina, M. & Roberts, G. (2020).** Learners sacrifice robust communication as a result of a social bias. *Proceedings of the 42nd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society.*

Hall Hartley, L. & **Fedzechkina, M. (2020).** Learners' bias to balance production effort against message uncertainty is independent of their native language. *Proceedings of the 42nd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society.*

Zhao, Y. & **Fedzechkina, M.** (2020). Learners' harmonic preferences are modulated by lexical retrieval difficulty. *Proceedings of the Linguistic Society of America*.

**Fedzechkina, M.** & Jaeger, T. F. (2020). Production efficiency can cause grammatical change: Learners deviate from the input to better balance efficiency against robust message transmission. *Cognition*.

Roberts, G.\* & **Fedzechkina, M.\***. (2018). Social biases modulate the loss of redundant forms in the cultural evolution of language. *Cognition*.

**Fedzechkina, M.**, Chu, B., Jaeger, T. F. (2018). Human information processing shapes language change. *Psychological Science*.

**Fedzechkina, M.**, Newport, E., Jaeger, T. F. (2017). Balancing effort and information transmission during language acquisition: Evidence from word order and case-marking. *Cognitive Science*.

**Fedzechkina, M.**, Newport, E., Jaeger, T. F. (2016) The miniature artificial language learning paradigm as a complement to typological data. In Ortega, L., Tyler, A., Park, H. I., Uno, M. (Eds.), *The Usage-based Study of Language Learning and Multilingualism*. Georgetown: GUP.

**Fedzechkina, M.**, Jaeger, T. F., Trueswell, J.C. (2015). Production is biased to provide informative cues early: Evidence from miniature artificial languages. *Proceedings of the 37th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*.

**Fedzechkina, M.**, Jaeger, T. F., Newport, E. (2013). Communicative biases shape structures of newly acquired languages. *Proceedings of the 35th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*.

**Fedzechkina, M.**, Jaeger, T. F., Newport, E. (2012). Language learners restructure their input to facilitate efficient communication. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 109(44): 17897-17902.

**Fedzechkina, M.**, Jaeger, T. F., Newport, E. (2011). Functional biases in language learning: Evidence from word order and case-marking interaction. *Proceedings of the 33rd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*.

#### **MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION**

Ryrholm Martin, J., Pajak, B., **Fedzechkina, M.** (in prep). L2 learners (over)-generalize L1 similarity to novel domains: Insights from miniature language learning.

**Fedzechkina, M.** & Trueswell, J. (in prep). Producing informative cues early: A miniature language study.

#### **INVITED TALKS**

**2020.** Artificial language learning over the web: unique challenges and advantages. Edinburgh Summer School in Artificial Language Learning, Edinburgh, UK, August 17-19 [**keynote speaker**] [**conference cancelled due to COVID-19**]

**2018.** Human information processing shapes language change. Quantitative Approaches to Language Conference, University of California Irvine, Irvine, CA, May 4.

**2018.** Human information processing shapes language change. Cognition & Language Workshop, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA, February 8.

**2017.** Human information processing shapes language change. 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Arizona Linguistics Circle Conference, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, October 20-22. [**keynote speaker**]

**2017.** Processing preferences shape language structure and language change. 30<sup>th</sup> Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, MIT, Cambridge, MA, March 30-April 1. [**keynote speaker**]

**2017.** Using miniature languages to study constraints on first and second language acquisition. Second Language Acquisition and Teaching Colloquium, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, September 29.

**2017.** Processing and communication shape language learning and structure. Cognitive Science Seminar, Program in Cognitive Science, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, February 10.

**2016.** Processing and communication shape language learning and structure. Invited symposium at 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA, November 6. **[invited symposium]**

**2016.** Learners' biases as a cause for cross-linguistic generalizations: Processing and communication shape language learning and structure. Department of Linguistics, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, March, 8.

**2016.** Learners' biases as a cause for cross-linguistic generalizations: Processing and communication shape language learning and structure. Department of Linguistics, University of California, San Diego, San Diego, CA, February, 22.

**2014.** Communication shapes structures of newly acquired languages. Department of Linguistics, University at Buffalo -- SUNY, Buffalo, NY, January 27.

**2013.** Learners' communicative preferences shape structures of newly acquired languages. Language and Cognition Lab, Department of Psychology, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA, November 18.

**2013.** Learners' communicative preferences shape structures of newly acquired languages. Language Development and Language Processing Lab, Department of Psychology, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, May 15.

**2011.** Are there functional biases in language acquisition? Cognitive and Computational Approaches to Language Group, Department of Linguistics, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, January 10.

#### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

TALKS THAT LED TO PROCEEDINGS PAPERS MENTIONED ABOVE ARE NOT INCLUDED BELOW

Zhao, Y., & **Fedzechkina, M.** (2019). Learners' harmonic preferences in head ordering are modulated by lexical retrieval difficulty. Arizona Linguistics Circle, Tucson, AZ, October 25-27, 2019.

Ryrholm Martin, J., Pajak, B., & **Fedzechkina, M.** (2018). (Over-)generalization of L1-to-L2 similarity: Interference during L2 word order learning. 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Salt Lake City, UT, January 4-7, 2018.

Ryrholm Martin, J., Pajak, B., & **Fedzechkina, M.** (2017). L1-L2 similarity causes over-generalization in L2 word order learning: Evidence from a miniature artificial language. Arizona Linguistics Circle, Tucson, AZ, October 20-22, 2017.

**Fedzechkina, M.**, Chu, B., & Jaeger, T. F. (2017). Learners' processing preferences explain cross-linguistic word order variation. Georgetown University Round Table on Languages and Linguistics 2017, Washington, DC, March 10-12, 2017.

Roberts, G. & **Fedzechkina, M.** (2017). The effect of social biases on retention of redundant variation: An artificial language study. Georgetown University Round Table on Languages and Linguistics 2017, Washington, DC, March 10-12, 2017.

**Fedzechkina, M.** & Jaeger, T. F. (2017). Trade-off between effort and robust information transmission in cross-linguistic morphosyntax. Georgetown University Round Table on Languages and Linguistics 2017, Washington, DC, March 10-12, 2017.

**Fedzechkina, M.** (2016). Learners' biases as a cause for cross-linguistic generalizations. 7<sup>th</sup> Annual ASUofA Cognitive Science Conclave, Tempe, AZ, December 10, 2016.

Jaeger, T. F. & **Fedzechkina, M.** (2016). Effort vs. robust information transmission in language evolution. 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Evolution of Language, New Orleans, MS, March 21-24.

**Fedzechkina, M.**, Chu, B., Jaeger, T. F., & Trueswell, J. (2016). Processing preferences shape language change. 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Evolution of Language, New Orleans, MS, March 21-24.

Roberts, G. & **Fedzechkina, M.** (2016). Social biases vs. efficient communication: An iterated-learning study. 11th International Conference on the Evolution of Language, New Orleans, MS, March 21-24.

**Fedzechkina, M.**, Jaeger, T. F., Trueswell, J.C. (2015). Processing biases in learning shape cross-linguistically frequent structures. 40th Annual Meeting of the Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA, November 13-15.

Roberts, G. & **Fedzechkina, M.** (2015). Population structure, social bias, and efficiency: An iterated-learning study. 13th International Cognitive Linguistics Conference, Newcastle, UK, July 20-25.

**Fedzechkina, M.**, Newport, E., Jaeger, T. F. (2014). The miniature artificial language learning paradigm as a complement to typological data. Georgetown University Round Table on Languages and Linguistics 2014, Washington, DC, March 14-16, 2014.

**Fedzechkina, M.**, Newport, E., Jaeger, T. F. (2014). Functional biases in acquisition shape cross-linguistically frequent structures. Georgetown University Round Table on Languages and Linguistics 2014, Washington, DC, March 14-16.

Jaeger, T. F., **Fedzechkina, M.**, Kurumada, C., Newport, E. (2012). Confusability reduction in production and acquisition. DGfS 2012 workshop 'Information Density and Linguistic Variation', Frankfurt, Germany, March 9.

## CONFERENCE POSTERS

**Fedzechkina, M.**, Jaeger, T. F., Trueswell, J. (2015). Producing informative cues early: Evidence from a miniature artificial language. 28th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Los Angeles, CA, March 19-21.

**Fedzechkina, M.**, Chu, B., Jaeger, T. F. (2015). 'Long before short' preference in a head-final artificial language: In support of dependency minimization accounts. 28th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Los Angeles, CA, March 19-21.

**Fedzechkina, M.**, Newport, E., Jaeger, T. F. (2014). Trading off robust information transmission in language learning and language structure. 39th Annual Meeting of the Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA, November 7-9.

**Fedzechkina, M.**, Newport, E., Jaeger, T. F. (2014). Language processing shapes language change: Redundant cues are less likely to be maintained in language. 27th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Columbus, OH, March 13-15.

**Fedzechkina, M.**, Jaeger, T. F., Newport, E. (2011). Functional biases in acquisition: Language learners restructure the input to avoid uncertainty. 36th Annual Meeting of the Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA, November 4-6.

**Fedzechkina, M.**, Jaeger, T. F., Newport, E. (2011). Functional biases in (artificial) language learning. 24th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Stanford, CA, March 24-26.

**Fedzechkina, M.**, Jaeger, T. F., Newport, E. (2011). Word order and case-marking in language acquisition and processing. 85th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Pittsburgh, PA, January 6-9. **[designated particularly media-worthy]**

## NON-ACADEMIC WRITING

**Fedzechkina, M.** (2018). [Inadvertently Touched by Scandal](#). *Inside Higher Ed*.

## TEACHING

### University of Arizona:

- Linguistics 533: Theories of Language Development (graduate level)
- Linguistics 532: Psychology of Language (graduate level)
- Linguistics 696F: Empirical Approaches to Language Universals (graduate level seminar)
- Linguistics 341: Language Development (undergraduate level; both in-person and online)

- Linguistics 432: Psychology of Language (undergraduate level; both in-person and online)

#### **University of Rochester:**

- BCS 259: Language Development (teaching assistant)
- BCS 152: Language and Psycholinguistics (teaching assistant)

#### **STUDENT MENTORSHIP**

#### **Primary PhD advisor, University of Arizona:**

- Jaycie Ryrholm Martin
- Lucy Hall Hartley

#### **Dissertation or qualifying committee member, University of Arizona:**

- Adam King (qualifying paper & dissertation)
- Drake Asberry (dissertation)
- Anna Katikhina

#### **Honors thesis supervision, University of Arizona:**

- Grace Johnson

#### **Graduate research assistants, University of Arizona:**

- Lucy Hall Hartley, Fall 2018 – present
- Yiyun Zhao, Fall 2018 – Spring 2019
- Matthew Watson, Fall 2017 – Spring 2019
- Jaycie Martin, Fall 2016 – Spring 2018
- Noah Nelson, Spring 2016 – Spring 2018
- Florian Hafner, Fall 2016

#### **Undergraduate research assistants, University of Arizona:**

- Christina Marikos, Fall 2018
- Riah Coulter, Spring 2018 – Fall 2018
- Nizan Howard, Fall 2017 – present
- Shannon Williams, Summer 2017

#### **Independent study students, University of Arizona:**

- Louis Edward Gallegos, Spring 2017. Topic: 'Web-based methods for cross-linguistic data elicitation'.

#### **Undergraduate research assistants, University of Pennsylvania:**

- Anton Relin, Fall 2015 – Spring 2016
- Logan Castrucci, Fall 2015 – Spring 2016
- Emily Eck, Summer 2015 – Fall 2015
- Ivy Gregory, Spring 2015
- Barry Oshiba, Fall 2014
- Juan Padilla, Fall 2014 - Spring 2015

#### **Undergraduate research assistants, University of Rochester:**

- Madeline Clark, Spring 2015 - Spring 2016
- Becky Chu, Spring 2014 – Spring 2016
- Patrick Davis, Summer 2013
- Suzanne Blackley, Spring 2013 - Spring 2014
- Shreya Krishnan, Summer 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2013 - Spring 2014
- Erica Williams, Spring 2013, Fall 2013 - Spring 2014
- Kate Heffernan, Spring 2013

- Meghan Hennessy, Spring 2013
- Christopher Anzalone, Fall 2012
- Elisa Hoyos, Fall 2012
- Rachel Aronovitz, Fall 2012
- Cynthia Orr, Fall 2012
- Theodore Lincoln, Summer 2012
- Greta Smith, Fall 2012 - Spring 2013
- Tara Stanley, Fall 2011 - Summer 2013
- Vivian Choi, Fall 2010 - Spring 2011
- Keryn Bernstein, Fall 2010 - Spring 2011
- Colleen Dolan, Summer 2010, Fall 2011 - Spring 2012
- Rebecca Glass, Summer 2010

#### **Independent study students, University of Rochester:**

- Becky Chu, Summer 2014. Topic: 'First and second language influences on the acquisition of case-marking in the third language'.
- Suzanne Blackley, Summer 2013 - Summer 2014. Topic: 'Communicative influences on the acquisition of optional case systems: A partner study using miniature artificial languages'.
- Delarom Menhaj, Spring 2013. Topic: 'The role of language experience in morphological acquisition'.
- Eric Partridge, Spring, 2012. Topic: 'Production strategies in two-word stage children'.
- Shreya Krishnan, Spring, 2012. Topic: 'Production strategies in two-word stage children'.
- Tara Stanley, Spring 2011. Topic: 'Functional biases in language acquisition'.
- Colleen Dolan, Spring 2010. Topic: 'Processing influences on word order acquisition'.
- Rebecca Glass, Spring 2010. Topic: 'Processing influences on word order acquisition'.

#### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

##### **Workshop organization:**

- Interdisciplinary Workshop on Origins and Evolution of Word Order. April 16, 2018, Torun, Poland. (with Ramon Ferrer-i-Cancho).

##### **Reviewing:**

- **Ad-hoc journal reviewer:** Psychological Science; Journal of Memory and Language; Cognition; Language, Learning, & Development; Language, Cognition, & Neuroscience; Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Cognitive Science; Frontiers in Psychology; Applied Psycholinguistics; Open Mind; Language Dynamics and Change; Language
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- **Conference reviewer:** Cognitive Science Society Conference; Evolution of Language International Conference (EvoLang); CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing
- **Grant reviewer:** NSF

##### **University of Arizona service:**

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|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Hiring Committee, Department of Linguistics         | Fall 2018-Spring 2018 |
| • Advertising Committee, Department of Linguistics    | Spring 2018-present   |
| • SPFI Committee, Department of Linguistics           | Fall 2018-present     |
| • Colloquium Organizer, Department of Linguistics     | Summer 2017-present   |
| • Human Subjects Committee, Department of Linguistics | Fall 2016-present     |

#### **MEDIA COVERAGE**

**Fedzechkina, M.,** Chu, B., Jaeger, T. F. (2017). Human information processing shapes language change. *Psychological Science*.

Reported in: NPR Phoenix, NPR Tucson -- Arizona Science, World Economic Forum, Futurity, True Viral News, Science Newsline, Scott, Eurasia Review, Laboratory Equipment, MedicalXpress

**Fedzechkina, M.,** Jaeger, T. F., Newport, E. (2012). Language learners restructure their input to facilitate efficient communication. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 109(44): 17897-17902.

Reported in: Psychology Today, Academic Minute, Sceptic's Guide to the Universe, ScienceOmega, Rochester Review, Futurity, Phys.org, ScienceBlog, Science Daily, E-Science News, Sify News, ThruthDrive, BioSpace.

## RESEARCH FUNDING

pending	\$19,025	<b>University Research Foundation</b> , University of Pennsylvania: Communication, learning, and social preference: Investigating the joint influences of social and non-social biases on the cultural evolution of language.
2018	\$37,375	<b>University of Arizona Equipment Enhancement Fund:</b> Eye- movement tracking in language processing research (equipment grant for eye-tracker purchase)
2017 -- 2018	\$3,216	<b>SBSRI Faculty Small Grant:</b> A web-based framework for multiday language learning experiments

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

2017 -- 2018	<b>Tucson Public Voices Fellowship</b>
2011	<b>Paula Menyuk travel award</b> for BUCLD 2011
2011	<b>LSA summer institute</b> fellowship
2007—2009	<b>Koelner Gymnasial- und Stiftungsfonds</b> , Cologne, Germany Scholarship for academic excellence
2007	<b>University of Cologne</b> , Cologne, Germany Tuition waver
2000—2004	<b>Minsk State Linguistic University</b> , Minsk, Belarus Scholarship for academic excellence

## LANGUAGES

**Belarusian** (native)  
**Russian** (native)  
**English** (fluent)  
**German** (fluent)  
**Italian** (intermediate)

Tucson, AZ  
May 13, 2020