

# PARKER T. ROBBINS

Email: [parker.t.robbins@gmail.com](mailto:parker.t.robbins@gmail.com)

ORCID: [0000-0003-0937-233X](https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0937-233X)

Website: [parkerrobbins.com](http://parkerrobbins.com)

GitHub: [github.com/parkerrobbins](https://github.com/parkerrobbins)

---

## EDUCATION

- 2015 – 2019      **Northeastern University**, Boston, MA.  
Bachelors of Science in Linguistics, *summa cum laude*.  
GPA: 4.0 (on a 4.0 scale).  
Honors in Linguistics and University Honors Program Distinctions.  
Minor: French.  
Thesis: *The effect of prescriptive rules and instructions on the grammaticality judgment task*.  
Advisor: Prof. Heather Littlefield  
Second Reader: Prof. Adam Cooper
- 2018              **Cours de civilisation française de la Sorbonne**, Paris, France.  
*Courses of French Civilization of the Sorbonne*.  
Certificat de langue et civilisation françaises, Niveau C1, *Mention très bien*.  
*Certificate of French Language and Civilization, Level C1 (Advanced)*, with honors.  
Semester-long study abroad experience in Spring 2018.

---

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Morphosyntax (particularly case), language acquisition, experimental syntax and sentence processing, understudied languages, L1 acquisition, metalinguistic awareness, grammaticality judgments, linguistic fieldwork.

---

## RESEARCH & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2020 – **Postbaccalaureate Research Assistant**, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA.

*Language Learning Laboratory*, directed by Prof. Joshua Hartshorne.

- Conducted a search of machine-readable corpora and lexicons for over 40 languages in support of a grant application.
- Mentor undergraduates learning to code in R using Datacamp in a weekly training session.

**KidTalk Language Scrapbook** ([kidtalkscrapbook.org](http://kidtalkscrapbook.org); BCS-2030106)

- Assisted in the preparation of a preprint and conference abstract by reviewing literature, searching for relevant datasets, and analyzing data in R.
- Developed and documented a semi-automated system to send regular messages to KidTalk app users via Mailchimp, the KidTalk website, and social media.

**Moving Research Online** ([movingresearchonline.info](http://movingresearchonline.info); BCS-2029637)

- Tested and created documentation for installing the Pushkin experiment software on Ubuntu Linux, AWS EC2 instances, and Windows Subsystem for Linux.
- Designed and implemented a video conferencing solution using Zoom and YouTube Live to deliver and archive 6 live presentation sessions to over 500 workshop registrants.
- Triageed questions from and provided support to users of jsPsych and Pushkin on GitHub Discussions.

2019 – 2020

**Laboratory Manager**, University of Delaware, Newark, DE.

*Language Acquisition and Brain Laboratory*, directed by Prof. Zhenghan Qi.

- Organized the transition from in-person to remote work during the COVID-19 pandemic, including setting up remote access to lab computers and creating a framework for remote supervision of undergraduates.
- Maintained IRB protocols and ensure protocol compliance in order to protect human subject data.
- Completed purchasing, accounting, and organizational tasks to ensure the smooth progression of research activity.
- Provided programming and technical support to members of the lab for automation, data cleaning, and data analysis tasks.

**Statistical Learning and Language Development in Children with ASD**

([5R21DC017576-02](#))

- Developed and directed a project to automate data management and migrate stored data into a REDCap database to reduce human error and data loss.
- Managed outreach to participants, recruitment and scheduling of families, and data collection from typically developing children and children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- Supervised, trained, and mentored 12 undergraduate research assistants in how to use lab procedures for participant recruitment, data collection, and data management.

- 2018 – 2019      **Research Assistant**, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.  
*Snedeker Laboratory at the Harvard Laboratory for Developmental Studies.*
- Conducted eye-tracking studies with adult participants to study language processing of meaning.
  - Aided in designing a language production study using the Ixet Farm and E-Prime experimental platforms.
- 2017                **Full-Time Research Assistant**, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA.  
*Language Learning Laboratory*, directed by Prof. Joshua Hartshorne.
- Led team of five other undergraduates in the Vocabulary Development research team, overseeing literature reviews, research design, and participant recruitment.
  - Completed administrative tasks including purchasing, organizing schedules, and creating a sustainability initiative.
  - Collected, entered, processed, and analyzed data from vocabulary development studies using R.

---

## ARTICLES

### *Peer-Reviewed Working Papers*

- 2019                **Robbins, P.T.** The effect of prescriptive rules and instructions on the grammaticality judgment task. *Northeastern University Working Papers in Linguistics*, volume 4. Available at: <http://hdl.handle.net/2047/D20381950>. Code and data available at: <https://github.com/parkerrobbins/2019-judgment-study>.

- 2017            **Robbins, P.T.** Transfer, selectivity, and competence: First language attrition and Minimalism. *Northeastern University Working Papers in Linguistics*, volume 2. Available at: <http://hdl.handle.net/2047/D20381944>.

### *Preprints*

- 2020            Hartshorne, J.K, Huang, Y.T., Lucio Paredes Aulestia, P.M., Oppenheimer, K., **Robbins, P.T.**, and Velasco Molina, M.D. Screen time as an index of family distress. doi: [10.31234/osf.io/zqc4t](https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/zqc4t)

---

## PRESENTATIONS

### *Talks*

- February 2019    **Robbins, P.T.** The effect of prescriptive rules and instructions on the grammaticality judgment task. Talk given to the Syntax and Semantics Lab, University of Delaware, Newark, DE.
- April 2019        **Robbins, P.T.** Assessing validity: Instructions and the grammaticality judgment task. Talk given at the 13th Cornell Undergraduate Linguistics Colloquium [peer-reviewed], Ithaca, NY. Slides available at: <https://git.io/JeoZD>.
- March 2019        **Robbins, P.T.** The effect of prescriptive rules and instructions on the grammaticality judgment task. Talk given at the Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavor Award Peer Talks series, Northeastern University, Boston, MA. Video available at: <https://youtu.be/emRomYt2Uws>.

## *Poster*

April 2019      **Robbins, P.T.** Sentence grammaticality judgments: Do task instructions matter? Poster presented at the Research, Innovation, Scholarship, and Entrepreneurship Exposition, Northeastern University, Boston, MA. Poster available at: <https://git.io/JeoZ1>.

---

## **AWARDS & HONORS**

April 2020      National Science Foundation, **Honorable Mention, Graduate Research Fellowship Program.**

April 2019      Northeastern University Honors Program, **Honors Conference Travel Award**, \$650 awarded to present undergraduate thesis at the 13th Cornell Undergraduate Linguistics Colloquium in Ithaca, NY.

March 2019      Northeastern University Office of the Provost, **Sears B. Condit Award**, \$200 awarded to one hundred graduating students with the highest grade point averages.

January 2019      Northeastern University Office of Undergraduate Research and Fellowships, **Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavor Award**, \$1,900 to fund my undergraduate thesis.

2018, 2019      Northeastern University Office of the Provost, **President's Award**, \$100 (each year) awarded to the top ten students of the recipient's university class (as measured by grade point average).

2015 – 2019      Northeastern University College of Science, **Dean's List.**

---

## TUTORIAL & ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

- 2018 – 2019      **Peer Tutor**, Northeastern University, Boston, MA.
- Reviewed core material from a variety of linguistics and psychology courses with students in order to help them succeed.
  - Designed and executed detailed action plans for students to guide each session.
  - Created example psychology questions and linguistics problems to check for comprehension of difficult concepts.
- 2017; 2018      **Linguistics Program Grading Assistant**, Northeastern University, Boston, MA.
- Provided peer reviews of Linguistic Analysis papers in order to facilitate student progress.
  - Evaluated papers against a rubric in a strict timeline to aid professor in analyzing student work.
  - Aided in preparing course materials by creating new in-class practice language analysis problem sets.
- 2015; 2016      **Linguistics Program Office Assistant**, Northeastern University, Boston, MA.
- Aided in preparing course materials by making copies and formatting documents.
  - Summarized linguistics articles and built slideshows to support faculty in the development of new and existing courses.

---

**LANGUAGE PROFILE**

*English.* Native.

*French.* CEFR Level C1 (Advanced proficiency): Certificate obtained in Paris in 2018.

---

**TECHNICAL SKILLS**

|                        |                                 |          |             |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|-------------|
| Amazon Mechanical Turk | Ibex Farm                       | Mac OS X | (R)Markdown |
| Bash                   | JavaScript                      | MATLAB   | Slack       |
| Git/GitHub             | jsPsych                         | Python   | Windows     |
| GitHub Pages           | L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X | R        | Wordpress   |
| HTML/CSS               | Linux                           | REDCap   | Zoom        |