

Robert Lennon

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Qualifications	PhD English Language & Linguistics	University of Glasgow	2019
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Experience and learning in cross-dialect perception: derhoticised /r/ in Glasgow</i>• Supervisors: Dr Rachel Smith, Professor Jane Stuart-Smith• Funding: ESRC 1+3 scholarship		
	MSc English Language & Linguistics (Distinction)	University of Glasgow	2013
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>The effect of experience in cross-dialect perception: Parsing /r/ in Glaswegian</i>• Supervisors: Dr Rachel Smith, Professor Jane Stuart-Smith• Funding: ESRC 1+3 scholarship		
	MA English Language (1st Class Honours)	University of Glasgow	2012
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dissertation: <i>A real-time sociophonetic study of postvocalic /r/ in the speech of schoolchildren in Bearsden</i>• David Murison Prize: Best Performance in Modern English Language & Scots		
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Senior Research Associate, Lancaster University 2020–24<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Leverhulme trust funded project investigating loss of rhoticity in Lancashire– Analysed speech corpus (transcription, forced alignment, auditory coding, phonetic analysis)– Currently building a new corpus of ultrasound recordings– Disseminating research findings in journal & conference submissions– Trained & supervised RAs on auditory coding & corpus processing– Designed a new project strand in consultation with P.I., to meet Covid-19 restrictions– Designed & ran online perception experiment– Contributing to lab group activities: co-organised a weekly R coding group, delivered talks– Wrote & delivered Masters sociophonetics lecture.(Principal Investigator: Dr Danielle Turton)• Lecturer in Phonetics & Sociolinguistics, University of Glasgow 2021–22<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Teaching, assessment, supervision: sociolinguistics, phonetics & general linguistics– Convenor & head lecturer: Sociolinguistics Honours & PGT courses (44 students)– Convenor: Level 2 Linguistics year group (94 students)<ul style="list-style-type: none">* Coordinated teaching team of 8 lecturers & 15 tutors* Collated course documentation & assessment materials* Chaired tutor briefings & student feedback sessions* Students' first point of contact & provided pastoral support* Administered Moodle VLE & made regular course announcements– Co-convenor: PGT in Speech, Lang. & Sociolinguistics (incoming 2022-23 cohort)<ul style="list-style-type: none">* reviewed applications, coordinated with colleagues on course scheduling– Chaired an Annual Progress Review: reviewed PhD writing sample & gave feedback– Conducted interviews for upcoming GTA positions– Supervised nine dissertation students (UG & PGT)(Head of Subject: Prof Tom Bartlett)• Research Fellow, University of Leeds 2017–20<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Leverhulme trust funded project investigating speech tempo perception– Designed & ran speech perception experiments– Created & maintained a large phonetic speech corpus– Disseminated research findings in journal outputs & conference submissions(Principal Investigator: Dr Leendert Plug)		

Research

Publications:

- Lennon, R. (under review). Perception of ambiguous rhoticity in Glasgow. *Journal of Phonetics*
- Plug, L., Lennon, R. & Smith, R. (submitted). Evidence for canonical form orientation in speech tempo perception.
- Turton, D. & Lennon, R. (accepted pending revisions). An acoustic analysis of rhoticity in Lancashire, England. *Journal of Phonetics*
- Plug, L., Lennon, R. & Smith, R. (2022). Measured and perceived speech tempo: Comparing canonical and surface articulation rates. *Journal of Phonetics* 95, 101193.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wocn.2022.101193>
- Plug, L., Lennon, R. & Smith, R. (2022). Schwa deletion and perceived tempo in English. Proceedings of the 11th International Conference on Speech Prosody. Lisbon: Universidade de Lisboa.
- Plug, L., Lennon, R. & Gold, E. (2021). Articulation rates' inter-correlations and discriminating powers in an English speech corpus. *Speech Communication* 132, 40-54.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.specom.2021.05.006>
- Plug, L., Smith, R., & Lennon, R. (2020). [Listeners' sensitivity to syllable complexity in speech tempo perception](#). Proceedings of the 10th International Conference on Speech Prosody. Tokyo: University of Tokyo.
- Lennon, R., Plug, L. & Gold, E. (2019). [A comparison of multiple speech tempo measures: Inter-correlations and discriminating power](#). Proceedings of the 19th ICPhS. Melbourne: University of Melbourne.
- Plug, L., Lennon, & R. Smith, R. (2019). [Measured and perceived speech tempo: Canonical vs surface syllable and phone rates](#). Proceedings of the 19th ICPhS. Melbourne: University of Melbourne.
- Lennon, R., Smith, R. & Stuart-Smith, J. (2015). [An acoustic investigation of postvocalic /r/ variants in two sociolects of Glaswegian](#). Proceedings of the 18th ICPhS. Glasgow: University of Glasgow.
- Stuart-Smith, J., Lennon, R., MacDonald, R., Robertson, D., Sóskuthy, M., José, B. & Evers, L. (2015). [A dynamic acoustic view of real-time change in word-final liquids in spontaneous Glaswegian](#). Proceedings of the 18th ICPhS. Glasgow: University of Glasgow.

Additional research experience:

- *Eye-tracking project:* In collaboration with [Dr Gisela Tomé Lourido](#) and [Dr Bronwen Evans](#), designed and ran an eye-tracking experiment, investigating the perception of Northern and Southern English vowels, and the effect of short-term priming on eye gaze. **2018–ongoing**
- *Research grant bid writing assistance:* Employed by a colleague at the University of Glasgow to research Bayesian modelling, eye-tracking methodology, design an eye-tracking experiment, and obtain detailed equipment quotes and advice from an eye-tracking company. **2016–17**
- *Research Assistant:* 'An Online Transitions Nexus for International PGTs', aimed at improving international students' academic & social transition to university life in a different country. Duties included standardising & populating the online student support service with materials including acclimatisation, advice on academic writing, and language guidance. ([Learning Enhancement & Academic Development Service](#), *University of Glasgow*) **2017**
- *Research Assistant:* Conducted participant recruitment and recordings for [Understanding British Accents in Noise](#) ([Professor Paul Iverson](#), [Dr Bronwen Evans](#), *UCL*) **2014–17**
- *Laboratory support:* Completed a full inventory of recording equipment for [Glasgow University Laboratory of Phonetics](#) ([Professor Jane Stuart-Smith](#), [Dr Rachel Smith](#)) **2013**
- *Research Assistant:* ESRC, Carnegie Trust and Leverhulme Trust funded projects, including [Sounds of the City](#), [Seeing Speech](#), and [Seeing the Links in the Speaker-hearer Chain](#) ([Professor Jane Stuart-Smith](#), *University of Glasgow*; [Professor James Scobbie](#), [Dr Eleanor Lawson](#), *Queen Margaret University*) **2012–17**

Selected conference presentations:

- The loss of rhoticity in Blackburn, Lancashire: Evidence from sociolinguistic interviews and ultrasound. (Co-author) *UKLVC 14, University of Edinburgh* **June 2023**
- [Do listeners orient to canonical forms when judging speech tempo?](#) (Co-author) *LabPhon18, Online conference* **June 2022**
- [Schwa deletion and perceived tempo in English.](#) (Co-author) *Speech Prosody 11, Universidade de Lisboa* **May 2022**
- [“An island of rhoticity”: The first comprehensive instrumental analysis of postvocalic /r/ in Lancashire.](#) *'R-Atics 7, Université de Lausanne* **November 2021**
- Ambiguous rhoticity in Lancashire and Glasgow: A perceptual comparison. *UKLVC 13, University of Glasgow* **September 2021**
- Processing regional accent variation: Real-time and reaction time measures. (Co-author) *UKLVC 13, University of Glasgow* **September 2021**
- The perception of variable rhoticity in Blackburn, Lancashire: Evidence from an online study. *Phonetics Lab, Aarhus University*
 - Invited speaker **May 2021**
- Using eye-tracking to investigate the role of regional variation in spoken word recognition. (Co-author) *Phonetics Lab meeting, Lancaster University* **February 2021**
- Acoustics and perception of Glaswegian /r/. *Phonetics Lab meeting, Lancaster University*
 - Invited speaker **November 2020**
- [Listeners' sensitivity to syllable complexity in speech tempo perception.](#) (Co-author) *Speech Prosody 10, University of Tokyo* **May 2020**
- Speech tempo perception and deletion: Evidence from a listening experiment. *Rate and Rhythm in Speech Recognition, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen* **December 2019**
- [The effect of regional variation on speech processing: Evidence from an eye-tracking experiment.](#) (Co-author) *UKLVC 12, QMU/UCL* **September 2019**
- [A comparison of multiple speech tempo measures: Inter-correlations and discriminating power.](#) *19th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences, Melbourne* **August 2019**
- [Measured and perceived speech tempo: Canonical vs surface syllable and phone rates.](#) (Co-author) *19th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences, Melbourne* **August 2019**
- Comparing alternative speech tempo measures: Inter-correlations and discriminating powers. *28th International Association for Forensic Phonetics and Acoustics, Istanbul* **July 2019**
- Speech tempo measurement and perception *Linguistics Colloquium, University of York*
 - Invited speaker (co-presented with Leendert Plug) **February 2019**
- Experience and learning in cross-dialect perception: Ambiguous /r/ in Glasgow. *Speech Science Forum seminar, University College London* **October 2018**
 - Invited speaker
- Perception of Glaswegian rhoticity suffers in challenging listening conditions. *British Association of Academic Phoneticians, University of Kent* **April 2018**
 - Invited session chair: Speech Perception
- Challenging listening conditions make understanding Glaswegian /r/ even harder. *10th annual Speech in Noise Workshop, Glasgow* **January 2018**
- When is sound change more than segmental change? Coda /r/ and voice quality shifts in Glasgow since 1890. (Co-author) *UKLVC 11, Cardiff University* **August 2017**
- Tracking the timecourse of perception: Ambiguous rhoticity in Glasgow. *Abstraction, Diversity, and Speech Dynamics Workshop, Institute of Phonetics and Speech Processing, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, München* **May 2017**

- The long and winding road between groups and individuals: A non-linear approach to changing liquids in Glasgow English. (Co-author) *4th International Workshop on Sound Change, Edinburgh University* **April 2017**
- Fussed, second, thud: Mouse tracking reveals implicit perception of ambiguous /r/ in Glasgow. *English Language & Linguistics Research Seminar, University of Glasgow* **March 2017**
– Invited speaker
- Glasgow Smiles Better? Long-term and short-term adaptation to accents. *Human Language Processing Lab presentation, University of Rochester* **February 2017**
– Invited speaker (co-presented with Rachel Smith)
- [Ambiguous rhoticity in Glasgow: Short term exposure promotes perceptual adaptation for experienced and inexperienced listeners.](#) *LabPhon15, Cornell University* **July 2016**
– National Science Foundation travel award (\$400)
- Short term learning of derhoticised /r/ in Glasgow: Adaptation occurs for experienced and inexperienced listeners. *British Association of Academic Phoneticians, Lancaster University* **March 2016**
- Is gender a factor in real-time acoustic change in coda liquids in Glasgow? (Co-author) *British Association of Academic Phoneticians, Lancaster University* **March 2016**
- [An acoustic investigation of postvocalic /r/ variants in two sociolects of Glaswegian.](#) *18th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences, Glasgow* **August 2015**
- [A dynamic acoustic view of real-time change in word-final liquids in spontaneous Glaswegian.](#) (Co-author) *18th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences, Glasgow* **August 2015**
- The role of experience in accent perception: Parsing /r/ in Glaswegian. *English Language & Linguistics Research Seminar, University of Glasgow* **October 2014**
– Invited speaker
- Increased exposure can aid perception of ambiguous /r/ variants in Glasgow. *British Association of Academic Phoneticians, University of Oxford* **April 2014**
– Joint winner of Eugénie Henderson prize for best oral presentation
- A real-time sociophonetic study of postvocalic /r/ in Glaswegian schoolchildren. *8th Newcastle Postgraduate Conference in Linguistics, Newcastle University* **April 2013**
- A real-time sociophonetic study of /r/ in Bearsden. *Lab Lunch lecture series, Glasgow University Laboratory of Phonetics* **January 2013**
– Invited speaker

Teaching

- Lecturer in Phonetics & Sociolinguistics, *University of Glasgow* **2021–22**
- **Introduction to Sociolinguistics** (PGT) – Convenor, lecturer, tutor
 - **Sociolinguistics** (UG Honours) – Convenor, lecturer, tutor
 - **Introduction to Phonetics** & Phonology (PGT) – Lecturer, tutor
 - **Methods in Phonetics** (PGT) – Lecturer for 'Articulatory Phonetics' strand
 - **Phonetics: Introductory Concepts** (UG Honours) – Lecturer, tutor
 - **Level 2 English Language & Linguistics** (UG) – Year group convenor, lecturer for 'Phonetics & Phonology' strand, tutor for modern & historical linguistics topics
 - **Level 1 English Language & Linguistics** (UG) – Lecturer for 'Varieties of English' strand, tutor for modern linguistics topics

Additional teaching experience:

- 'Sociophonetics' guest lecture, *Lancaster University* (Sociolinguistics MA) **2020**
- 'Phonation' guest lecture, *University of Glasgow* (Phonetics: Introductory Concepts) **2016**
- Graduate Teaching Assistant, *University of Glasgow* **2013–17**

- Phonetics Introductory Concepts (UG Honours, 2016–17) – Tutor, maintained VLE, course design
- Phonetics Advanced Concepts (UG Honours, 2016–17) – Tutor, marking, conducted practical exams
- Phonetics & Phonology (UG Honours, 2013–15) – Tutor
- Level 2 English Language & Linguistics (UG) – Tutor: sociolinguistics, phonetics, grammar, semantics, corpus linguistics; marking
- Level 1 English Language & Linguistics (UG) – Marking
- Training Qualification: GTA Introduction to Learning and Teaching in Higher Education

Training and supervision:

- Supervising nine Honours & PGT dissertation students at Glasgow **2021–22**
- Supervised RAs at Lancaster, trained on software use & auditory coding **2021**
- Co-founder of 'R for Data Science' reading group at [Lancaster University Phonetics Lab](#), helping PG students work through [this online resource](#) **2020–21**
- Provided training in methodological techniques to students & colleagues at [Leeds](#) **2018–20**
- Assisted with writing & delivery of two 3-day 'R for Arts' programming workshops for PhD students across Scotland (with [Dr Ewa Wanat](#) & [Dr Vijay Solanki](#), funder: [SGSAH](#)) **2017**
- Delivered training session: 'Signal Detection Theory', [GULP](#) **2015**
- Co-chaired statistics training session using R, '*R Group*' workshop series, [GULP](#) **2014**
- Led Sociophonetics reading group for three sessions, [GULP](#) **2014**

IT skills

- [Praat](#): acoustic & auditory analysis, TextGrid transcription, scripting, spectral & prosodic manipulation, resynthesis, experiment presentation
- [RStudio](#): data manipulation (Tidyverse), graphical output (e.g. ggplot2), modelling (e.g. LMEM, Discrete Cosine Transformation), Knitr, Shiny, Plotly
- [WebMAUS](#), [MFA](#): automatic alignment and segmentation of phonetic corpora
- *Perceptual testing*: Gorilla, PsychoPy, Prolific, DMDX, MouseTracker, Experiment Builder
- *Linguistic analysis*: Ultrasound Tongue Imaging, Articulate Assistant Advanced, DeepLabCut, Formant Editor (Sóskuthy 2015), LaBB-CAT, ELAN, Transcriber
- *Other languages and software*: Moodle, Zoom, Teams, Outlook, Excel, Word, PowerPoint, L^AT_EX (Overleaf, TeXstudio), JabRef, Mendeley, Audacity, Python, GitHub, HTML, Trello, EndNote

Impact & Outreach

- Co-wrote and delivered (with Dr Leendert Plug) public engagement activity *How do we understand speech rate?*; part of University of Leeds [Be Curious](#) event **2018**
- Interviewed for BBC World Service [CrowdScience](#) radio broadcasts & podcasts, discussing accent diversity in Glasgow: *Why do we have so many accents?* and *What do our accents say about us?* **2017**
- Co-wrote and delivered (with Dr Rachel Smith) public engagement workshops *Hearing Voices*; assisted with companion workshops *Seeing Speech* and *Changing Accents*; part of Science Sunday at [Glasgow Science Festival](#) **2014–17**
- Assisted at University of Glasgow Open Days **2012–16**
- Conference assistance: [18th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences](#), [Perspectives on Rhythm and Timing](#), [Progress in Colour Studies](#) **2012–15**
- Interviewed [Professor Christian Kay](#) on creating *The Historical Thesaurus of English*, and on 'life as an academic': [Employability](#), *University of Glasgow* **2011**

Awards, prizes & funding	Research Support Fund to attend BAAP and SPiN conferences	2018
	• <i>School of Languages, Cultures, and Societies, University of Leeds</i> (1x £450; 1x £235)	
	ESRC 1+3 (MSc+PhD) Scholarship maintenance stipend (£55,000), and tuition fees grant (£15,000), with additional annual research grant (£750 x4)	2012–16
	• <i>Economic & Social Research Council</i> (£73,000)	
	Conference travel award, to attend LabPhon 15 conference	2016
	• <i>National Science Foundation, USA</i> (\$400)	
	Postgraduate research grants for fieldwork	2013–16
	• <i>College of Arts, University of Glasgow</i> (1x £275; 1x £250)	
	• <i>School of Critical Studies, University of Glasgow</i> (£150)	
	Eugénie Henderson prize: Best oral presentation	2014
	• <i>British Association of Academic Phoneticians</i> (Joint winner: £50)	
	David Murison Prize: Best Performance in Modern English Language & Scots	2012
	• <i>School of Critical Studies, University of Glasgow</i> (£60)	
Memberships	• British Association of Academic Phoneticians	