

# Lena Ackermann

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## EDUCATION

- 2016–present PhD, Behavior and Cognition, University of Göttingen
- PhD project on the influence of individual interests on early vocabularies
- 2013–2016 MA, Linguistics, University of Marburg
- 2010–2013 BA, German and French Studies, University of Bonn, University of Paris-Sorbonne

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2016–present Research fellow, Psychology of Language, University of Göttingen
- Behavioral, eye tracking and EEG studies with children aged 9 months to 3 years
  - Data analysis in R, including growth curve analysis, generalized linear mixed models, and cluster permutation analysis
  - Teaching and supervision of student projects at the bachelor and master levels
- 2019 Guest researcher, Language Development Department, MPI for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen
- 6-week research visit working with Dr. Christina Bergmann
  - Introduction to computational modelling
- 2014–2016 Student assistant, Deutscher Sprachatlas, University of Marburg
- Preparation and analysis of dialect surveys
- 2014 Summer intern, Language Acquisition Research Center, Hunter College, New York
- Behavioral studies with children aged 2 to 3 years
  - Transcription, coding and analysis of child speech data

## OUTREACH AND SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

- February 2020 *How Babies Learn Language*, invited talk for parents and caregivers at *Evangelische Familienbildungsstätte* Göttingen
- 2019–2020 *Letters to a Pre-Scientist*, correspondence with a middle school pen pal over the course of a school year
- 2019 Rotating curator for the @NL\_wetenschap and @realsci\_de Twitter accounts (in Dutch and German)
- March 2019 *Hoe leren kinderen woorden die ze leren?*, interview with *Focus Wetenschap* on NPO1 as part of curating @NL\_wetenschap
- 2017–present *Skype-A-Scientist*, Skype sessions with middle school and high school classrooms
- 2017–present Participation in local public outreach events
- Annual *Lokolino* family fair
  - Science slams in Cologne and Göttingen
  - Outreach day *WissensWert – Science goes City*
- 2017–present Administration of the *WortSchatzInsel* lab Facebook page

## PROJECT AND EVENT MANAGEMENT

- 2020 Co-organizer of a symposium on curiosity and interest, to be held in 2021  
2018 Co-organizer of a retreat for PhD students in the *Behavior and Cognition* program  
2017 Organizer of a student workshop on *The philosophical underpinnings of language acquisition research*, University of Göttingen (with Daniel Höft, University of Gießen)  
2016–2018 Co-organizer and media officer for an annual lacrosse tournament with 300 players  
2015 Co-organizer of *Studentische Tagung Sprachwissenschaft*, University of Marburg

## HONORS AND GRANTS

- 2019 DAAD short term fellowship for a research visit to the MPI for Psycholinguistics  
2018 DAAD travel grant for the 4<sup>th</sup> Lancaster Conference on Infant Cognitive Development (LCICD), Lancaster, UK  
2018 Leibniz ScienceCampus travel grant for the 21<sup>st</sup> International Congress of Infant Studies (ICIS), Philadelphia, USA

## TEACHING

- 2020 *Computational sociolinguistics – Software-aided analysis of language*, Deutsche SchülerAkademie (with Konstantin Niehaus, German Aerospace Center)  
2017–2020 *Research skills for psychology*, undergraduate seminar and lecture, University of Göttingen  
2019 *Culture Clash – A historico-linguistic perspective on language and culture contacts*, Deutsche SchülerAkademie (with Julian Windhövel, University of Cologne)  
2017 *What is language? Insights from linguistics and philosophy of language*, Deutsche SchülerAkademie (with Daniel Höft, University of Gießen)

## PUBLICATIONS

- Ackermann, L., Lo, C.H., Mayor, J., & Mani, N. (in revision). Word learning from a tablet app: 30-month-olds perform better in a passive context.
- Ackermann, L., Hepach, R., & Mani, N. (2019). Children learn words easier when they are interested in the category to which the word belongs. *Developmental Science*. Advance online publication. doi:10.1111/desc.12915
- Ackermann, L., & Mani, N. (2018). Why do children learn the words they do? *Child Development Perspectives*, 12(8), 253-257. doi:10.1111/cdep.12295

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Ackermann, L., Lo, C.H., Mani, N., & Mayor, J. (2019, August): 30-month-olds learn words better from tablets in a passive context. Talk presented at the 4<sup>th</sup> LCICD, Lancaster, UK.
- Ackermann, L., Eiteljörge, S., Hepach, R., & Mani, N. (2019, June): The effects of category interest on word learning and retention. Talk presented at the 4<sup>th</sup> WILD, Potsdam, Germany.
- Ackermann, L., Lo, C.H., Mani, N., & Mayor, J. (2019, June): Word learning from a touchscreen app: 30-month-olds perform better in a passive context. Poster presented at the 4<sup>th</sup> WILD, Potsdam, Germany.
- Ackermann, L., Hepach, R., & Mani, N. (2018, September). Individual differences in early word learning: The effects of category curiosity and density. Poster presented at the 3<sup>rd</sup> LCICD, Lancaster, UK.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (CONTINUED)

Ackermann, L., Hepach, R., & Mani, N. (2018, July). Individual differences in the early lexicon: The child as a source of variability. Flash talk presented at the 21<sup>st</sup> ICIS Biennial Congress, Philadelphia, USA.

Ackermann, L., Hepach, R., & Mani, N. (2018, June). Dynamics in the early lexicon: Individual differences in early word learning. Poster presented at ETF 2018, Norwich, UK.

Ackermann, L., Hepach, R., & Mani, N. (2018, January). The effects of category curiosity and density on early word learning. Poster presented at the 8<sup>th</sup> BCCCD, Budapest, Hungary.

## STUDENT SUPERVISION

2019–2020	Claudia Wasmuth, MSc Psychology: Assigning labels under referential ambiguity
2019	Anna Spielvogel, BSc Psychology: Word learning from a tablet app
	Judit Stolla, BSc Biology: Using pupil dilation to measure infants' interest (co-supervised with Ben Malem)
2018–2019	Meike Förster, MSc Psychology: Word learning and retention in 24-month-olds
	Juliane Schaarschmidt, MSc Psychology: Word learning and retention in 36-month-olds
2017	Ulrike Fritz, BSc Psychology: Word learning in 30-month-olds

## SKILLS

COMPUTATIONAL/SOFTWARE		LANGUAGES	
R	Advanced	German	Native
LaTeX	Intermediate	English	Fluent
Wordpress	Intermediate	French	Fluent
Python	Beginner	Dutch	Fluent
Git and GitHub	Beginner		

## COURSES AND WORKSHOPS

2020	<i>Advanced Methods For Reproducible Science</i> , 5-day workshop, UK Reproducibility Network
2019	<i>Using brms to Fit Linear Mixed Models</i> , 2-day workshop with Shravan Vasishth
2019	<i>Python for Research</i> , one-day workshop with Florian Kornrumpf
2018	<i>Social Media for Scientists</i> , one-day workshop with Christina Bergmann
2018	<i>Leadership</i> , one-day workshop with Alexander Schiller
2018	<i>Tools for Open Science: Reproducible Data Analysis and Paper Writing in R</i> , one-day workshop with Jessica Kosie, Michael Frank, Erika Bergelson and Melissa Kline
2018	<i>Growth Curve Analysis</i> , 2-day workshop with Dan Mirman
2018	<i>Panel Discussions</i> , 2-day workshop with Christiane Fuchs and Renate Schüler
2017	<i>Self-Marketing</i> , 3-day workshop with Christiane Fuchs and Renate Schüler
2017	<i>Some Simple Improvements to how We Do Science</i> , one-day workshop with Daniël Lakens

## REFERENCES

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Psychology of Language  
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