

Jennifer L. Culbertson

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QUICK LINKS	Awards & Grants, Journal Articles, Professional Activities, Teaching, Supervision
EMPLOYMENT	University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK Centre for Language Evolution Department of Linguistics and English Language • <i>Professor of Experimental Linguistics</i>, 2022-present • <i>Reader</i>, 2018-2022 • <i>Lecturer</i>, 2017-2018 • <i>Chancellor's Fellow</i>, 2014-2017 Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD Cognitive Science Department • <i>Adjunct Assistant Professor (courtesy appointment)</i>, 2012-present George Mason University, Fairfax, VA Linguistics Program, Department of English • <i>Assistant Professor</i>, 2012-2015 University of Rochester, Rochester NY Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences • <i>Postdoctoral Fellow</i>, Center for Language Sciences, 2010-2012
EDUCATION	Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University, Cognitive Science, September 2010 • Dissertation: <i>Learning biases, regularization, and the emergence of typological universals in syntax</i>. [pdf] M.A., Johns Hopkins University, Cognitive Science, May 2006 B.A., Brown University, Linguistics & Classics May 2004
AWARDS, HONOURS, & GRANTS	• British Academy/Leverhulme Small Grant, 2025 'Fluidity and abstraction in mental representations of the nominal phrase' (£9,966.00) • ESRC Impact Accelerator Grant, 2025 'Minoritised language attitudes: overcoming local challenges to the use of Kĩitharaka' (£9,576.13) • Scottish Funding Council International Science Partnership Fund grant, 2024 'Language context and attitudes among Kĩitharaka speakers in Kenya' (£17,893.33) • CAHSS Knowledge Exchange and Impact Grant, 2022 'Connecting Linguistics Research with English and Modern Foreign Language teaching' (£4,985.80), with follow-on funding through PPLS KEI fund (£480), 2024 • Chancellor's Award for Rising Star, 2019 • Fellow of the Young Academy of Europe, 2019 • Best Paper in Language Award, 2017 (Buerkin-Pontrelli et al., 2017) • ERC Starting Grant, 2017-2024. Syntax shaped by cognition: Transforming theories of syntactic systems through laboratory experiments. (€1,425,440)

- ESRC Research Grant, 2017-2022. Connecting cognitive biases and typological universals in syntax. (£498,451)
 - University of Edinburgh Challenge Investment Fund (£10,000)
 - Experimental Psychology Society Small Grant, 2015 (with Kenny Smith, £2,500)
 - Robert J. Glushko Prize for Outstanding Doctoral Dissertations in Cognitive Science, 2012 (\$10,000)
 - National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow, 2006–2009
 - IGERT Trainee, 2005–2006, 2009–2010 (IGERT awarded to the Johns Hopkins University Department of Cognitive Science)
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SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE AND OUTREACH

- Geneva Science and Diplomacy Summit, October 2025, *The science of language and communication (youtube link)*. See also the Language and Communication Report published in GESDA's Science Breakthrough Radar, 2025.
 - New Scientist Instant Expert: Understanding your brain, April 2023, *Language shaped by the mind*.
 - APA Observer Magazine, March 2021, *Inside Grants: UK Economic and Social Research Council Research Grant*.
 - LSA Meet the Authors public webinar, September 2020, *From the world to word order: deriving biases in noun phrase order from statistical properties of the world*.
 - Why Are There Differing Preferences for Suffixes and Prefixes Across Languages?, *Association for Psychological Science news release*, August 2020. Picked up by numerous news sites and blogs, see altmetrics here.
 - Abralín Ao Vivo Public lecture *Languages are Shaped by How We Learn Them* (organized by Abralín in association with LAGB, LSA and others)
 - *Language Evolves!* Workshop given to roughly 600 kids (8-12yrs) and counting in and around Edinburgh.
 - Tongue Twisters, *Slate Magazine*, October, 2019
 - What artificial languages can tell us about ourselves?, *BBC Science Focus*, October, 2019.
 - Where do the rules of grammar come from?, *Psychology Today*, August, 2019.
 - The hidden symmetry of language, *TEDx University of Edinburgh*, February, 2016
 - Born to chat: Humans may have innate language instinct, *New Scientist*, March, 2014
 - How we learn grammar, *The Conversation*, March, 2014
 - Interview, *Drive on ABC Radio National*. April, 2014 [Listen to the interview!]
 - Grammar hardwired into our brains, *ABC Science*, April, 2014
 - Artificial grammar learning reveals inborn language sense, *JHU Gazette*, May, 2011
Covered by Science Daily, May, 2011
 - Humans wired for grammar at birth, *MSNBC Cosmic Log*, May, 2011
 - How Do Babies Learn to Talk?, *ABC News*, May, 2011
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JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Prasertsom, P., Smith, K., and Culbertson, J. (in press). Domain-general categorisation explains constrained cross-linguistic variation in noun classification. *Cognition*.
- Holtz, A., Kirby, S., and Culbertson, J. (2025). With or without a system: How category-specific and system-wide cognitive biases shape word order? *Cognitive Science*, 49(11).
- Keogh, A., Culbertson, J., and Kirby, S. (2025). The lexicon adapts to competing communicative pressures: Explaining patterns of word similarity. *Cognition*, 267.

- Smith, K. and Culbertson, J. (2025). Communicative pressures shape language during communication (not learning): Evidence from case-marking in artificial languages. *Cognition*, 263(24).
- Kanampiu, P., Martin, A., and Culbertson, J. (2025). Semantic and morphophonological productivity in the Kĩtharaka gender system: A quantitative study. *Glossa*, 10(1).
- Hughes, C., Kirby, S., and Culbertson, J. (2025). Evidence for word order harmony between abstract categories in silent gesture. *Cognition*, 259(12).
- Saldana, C., Kanampiu, P., and Culbertson, J. (2025). Gender comes first: Experimental evidence for the representation of gender closer to the noun stem than number across linguistic populations. *Linguistic Inquiry*.
- Wang, F., Kirby, S., and Culbertson, J. (2025). The learning bias for cross-category harmony is sensitive to semantic similarity: Evidence from artificial language learning experiments. *Language*, 101(1).
- Kanampiu, P., Martin, A., and Culbertson, J. (2025). Experimental evidence for semantic and morphophonological productivity in Kĩtharaka noun classes. *Glossa Psycholinguistics*, 4(1):1–45.
- Culbertson, J., Compostella, A., and Kirby, S. (2024). Language structure reflects biases in pattern learning across domains and modalities. *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*.
- Culbertson, J. (2024). Order shaped by cognition. evidence for (and against) the effect of domain-general biases on word and morpheme order. *Zeitschrift für Sprachwissenschaft*.
- Fletcher, L., Rabagliati, H., and Culbertson, J. (2024). Autistic traits, communicative efficiency, and social biases shape language learning in autistic and allistic learners. *Cognitive Science*, 48(11):e70007.
- Keogh, A., Kirby, S., and Culbertson, J. (2024). Predictability and variation in language are differentially affected by learning and production. *Cognitive Science*.
- Pankratz, E., Kirby, S., and Culbertson, J. (2024). Evaluating the relative importance of wordhood cues using statistical learning. *Cognitive Science*.
- Martin, A., Adger, D., Abels, K., Kanampiu, P., and Culbertson, J. (2024). A universal cognitive bias in word order: Evidence from speakers whose language goes against it. *Psychological science*, 35(3):304–311.
- Maldonado, M. and Culbertson, J. (2023). Investigating the link between meaning and form in response particles. *Glossa: a journal of general linguistics*.
- Tal, S., Smith, K., Culbertson, J., Grossman, E., and Arnon, I. (2022). The impact of information structure on the emergence of differential object marking: an experimental study. *Cognitive Science*, 46(3):e13119.
- Maldonado, M. and Culbertson, J. (2021). Nobody doesn’t like negative concord. *Journal of Psycholinguistic Research*.
- Johnson, T., Gao, K., Smith, K., Rabagliati, H., and Culbertson, J. (2021). Predictive structure or paradigm size? Investigating the effects of i-complexity and e-complexity on the learnability of morphological systems. *Journal of Language Modelling*, 9(1):97–150.

- Motamedi, Y., Smith, K., Schouwstra, M., Culbertson, J., and Kirby, S. (2021). The emergence of systematic argument distinctions in artificial sign languages. *Journal of Language Evolution*.
- Kirton, F., Schouwstra, M., Culbertson, J., Smith, K., and Kirby, S. (2021). Constituent order in silent gesture reflects the perspective of the producer. *Journal of Language Evolution*, 6(1):54–76.
- Saldana, C., Smith, K., Kirby, S., and Culbertson, J. (2021). Is regularisation uniform across linguistic levels? Comparing learning and production of unconditioned probabilistic variation in morphology and word order. *Language Learning and Development*. ***Winner of the Peter Jusczyk Best Paper Award
- Saldana, C., Oseki, Y., and Culbertson, J. (2021). Cross-linguistic patterns of morpheme order reflect cognitive biases: An experimental study of case and number morphology. *Journal of Memory and Language*, 118:104204.
- Maldonado, M. and Culbertson, J. (2020). Person of interest: Experimental investigations into the learnability of person systems. *Linguistic Inquiry*, pp. 1–42.
- Kenanidis, P., Chondrogianni, V., and Culbertson, J. (2020). Cue reliability, salience and early comprehension of agreement: Evidence from Greek. *Journal of Child Language*, pp. 1–19.
- Martin, A., Holtz, A., Abels, K., Adger, D., and Culbertson, J. (2020). Experimental evidence for the influence of structure and meaning on linear order in the noun phrase. *Glossa*, 5(1):1–21.
- Martin, A. and Culbertson, J. (2020). Revisiting the suffixing preference: Native language affixation patterns influence perception of sequences. *Psychological Science*, 31(9):1107–1116.
- Culbertson, J., Schouwstra, M., and Kirby, S. (2020). From the world to word order: deriving biases in noun phrase order from statistical properties of the world. *Language*, 96(3).
- Culbertson, J., Franck, J., Braquet, G., Barrera Navarro, M., and Arnon, I. (2020). A learning bias for word order harmony: evidence from speakers of non-harmonic languages. *Cognition*, 204.
- Carr, J., Smith, K., Culbertson, J., and Kirby, S. (2020). Simplicity and informativeness in semantic category systems. *Cognition*, 202:104289.
- Martin, A., Abels, K., Ratitamkul, T., and Culbertson, J. (2019). Cross-linguistic evidence for cognitive universals in the noun phrase. *Linguistics Vanguard*, 5(1).
- Motamedi, Y., Schouwstra, M., Smith, K., Culbertson, J., and Kirby, S. (2019). Evolving artificial sign languages in the lab: from improvised gesture to systematic sign. *Cognition*, 192:1039642.
- Culbertson, J., Jarvinen, H., Haggarty, F., and Smith, K. (2019). Children’s sensitivity to phonological and semantic cues during noun class learning: Evidence for a phonological bias. *Language*, 95(2):268–293.
- Culbertson, J. and Schuler, K. (2019). Artificial language learning in children. *Annual Review of Linguistics*, 5:353–373.
- Culbertson, J. and Newport, E.L. (2017). Innovation of word order harmony across development. *Open Mind: Discoveries in Cognitive Science*, 1(2):91–100. [\[pdf\]](#)

- Culbertson, J., Gagliardi, A., and Smith, K. (2017). Competition between phonology and semantics in noun class learning. *Journal of Memory and Language*, 92:343–358. [\[pdf\]](#)
- Buerkin-Pontrelli, A., Culbertson, J., Legendre, G., and Nazzi, T. (2017). Competing models of liaison acquisition: Evidence from corpus and experimental data. *Language*, 93(1):189–219. [\[pdf\]](#) ***Winner of the Best Paper Award for *Language*, 2017
- Kanwal, J., Smith, K., Culbertson, J., and Kirby, S. (2017). Zipf’s law of abbreviation and the principle of least effort: Language users optimise a miniature lexicon for efficient communication. *Cognition*, 165:45–52.
- Culbertson, J., Koulaguina, E., Gonzalez-Gomez, N., Legendre, G., and Nazzi, T. (2016). Developing knowledge of non-adjacent dependencies. *Developmental Psychology*, 52(12):2174–2183. [\[pdf\]](#)
- Culbertson, J. and Kirby, S. (2016). Simplicity and specificity in language: Domain general biases have domain specific effects. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 6(1964). [\[pdf\]](#)
- Enochson, K. and Culbertson, J. (2015). Collecting psycholinguistic response time data using Amazon Mechanical Turk. *PLoS ONE*, 10(3):e0116946. [\[pdf\]](#)
- Culbertson, J. and Newport, E.L. (2015). Harmonic biases in child learners: In support of language universals. *Cognition*, 139:71–82. [\[pdf\]](#)
- Culbertson, J. and Adger, D. (2014). Language learners privilege structured meaning over surface frequency. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 111(16):5842–5847. [\[pdf\]](#)
- Legendre, G., Culbertson, J., Zaroukian, E., Hsin, L., Barrière, I., and Nazzi, T. (2014). Is children’s comprehension of subject-verb agreement universally late? Comparative evidence from French, Spanish, and English. *Lingua*, 144:21–39. [\[pdf\]](#)
- Culbertson, J. and Legendre, G. (2013). Prefixal agreement and impersonal ‘il’ in Spoken French: Experimental evidence. *Journal of French Language Studies*, 24(1):83–105. [\[pdf\]](#)
- Culbertson, J., Smolensky, P., and Wilson, C. (2013). Cognitive biases, linguistic universals, and constraint-based grammar learning. *Topics in Cognitive Science*, 5(3):392–424. [\[pdf\]](#)
- Culbertson, J. and Smolensky, P. (2012). A Bayesian model of biases in artificial language learning: The case of a word-order universal. *Cognitive Science*, 36(8):1468–1498. [\[pdf\]](#)
- Culbertson, J. (2012). Typological universals as reflections of biased learning: Evidence from artificial language learning. *Language and Linguistics Compass*, 6(5):310–329. [\[pdf\]](#)
- Culbertson, J., Smolensky, P., and Legendre, G. (2012). Learning biases predict a word order universal. *Cognition*, 122:306–329. [\[pdf\]](#)
- Gross, S. and Culbertson, J. (2011). Revisited linguistic intuitions. *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, 62:639–656. [\[pdf\]](#)
- Culbertson, J. (2010). Convergent evidence for categorial change in French: from subject clitic to agreement marker. *Language*, 86(1):85–132. [\[pdf\]](#)

- Culbertson, J. and Gross, S. (2009). Are linguists better subjects? *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, 60:721–736. [\[pdf\]](#)
- Demuth, K., Culbertson, J., and Alter, J. (2006). Word-minimality, epenthesis and coda licensing in the early acquisition of English. *Language and Speech*, 49(2):137–174. [\[pdf\]](#)

BOOK CHAPTERS

- Culbertson, J. (2023). Artificial language learning. In J. Sprouse (ed.), *Oxford Handbook of Experimental Syntax*. Oxford University Press, New York, NY.
- Culbertson, J. (2017). New approaches to the Greenbergian word order dependencies. In N. Enfield (ed.), *Dependencies in Language: On the causal ontology of linguistic systems*, Studies in Diversity Linguistics, pp. 23–38. Language Science Press. [\[pdf \(entire open access book\)\]](#)
- Legendre, G., Smolensky, P., and Culbertson, J. (2016). Blocking effects at the lexicon/semantics interface and bi-directional optimization in French. In G. Legendre, M. Putnam, H. de Swart, and E. Zaroukian (eds.), *Advances in OT syntax and semantics/pragmatics: From uni- to bidirectional optimization*, pp. 276–299. Oxford University Press.
- Legendre, G., Culbertson, J., Barrière, I., Nazzi, T., and Goyet, L. (2010). Experimental and empirical evidence for the status and acquisition of subject clitics and agreement marking in adult and child Spoken French. In V. Torrens, L. Escobar, A. Gavarró, and J. Gutiérrez (eds.), *Movement and Clitics*, pp. 333–360. Cambridge Scholars Publishing, Newcastle. [\[pdf\]](#)

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- Tal, S., Smith, K., Arnon, I., and Culbertson, J. (2023). Communicative efficiency is present in young children and becomes more adult-like with age. In M. Goldwater, F.K. Anggoro, B.K. Hayes, and D.C. Ong (eds.), *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, vol. 45.
- Fletcher, L., Culbertson, J., and Rabagliati, H. (2023). How communicative efficiency and social biases shape language in autistic and allistic learners. In M. Goldwater, F.K. Anggoro, B.K. Hayes, and D.C. Ong (eds.), *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, vol. 45.
- Maldonado, M., Zaslavsky, N., and Culbertson, J. (2023). Evidence for a language-independent conceptual representation of pronominal referents. In M. Goldwater, F.K. Anggoro, B.K. Hayes, and D.C. Ong (eds.), *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, vol. 45.
- Saldana, C. and Culbertson, J. (2023). Speakers’ cognitive representations of gender and number morphology shape cross-linguistic tendencies in morpheme order. In M. Goldwater, F.K. Anggoro, B.K. Hayes, and D.C. Ong (eds.), *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, vol. 45.
- Holtz, A., Kirby, S., and Culbertson, J. (2022). The influence of category-specific and system-wide preferences on cross-linguistic word order patterns. In J. Culbertson, A. Perfors, H. Rabagliati, and V. Ramenzoni (eds.), *Proceedings of the 44th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*. Cognitive Science Society.

- Maldonado, M., Culbertson, J., and Uegaki, W. (2022). Learnability and constraints on the semantics of clause-embedding predicates. In J. Culbertson, A. Perfors, H. Rabagliati, and V. Ramenzoni (eds.), *Proceedings of the 44th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*. Cognitive Science Society.
- Culbertson, J. and Kirby, S. (2022). Syntactic harmony arises from a domain-general learning bias. In J. Culbertson, A. Perfors, H. Rabagliati, and V. Ramenzoni (eds.), *Proceedings of the 44th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*. Cognitive Science Society.
- Matushevych, Y. and Culbertson, J. (2022). Trees neural those: Rnns can learn the hierarchical structure of noun phrases. In J. Culbertson, A. Perfors, H. Rabagliati, and V. Ramenzoni (eds.), *Proceedings of the 44th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*. Cognitive Science Society.
- Zaslavsky, N., Maldonado, M., and Culbertson, J. (2021). Let’s talk (efficiently) about us: Person systems achieve near-optimal compression. In *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, 43*. Cognitive Science Society.
- McCoy, R.T., Smolensky, P., Culbertson, J., and Legendre, G. (2021). Infinite use of finite means? evaluating the generalization of center embedding learned from an artificial grammar. *Proceedings of the 44rd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.
- Maldonado, M., Saldana, C., and Culbertson, J. (2020). Learning biases in person-number linearization. In M. Asatryan, Y. Song, and A. Whitmal (eds.), *Proceeding of of the fiftieth annual meeting of the North East Linguistic Society*, vol. 2, pp. 163–177. MIT Press.
- Martin, A., Kanampiu, P., Adger, D., Abels, K., and Culbertson, J. (2020). Does a universal hierarchical structure underlie word order typology? In A. Ravignani, C. Barbieri, M. Flaherty, Y. Jadoul, E. Lattenkamp, H. Little, M. Martins, K. Mudd, and T. Verhoef (eds.), *Proceedings of EVOLANG 13*.
- Kindellan, R., Naegeli, D., Smith, K., and Culbertson, J. (2020). The role of simplicity in word order harmony. In A. Ravignani, C. Barbieri, M. Flaherty, Y. Jadoul, E. Lattenkamp, H. Little, M. Martins, K. Mudd, and T. Verhoef (eds.), *Proceedings of EVOLANG 13*.
- Johnson, T., Gao, K., Culbertson, J., Rabagliati, H., and Smith, K. (2020). Assessing measures of morphological complexity as predictors of learning by neural networks and human. In A. Ravignani, C. Barbieri, M. Flaherty, Y. Jadoul, E. Lattenkamp, H. Little, M. Martins, K. Mudd, and T. Verhoef (eds.), *Proceedings of EVOLANG 13*.
- Nölle, J., Kirby, S., Culbertson, J., and Smith, K. (2020). Does environment shape spatial language? a virtual reality experiment. In A. Ravignani, C. Barbieri, M. Flaherty, Y. Jadoul, E. Lattenkamp, H. Little, M. Martins, K. Mudd, and T. Verhoef (eds.), *Proceedings of EVOLANG 13*.
- Maldonado, M. and Culbertson, J. (2019). Learnability as a window into universal constraints on person systems. In J. Schloder, D. McHugh, and F. Roelofsen (eds.), *Proceedings of the 22nd Amsterdam Colloquium*, pp. 484–493
- Maldonado, M. and Culbertson, J. (2019). Something about ”us”: Learning first person pronoun systems. In *Proceedings of the 41st Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*. Cognitive Science Society, Austin, TX.

- Saldana, C. and Culbertson, J. (2019). Do crosslinguistic patterns of morpheme order reflect a cognitive bias? In *Proceedings of the 41st Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*. Cognitive Science Society, Austin, TX.
- Martin, A., Abels, K., Adger, D., and Culbertson, J. (2019). Do learners' word order preferences reflect hierarchical language structure? In *Proceedings of the 41st Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*. Cognitive Science Society, Austin, TX.
- Wagner, S., Smith, K., and Culbertson, J. (2019). Acquiring agglutinating and fusional languages can be similarly difficult: Evidence from an adaptive tracking study. In *Proceedings of the 41st Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*. Cognitive Science Society, Austin, TX.
- Motamedi, Y., Schouwstra, M., Smith, K., Culbertson, J., and Kirby, S. (2018). The cultural evolution of spatial modulations in artificial sign languages. In C. Cuskley, M. Flaherty, H. Little, L. McCrohon, A. Ravignani, and T. Verhoef (eds.), *The Evolution of Language: Proceedings of the 12th International Conference (EVO LANGXII)*. NCU Press.
- Kirby, S., Culbertson, J., and Schouwstra, M. (2018). The origins of word order universals: evidence from corpus statistics and silent gesture. In C. Cuskley, M. Flaherty, H. Little, L. McCrohon, A. Ravignani, and T. Verhoef (eds.), *The Evolution of Language: Proceedings of the 12th International Conference (EVO LANGXII)*. NCU Press.
- Smith, K. and Culbertson, J. (2018). Does learning favour communicative efficiency? In C. Cuskley, M. Flaherty, H. Little, L. McCrohon, A. Ravignani, and T. Verhoef (eds.), *The Evolution of Language: Proceedings of the 12th International Conference (EVO LANGXII)*. NCU Press.
- Kirton, F., Schouwstra, M., Culbertson, J., Smith, K., and Kirby, S. (2018). Constituent order in improvised gesture reflects speaker perspective. In C. Cuskley, M. Flaherty, H. Little, L. McCrohon, A. Ravignani, and T. Verhoef (eds.), *The Evolution of Language: Proceedings of the 12th International Conference (EVO LANGXII)*. NCU Press.
- Carr, J.W., Smith, K., Culbertson, J., and Kirby, S. (2018). Conceptual structure is shaped by competing pressures for simplicity and informativeness. In C. Cuskley, M. Flaherty, H. Little, L. McCrohon, A. Ravignani, and T. Verhoef (eds.), *The Evolution of Language: Proceedings of the 12th International Conference (EVO LANGXII)*. NCU Press.
- Schouwstra, M., Kirby, S., and Culbertson, J. (2017). Silent gesture and noun phrase universals. In *Proceedings of the 39th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*. Cognitive Science Society, Austin, TX.
- Braquet, G. and Culbertson, J. (2017). Harmony in a non-harmonic language: word order learning in French children. In *Proceedings of the 39th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*. Cognitive Science Society, Austin, TX.
- Kanwal, J., Smith, K., Culbertson, J., and Kirby, S. (2017). Language-users choose short words in predictive contexts in an artificial language task. In *Proceedings of the 39th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*. Cognitive Science Society, Austin, TX.
- Saldana, C., Smith, K., Kirby, S., and Culbertson, J. (2017). Is the strength of regularisation behaviour uniform across linguistic levels? In G. Gunzelmann, A. Howes, T. Tenbrink, and E. Davelaar (eds.), *Proceedings of the 39th Annual Conference of*

the Cognitive Science Society, pp. 1023–1028. Cognitive Science Society. CogSci 2017 : 39th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society ; Conference date: 26-07-2017 Through 29-07-2017.

- Motamedi-Mousavi, Y., Schouwstra, M., Culbertson, J., Smith, K., and Kirby, S. (2017). The cultural evolution of complex linguistic constructions in artificial sign languages. In *Proceedings of the 39th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*. Cognitive Science Society.
- Culbertson, J., Schouwstra, M., and Kirby, S. (2016). Word order universals reflect cognitive biases: Evidence from silent gesture. In S. Roberts, C. Cuskley, L. McCrohon, L. Barceló-Coblijn, O. Feher, and T. Verhoef (eds.), *The Evolution of Language: Proceedings of the 11th International Conference (EVOLANG11)*, pp. 391–393.
- Gonzalez-Gomez, N., Hsin, L., Culbertson, J., Barriere, I., Nazzi, T., and Legendre, G. (2013). Revealing early comprehension of subject-verb agreement in Spanish. In W. Orman and M.J. Valteau (eds.), *BUCLD 38: Proceedings of the 38th annual Boston University Conference on Language Development*, pp. 158–170. Cascadilla Press, Somerville, MA. [\[pdf\]](#)
- Culbertson, J. and Wilson, C. (2013). Artificial grammar learning of shape-based noun classification. In M. Knauff, M. Pauen, N. Sebanz, and I. Wachsmuth (eds.), *Proceedings of the 35th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, pp. 2118–2123. Cognitive Science Society, Austin, TX. [\[pdf\]](#)
- Culbertson, J., Smolensky, P., and Legendre, G. (2012). Statistical learning constrained by syntactic biases in an artificial language learning task. In A.K. Biller, E.Y. Chung, and A.E. Kimball (eds.), *Proceedings of the 36th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development*, vol. 1, pp. 139–151. Cascadilla Press, Somerville, MA. [\[pdf\]](#)
- Culbertson, J. and Legendre, G. (2011). Investigating the evolution of agreement systems using an artificial language learning paradigm. In D. Bailey and V. Teliga (eds.), *Proceedings of the 39th Western Conference on Linguistics*, pp. 46–58. Department of Linguistics, California State University, Fresno. [\[pdf\]](#)
- Culbertson, J., Smolensky, P., and Legendre, G. (2013). Testing Greenberg’s Universal 18 using the Mixture Shift Paradigm for artificial language learning. In S. Kan, C. Moore-Cantwell, and R. Staubs (eds.), *Proceeding of NELS 40*, pp. 133–146. GLSA, Amherst, MA. [\[pdf\]](#)
- Culbertson, J. (2009). The status of Old French clitics in the 12th century. In P.J. Mascullo, E. O’Rourke, and C.H. Huang (eds.), *Romance Linguistics 2007: Selected Papers from the 37th Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages*, pp. 89–104. John Benjamins, New York. [\[pdf\]](#)
- Culbertson, J. and Legendre, G. (2008). Qu’en est-il des clitiques sujet en français oral contemporain? In J. Durand, B. Habert, and B. Laks (eds.), *Proceedings of the 1er Congrès mondial de linguistique française*, pp. 2663–2674. Paris, France. [\[pdf\]](#)
- Legendre, G., Nazzi, T., Barrière, I., Culbertson, J., López-González, M., and Zaroukian, E. (2006). Acquiring subject-verb agreement in French: Evidence of early syntactic representations from comprehension. In H. Caunt-Nulton, S. Kulatilake, and I. Woo (eds.), *BUCLD 31: Proceedings of the 31st Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development*, pp. 370–381. Cascadilla Press, Cambridge, MA. [\[pdf\]](#)

2025

- Keynote at 26th Annual Conference of the Japan Second Language Association, Mie Japan (talk title TBD)
- Plenary talk at Experiments in Linguistic Meaning (ELM) 4, University of Pennsylvania (talk title TBD)
- Culbertson, J. (2025). Evidence for the suffixing preference across diverse language populations. Penn Linguistics Department Seminar Series.
- Culbertson, J. (2025). Cross-linguistic perceptual evidence for the suffixing preference. Linguistics seminar, Hong Kong University.
- Culbertson, J. (2025). Advances in experimental techniques for testing links between human language and cognition. Plenary talk, *Methodological Excellence in Data-Driven Approaches to Linguistics: New challenges, novel approaches (MEDAL)* Conference, Estonia.
- Culbertson, J. (2025). Non-accidental gaps? what artificial language learning experiments can tell us. Talk at Negation in Language and Beyond (Neglab) research group, Frankfurt.
- Culbertson, J. (2025). All designs for answering complex questions in linguistics. Invited speaker, *Artificial Languages in the Linguist's Toolbox* workshop, Berlin.
- Keynote speaker, *International Conference on Experimental Studies of Language*, Moscow, June 2025, invitation declined.
- Culbertson, J. (2025). Artificial language experiments across populations. Seminar, Center for Language, Brain Learning (C-LaBL), University of Tromsø.

2024

- Culbertson, J. (2024). Building experimentally informed theories of typology. Keynote, Society for Computation in Linguistics (SCiL), University of California, Irvine.
- Culbertson, J. (2024). Lecture II: A developmental and cross-modal perspective on cognitive biases in language. *Linguae Lecture Series*, Institut Jean-Nicod, Département d'Etudes Cognitives, École Normale Supérieure.
- Culbertson, J. (2024). Lecture I: Beyond typology: experimental explorations of language universals. *Linguae Lecture Series*, Institut Jean-Nicod, Département d'Etudes Cognitives, École Normale Supérieure.
- Culbertson, J. (2024). Beyond typology: experimental explorations of language universals. Institute of Language, Communication and the Brain, Université Aix-Marseille.
- Culbertson, J. (2024). Testing linguistic theories using artificial languages. Artificial Language Symposium, Cambridge University.
- Culbertson, J. (2024). Language learning is biased. Magent seminar series, Inria (University of Lille).

2023

- Culbertson, J. (2023). Linking language structure to human cognition. Psychology Seminar Series, Lancaster University.
- Culbertson, J. (2023). Beyond typology: evidence for cognitive universals. *Frontiers of AI and the Cognitive Science of Language*, Workshop in honour of Terry Regier, University of Gothenburg.
- Culbertson, J. (2023). An experimental approach to the study of language universals. *Origins of Language Workshop*, Israeli Institute for Advanced Studies.
- Culbertson, J. (2023). Order shaped by cognition: evidence for the effect of domain-general biases on word and morpheme order. Plenary lecture, DGfS, Cologne.
- Culbertson, J. (2023). Using experiments to investigate typological universals in syntax and morphology. Chinese University of Hong Kong Linguistics Department seminar series.
- Culbertson, J. (2023). Population-level variation in word and morpheme order is

driven by individual-level cognitive biases. Linguistics @ Meertens lecture series.

2022

- Culbertson, J. (2022). Linking cognitive biases to typological patterns of word and morpheme order. Amsterdam Colloquium Workshop on Biases in Language and Cognition.
- Culbertson, J. (2022). Linking cognitive biases to language universals. MindCore Invited Speaker Series, University of Pennsylvania.
- Culbertson, J. (2022). What drives word (and morpheme) order? evidence from artificial language experiments. Newcastle Language and Linguistics Visiting Speaker Series.
- Culbertson, J. and Kirby, S. (2022). A new view of domain-specificity in language. Innateness: Who Cares? Workshop at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
- Culbertson, J. (2022). Learning and the emergence of (morpho-)syntactic typology. Linguistics Department Colloquium, University of Toronto.
- Culbertson, J. and Martin, A. (2022). Cross-linguistic artificial language learning: Designing for diverse populations. Jabberwocky Words in Linguistics, joint University of Bucharest-University of Massachusetts Amherst workshop.

2021

- Culbertson, J. (2021). What failures of statistical learning tell us about language. Linguistics Department Colloquium, Queen Mary University of London.
- Culbertson, J. (2021). Linking language learning and typology. Keynote at Conference on Computational Natural Language Learning (CoNLL).
- Culbertson, J. (2021). Word and morpheme ordering preferences are affected by meaning, transparency, and perceptual experience. Linguistics Department Colloquium, Yale University.
- Culbertson, J. (2021). The search for universals in syntax and morphology: Experimental evidence for the role of soft biases and perceptual experience. Evolution and Social Cognition team talk, École Normale Supérieure, Paris.
- Culbertson, J. (2021). Cognitive biases in learning and generalization shape language. Plenary lecture at the European Summer School for Logic, Language and Information.
- Culbertson, J. (2021). From semantic primitives to conceptual structure: Experimental investigations into the role of meaning in grammar. Keynote at the Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science.
- Culbertson, J. (2021). Word and morpheme ordering preferences are affected by meaning, transparency, and perceptual experience. Language Science Department Colloquium Talk, UC Irvine.
- Culbertson, J. (2021). Understanding nominal word order through information theory and biased learning. Neural Computation seminar, Bristol University.
- Culbertson, J. (2021). Transparency, meaning, and perceptual experience shape ordering preferences. TedLab talk, MIT.
- Maldonado, M. and Culbertson, J. (2021). We don't need no education: A case study in using artificial language learning to test linguistic theories. Keele Philosophy of Linguistics Lecture Series. [See the talk!](#)
- Culbertson, J. (2021). Cognitive biases and the origins of noun phrase word order. Talk in Cognition, Convergence and Language Emergence Research Group, University of Michigan.
- Culbertson, J. (2021). Experimental evidence for learning biases in word and morpheme order. Linguistics Colloquium, UMass Amherst.
- Culbertson, J. (2021). The future of linguistics is multidisciplinary, multimodal, multicultural. MPI Future of Linguistics Webinar. [Get the slides!](#)

2020

- Culbertson, J. (2020). Investigating meaning and grammar using artificial language

learning experiments. Workshop on Semantic Spaces at the Intersection of NLP, Physics, and Cognitive Sciences, 6 August.

- Culbertson, J. (2020). Languages are shaped by how we learn them. Abralín au Vivo talk series, 14 July. [Listen to the talk!](#)
- Culbertson, J. (2020). *cancelled due to maternity leave*. Invited talk at Many Paths to Language workshop, MPI, Nijmegen.
- Culbertson, J. (2020). Input, intake, and learning biases in the acquisition of (morpho-)syntax. Colloquium, University of Tromsø, 6 March.
- Culbertson, J. (2020). Cues to gender: Perspectives from acquisition, artificial language learning, and evolution. Typology of Gender Systems Workshop, Oslo, 3 March.

2019

- Maldonado, M. and Culbertson, J. (2019). Person of interest: learnability and naturalness of person systems. British Academy conference on the Alphabet of Universal Grammar, 4 July.
- Culbertson, J. (2019). The interaction between simplicity and naturalness in nominal word order typology. Cambridge Linguistics Forum, 25 April.
- Culbertson, J. (2019). The role of input, intake and learning biases in the acquisition of (morpho-) syntax. LuCiD seminar, 7 May.

2018

- Culbertson, J. (2018). The influence of domain-general biases and prior language experience on np word order in an artificial language. Talk given at Reading University, 7 December.
- Culbertson, J. (2018). New sources of evidence for word order universals. Keynote at the Conference on Interdisciplinary Approaches to Linguistics (CIALT2), Berlin, 26 October.
- Culbertson, J. (2018). Noun phrase word order across languages reflects simplicity and naturalness. Keynote, New Directions in Language Evolution Research, 51st Annual Meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea, University of Tallinn, 29 August.
- Culbertson, J. (2018). Experimental evidence for simplicity and naturalness as explanatory factors in noun phrase typology. Plenary lecture, MAPLL x TCP x TL x TaLK (MT3), Keio University, 28 July.
- Culbertson, J. (2018). Noun phrase word order across languages reflects simplicity and naturalness. Linguistics Seminar Series, Chulalongkorn University, 16 March.
- Culbertson, J. (2018). Noun phrase word order across languages reflects simplicity and naturalness. UCL Linguistics Colloquium, 19 February.
- Culbertson, J. (2018). Using experimental syntax to investigate learning and typology. Plenary lecture, 26th Annual Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe (ConSOLE 2018), London, 15 February.

2017

- Culbertson, J. (2017). Noun phrase word order across languages reflects simplicity and naturalness. Cognitive Science Colloquium series at the Institut d'Études Cognitives, École Normale Supérieure, Paris.
- Culbertson, J. (2017). Conceptual structure and information theory in the noun phrase. Plenary, 3rd Usage-Based Linguistics Conference, Hebrew University.
- Culbertson, J. (2017). Symmetry hidden within diversity: What simple phrases can show us about how language works. Keynote talk, The Literacy and Language Conference, Open University, Israel.
- Culbertson, J. (2017). Prior biases and typological universals. Prior Structure in Language Acquisition: A Consensus Workshop.

2016

- Culbertson, J. (2016). Competing grammars and the representation of subject clitics in French. Deutschen Gesellschaft für Sprachwissenschaft, Konstanz.
- Culbertson, J. (2016). Cognitive biases shape learning outcomes across development. First vs. second language learning: From neurobiology to cognition workshop, Hebrew University.
- Culbertson, J. (2016). Integrating probabilistic cognitive biases into grammar formalisms. Workshop on Advances in Linguistic Theory through Computation, Linguistic Association of Great Britain Annual Meeting.
- Kirby, S. and Culbertson, J. (2016). Simplicity and specificity in language: Domain general biases have domain specific effects. Institute for Language, Cognition and Computation Seminar Series, University of Edinburgh.
- Culbertson, J. (2016). Soft constraints on language: Investigations with behavioral experiments and Bayes. Sante Fe Institute.
- Culbertson, J. (2016). Competing grammars and the representation of subject clitics in French. Deutschen Gesellschaft für Sprachwissenschaft, Konstanz.
- Culbertson, J., Smolensky, P., and Legendre, G. (2016). A general framework for cognitive constraints on language. Aix-Marseille Université, Aix-en-Provence.
- Culbertson, J., Buerkin-Salgado, A., Legendre, G., and Nazzi, T. (2016). Generality of phonological knowledge in early acquisition: Evidence from spontaneous and elicited production of liaison. Aix-Marseille Université, Aix-en-Provence.

2015

- Culbertson, J. (2015). An alternative to all-or-nothing constraints on nominal word order. University of Geneva, Linguistics Research Seminar.
- Culbertson, J. (2015). A Bayesian model of word order learning in the noun phrase. University of Geneva, Computational Linguistics Research Group.
- Smolensky, P. and Culbertson, J. (2015). Experimental evidence for real-time word-order learning biases that align with observed universal restrictions on human languages. State Key Laboratory of Brain and Cognitive Science, Institute of Biophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing.
- Smolensky, P. and Culbertson, J. (2015). Does the success of deep neural network language processing mean – finally! – the end of theoretical linguistics? Conference on Natural Language Learning (CoNLL), Beijing. [Listen to the talk!](#)
- Culbertson, J. (2015). Ongoing changes in the french pronominal system: implications for language acquisition. Department for Romance Languages, University of Cologne.
- Culbertson, J. (2015). Apparent failures of statistical learning as a window into human cognition. Plenary lecture, LEL Postgraduate Conference, University of Edinburgh.
- Culbertson, J. (2015). Soft biases for word order in adults and children: Implications for the language faculty. SMART Cognitive Science Workshop on Language Evolution, Amsterdam.
- Culbertson, J. (2015). Decomposing Greenberg’s Universal 20: Soft biases and nominal word order. Linguistics Department, NYU.

2014

- Culbertson, J. (2014). New approaches to the Greenbergian word order dependencies. Talk given at Dependencies Among Systems of Language, Ardennes, Belgium, June 2014.

2013

- Culbertson, J. (2013). Learning biases within a probabilistic approach to universals. The Cognitive Revolution 60 Years On, British Academy, London. [Listen to the talk!](#) [\[handout\]](#)

2012

- Culbertson, J. (2012). Are languages shaped by learners? evidence from artificial language learning. Workshop on Language Learnability and Language Variation, San Sebastián, Spain. [\[handout\]](#)
- Culbertson, J. (2012). Using language typology to investigate cognitive constraints on statistical learning. Brain & Cognitive Sciences Department, MIT.
- Culbertson, J. (2012). Factors affecting the use of impersonal ‘il’ in Spoken French: implications for change in the clitic system. Talk given at Negation and Clitics in Romance, Zürich.
- Culbertson, J. (2012). Are language shaped by learners? Evidence from syntactic change and typology. Department of Linguistics, Simon Fraser University.
- Adger, D. and Culbertson, J. (2012). Knowledge about unknown constructions. Talk given at the Mind and Language Workshop, University of London.

2011

- Culbertson, J. (2011). Word order universals reflect biased learning: Greenberg’s Universals 18 & 20. Department of Linguistics, Queen Mary University of London.
- Culbertson, J. (2011). Word order universals reflect biased learning. Cognitive Science Colloquium Series, University of Buffalo.
- Culbertson, J. (2011). The evolution of clitic/agreement systems in french and beyond. Department of Linguistics, Rutgers University.
- Culbertson, J. (2011). Linguistic universals as learning biases; connecting typology to constraints on learning and change. Linguistics Department, Stanford.

2010

- Culbertson, J., Smolensky, P., and Legendre, G. (2010). Some evidence for cognitive universals in language and beyond. School of Philosophy, Psychology and Language Studies Interdisciplinary Seminar Series, University of Edinburgh.
- Legendre, G. and Culbertson, J. (2010). On the status of subject pronouns in Spoken French: Experimental and corpus evidence. Laboratoire Psychologie de la Perception, Université Paris V.
- Culbertson, J. (2010). Learning biases and the emergence of typological universals in syntax. Brain and Cognitive Sciences Department, University of Rochester.

2009

- Culbertson, J., Legendre, G., and Brunetti, L. (2009). Subject doubling in European Colloquial French: Experimental and corpus evidence. Graduate Student Symposium, Indiana University.
- Culbertson, J., Legendre, G., and Brunetti, L. (2009). Le redoublement clitique du sujet en français parlé. Université Denis Diderot, Paris.
- Legendre, G. and Culbertson, J. (2008). A propos du statut des pronoms clitiques sujet en français parlé: Etudes expérimentales portant sur les adultes et les très jeunes enfants. Laboratoire Parole et Langage, Université de Provence, Aix, France.
- Culbertson, J. and Legendre, G. (2008). Redoublement ou détachement? résultats expérimentaux. Atelier “Détachements”, Laboratoire Parole et Langage, Université de Provence, Aix, France.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Martin, A. and Culbertson, J. (2021). A domain-general bias cannot explain the suffixing preference: Experimental evidence from english and kītharaka. Talk at DGfS workshop “Affixation...”
- Maldonado, M. and Culbertson, J. (2020). Here, there and everywhere: Experimental evidence for shared primitives across person and spatial indexicals. Talk given at Workshop on The Processing of Negation and Polarity (XPRAG). Berlin, Germany, 2 October

- Maldonado, M. and Culbertson, J. (2020). Nobody doesn't like negative concord. Talk given at 25rd Sinn und Bedeutung, London, UK, 6 September
- Maldonado, M. and Culbertson, J. (2019). Learnability as a window into universal constraints on person systems. Talk given at the 22nd Amsterdam Colloquium, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 18 December
- Maldonado, M. and Culbertson, J. (2019). Learning biases in the relative order of person and number markers. Talk given at NELS 50. Cambridge, MA
- Braquet, G. and Culbertson, J. (2017). Harmony in a non-harmonic language: word order learning in French children. Talk given at the 39th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Austin, TX.
- Braquet, G. and Culbertson, J. (2017). Harmony in a non-harmonic language: word order learning in French children. Talk given at the 39th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Austin, TX. [\[slides\]](#)
- Culbertson, J. (2016). A bias for simpler grammars shapes language in complex ways. Talk given at BUCLD 41 organized symposium 'How learners shape language'. [\[slides\]](#)
- Culbertson, J., Schouwstra, M., and Kirby, S. (2016). Word order universals reflect cognitive biases: Evidence from silent gesture. Evolang, New Orleans.
- Culbertson, J., Gagliardi, A., and Smith, K. (2016). Competition between phonology and semantics in noun class learning. Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting, 90. [\[handout\]](#)
- Koulaguina, E., Culbertson, J., Gonzalez-Gomez, N., Legendre, G., Barrière, I., and Nazzi, T. (2015). Early sensitivity of French-learning children to subject-verb number agreement. Generative Approaches to Language Acquisition 12.
- Smolensky, P., Goldrick, M., Legendre, G., Wilson, C., Culbertson, J., Omaki, A., Rawlins, K., and Durme, B.V. (2015). Gradient symbolic computation: Situating grammar in the mind/brain. Manchester Phonology Meeting 23, fringe session "W(h)ither OT?".
- Culbertson, J. and Adger, D. (2014). Scope-to-surface isomorphism and Greenberg's Universal 20. Talk given at LAGB 2014, Oxford University. [\[handout\]](#)
- Culbertson, J. and Wilson, C. (2013). Rapid learning of semantic noun classification in an artificial grammar. LSA 88, Minneapolis, Jan. 2-5. [\[handout\]](#)
- Gonzalez-Gomez, N., Hsin, L., Culbertson, J., Barriere, I., Nazzi, T., and Legendre, G. (2013). Revealing early comprehension of subject-verb agreement in Spanish. Talk given at the 38th annual Boston University Conference on Language Development.
- Culbertson, J., Legendre, G., Gomez, N., and Nazzi, T. (2012). Evolving sensitivity to French prefixal subject-verb agreement. Talk given at XVIII Biennial International Conference on Infant Studies. [\[handout\]](#)
- Culbertson, J., Smolensky, P., and Legendre, G. (2012). Statistical learning constrained by syntactic biases in an artificial language learning task. Linguistic Society of America, 86th Annual Meeting, Portland, OR. [\[handout\]](#)
- Culbertson, J. and Newport, E.L. (2012). The role of word order and contiguity in the grammaticalization of case. Linguistic Society of America, 86th Annual Meeting, Portland, OR. [\[handout\]](#)

- Culbertson, J., Smolensky, P., and Legendre, G. (2011). Statistical learning constrained by syntactic biases in an artificial language learning task. Boston University Conference on Language Development 36. [\[handout\]](#)
- Culbertson, J., Smolensky, P., and Legendre, G. (2011). Learning biases and constraints on syntactic typology: an artificial language learning approach. Linguistic Society of America, 85th Annual Meeting. [\[handout\]](#)
- Culbertson, J. and Legendre, G. (2010). Investigating the evolution of agreement systems using an artificial language learning paradigm. Western Conference on Linguistics (WECOL), Fresno, CA, 2010. [\[handout\]](#)
- Culbertson, J. and Smolensky, P. (2010). Disharmony in the nominal domain: an artificial language learning approach. Linguistic Association of Great Britain Annual Meeting, Leeds, UK. [\[handout\]](#)
- Culbertson, J., Brunetti, L., and Legendre, G. (2010). Subject clitics as agreement in Spoken French. Linguistic Society of America, 84th Annual Meeting. Baltimore, MD.
- Culbertson, J. and Smolensky, P. (2009). Testing Greenberg’s Universal 18 using an artificial language learning paradigm. NELS 40, Cambridge, MA. [\[handout\]](#)
- Culbertson, J., Legendre, G., Nazzi, T., and Filippin, N. (2008). Subject doubling in Spoken French and the status of subject clitics. Meeting Clitics Workshop. Barcelona, Spain. [\[handout\]](#)
- Culbertson, J. and Legendre, G. (2008). Qu’en est-il des clitiques sujet en français oral contemporain? 1er Congrès mondial de linguistique française. Paris, France.
- Culbertson, J. (2007). The status of Old French clitics in the 12th century. Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages XXXVII, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Culbertson, J. and Legendre, G. (2007). Verb-second and clitic-second effects in 12th century Old French. Linguistic Society of America, 81st Annual Meeting, Anaheim, CA.

POSTERS

- Culbertson, J. and Braquet, G. (2017). The harmony bias: Universal preference or abstract transfer? Poster given at BUCLD 42.
- Staubs, R., Culbertson, J., Hughto, C., and Pater, J. (2016). Grammar and learning in syntactic and phonological typology. Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting, 90.
- Koulaguina, E., Culbertson, J., Gonzalez-Gomez, N., Legendre, G., and Nazzi, T. (2015). Interpreting early preferences: Familiarity vs. novelty effects in the acquisition of subject-verb agreement. SRCD Biennial Meeting, Philadelphia.
- Enochson, K. and Culbertson, J. (2014). Capturing psycholinguistic processing effects using Amazon Mechanical Turk. Poster given at the 27th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing. [\[handout\]](#)
- Buerkin-Salgado, A., Culbertson, J., Legendre, G., and Nazzi, T. (2013). Elicited production of French liaison at age 3; knowledge, input frequency, or both? Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Seattle, WA. [\[handout\]](#)

- Culbertson, J. and Smolensky, P. (2011). Bayesian modeling of substantive biases for word order in an artificial language learning paradigm. WCCFL, Tucson, AZ. [\[handout\]](#)
- Smolensky, P., Culbertson, J., Goldrick, M., Mathis, D., and Legendre, G. (2011). Can neural-network-parsing complexity explain a word-order universal? CUNY 24.
- Culbertson, J. and Gross, S. (2008). Are linguists better subjects? Society for Philosophy and Psychology Annual Meeting. [\[handout\]](#)
- Culbertson, J., Legendre, G., Nazzi, T., and Filippin, N. (2007). Experimental evidence on subject doubling in Spoken French. Hopkins Workshop on Language 4, Baltimore.

TEACHING

Teaching at University of Edinburgh

- First Language Acquisition (Course organizer 2015-2016, Instructor 2017-2018)
- Universals of Language (Course organizer, 2016-present)
- Research Methods for Developmental Linguistics (Instructor 2016-17)
- Ad hoc instructor for: Simulating Language, Psychology of Language Learning, LEL1, LEL2D

Teaching at George Mason University

- Advanced Seminar on Language Acquisition: Statistical learning
- Advanced Seminar on Language Acquisition: Noun classes
- Introduction to Linguistics
- Research Methods in Linguistics
- The Making of French: An Exceptional History

Teaching at the University of Rochester

- Laboratory in Perception and Cognition
-

EVENTS AND SUMMER SCHOOLS

- [July 2022, 46 Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society](#), co-organized with Dr Hugh Rabagliati (Edinburgh), Prof Andrew Perfors (Melbourne), Prof Veronica Ramenzoni, Universidad Católica Argentina).
- [October 2021, Edinburgh Summer School on Artificial Language Learning](#) (workshop co-organized with Drs. Mora Maldonado and Alexander Martin)
- [August 2021, Experimental approaches to language universals in structure and meaning](#) (workshop co-organized with Drs. Mora Maldonado and Alexander Martin, at European Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information)
- [Workshop on the Evolution of Morphological Systems](#) (2020, co-organized with Prof. Kenny Smith, at Evolang) — cancelled (Covid-19)
- [Symposium on the Bantu Noun Phrase](#) (2018, co-organized with Dr. Alexander Martin, Prof. David Adger, and Dr. Klaus Abels, hosted by Queen Mary University of London)
- [How learners shape languages](#), (2017, co-organized with Prof. Kenny Smith and Dr. Masha Fedzechkina, symposium at Boston University Conference on Language Development)
- [Workshop on Advances in Linguistic Theory Through Computation](#) (2016, co-organized with Prof. Paul Smolensky, at the annual meeting of the Linguistics Association of Great Britain)
- [Advanced Core Training in Linguistics Summer School](#) (instructor 2015)
- [Perspectives on Nativism](#) (2014, workshop co-organized with Dr. J. Suilin Lavelle and Prof. Kenny Smith)

PROFESSIONAL
ACTIVITIES &
SERVICE

- Cognitive Science Society Governing Board (2024-present)
- Associate Editor *Open Mind: Discoveries in Cognitive Science* (2024-present)
- Associate Editor *Glossa: Psycholinguistics* (2021-2025)
- Editorial Board *Language Acquisition* (2021-present)
- Editorial Board *Language Dynamics and Change* (2020-present)
- Editorial Board *Language and Cognition* (2019-present)
- Cognitive Science Society Annual Meeting Program Committee (2016-present)
- Society for Computation in Linguistics Advisory Committee (2017-present)
- Member of the Linguistic Society of America, 2005-present
- National Science Foundation panel member (2019)
- Ad hoc journal reviewing: *Science*, *Nature Human Behavior*, *PNAS*, *JEP: General, Language, Cognition, Linguistic Inquiry*, *Cognitive Psychology*, *JML*, *Cognitive Science*, *Language Acquisition*, *Language Learning and Development*, *GLOSSA*, *Psychonomic Bulletin and Review*, *Topics in Cognitive, J. of Linguistics*, *Language & Speech*, *Cognitive Linguistics*, *Language Sciences*, *Linguistics Vanguard*, *OpenMind*, *Phonology*, *J. of French Language Studies*, *Brit. J. for Philosophy of Science*, *PLOS One*
- Ad hoc conference reviewing: BUCLD, Cogsci, LSA, AMLaP, CMCL, COLING, Evolang, and others.
- Ad hoc funding agency reviewing: National Science Foundation (USA), Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada, L'Agence Nationale de la Recherche (France), Scottish Graduate School of Social Science Pathways (ESRC).

SUPERVISION

Postdoctoral supervision

- Shira Tal (Edinburgh, 2021-2024, now a Chancellor's Fellow at the University of Edinburgh)
- Yevgen Matushevych (Edinburgh, 2021-2023, now an assistant professor, University of Groningen)
- Mora Maldonado (Edinburgh, 2018-2021, now a CNRS researcher at Nantes Université)
- Alex Martin (Edinburgh, 2017-2020, now an assistant professor, University of Groningen)
- Carmen Saldana (Edinburgh, 2018, now Beatriu de Pinós Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Pompeu Fabra University)

PhD supervision

- Sydelle de Souza (Edinburgh)
- Ponrawee Prasertsom (Edinburgh)
- Aislinn Keogh (Edinburgh)
- Lauren Fletcher (Edinburgh)
- Elizabeth Pankratz (Edinburgh, PhD 2024)
- Patrick Kanampiu (Edinburgh, PhD 2024)
- Marc Meisezahl (Edinburgh, PhD 2024)
- Annie Holtz (Edinburgh, PhD 2024)
- Fang Wang (Edinburgh, PhD 2024)
- Tamar Johnson (Edinburgh, PhD 2021)
- Svenja Wagner (Edinburgh, PhD 2022)
- Jonas Nolle (Edinburgh, PhD 2020)
- Fiona Kirkton (Edinburgh, PhD 2020)
- Jon Carr (Edinburgh, PhD 2019)

- Jasmeen Kanwal (Edinburgh, PhD 2018)
- Carmen Saldana (Edinburgh, PhD 2018)
- Baraa Rajaab (GMU, PhD 2018)
- Kelly Enochson (GMU, NSF DDRI awarded 2014, PhD 2015)
- Jill Waybright (GMU, co-supervisor, PhD 2014)

Masters supervision

- Catarina Zhang (Edinburgh, MSc 2024)
- Meg Pierce (Edinburgh, MSc 2024)
- Haoyang Liu (Edinburgh, MSc 2024)
- Chunan Li (Edinburgh, MSc 2024)
- Maya Hardan (Edinburgh, MSc 2023)
- Molly Yu (Edinburgh, MSc 2023)
- Mingxuan Zhang (Edinburgh, MSc 2023)
- Ruizhe Zhou (Edinburgh, MSc 2022)
- Wei Ding (Edinburgh, MSc 2022)
- Ponrawee Prasertsom (Edinburgh, MSc 2022)
- Rosie Owen (Edinburgh, MSc 2022)
- Rui Dong (Edinburgh, MSc 2022)
- Camilla Lali (Edinburgh, MSc 2020)
- Lauren Fletcher (Edinburgh, MSc 2020)
- Danielle Naegeli (Edinburgh, MSc 2019)
- Rachel Kindellan (Edinburgh, MSc 2019)
- Madga Barrera Navarro (Edinburgh, MSc 2019)
- Juliana Bockmühl (Edinburgh, MSc 2018)
- Silvie Zeller (Edinburgh, MSc 2018)
- Alexis Cabrera (Edinburgh, MSc 2018)
- Mary Elson (Edinburgh, MSc 2018)
- Kornilia Theodorou (Edinburgh, MSc 2018)
- Zlatomira Iichovska (Edinburgh, MSc 2018)
- Magdalena Schwartz (University of Vienna, MA 2017)
- Andrew Foote (Edinburgh, MSc 2017)
- Toby Dathan (Edinburgh, MSc 2017)
- Tian Li (Edinburgh, MSc 2017)
- Frances Haggarty (Edinburgh, MSc 2017)
- Nabila Muliawati (Edinburgh, MSc 2017)
- Panagiotis Kenanidis (Edinburgh, MSc 2017)
- Vania Ledesma (Edinburgh, MSc 2016)
- Konstantina Koutsaki (Edinburgh, MSc 2016)
- Guillaume Braquet (Edinburgh, MSc 2016)
- Katherine Leon (GMU, MA 2014)

Undergraduate supervision

- Lucile Dewarin (Edinburgh, BA 2024)
- Elizabeth Brown (Edinburgh, BA 2024)
- Louise Grevin (Edinburgh, BA 2023)
- Cliodhna Hughes (Edinburgh, BA 2022), winner of the LAGB prize for Outstanding Undergraduate Dissertation in Linguistics
- Kirsty Bishop (Edinburgh, BA 2022)
- Anna Asher (Edinburgh, BA 2020)
- Kexin Gao (Edinburgh, BA 2019)
- Annie Holtz (Edinburgh, BA 2019)
- Isabella Rogers (Edinburgh, BA 2017)
- Frances Haggarty (Edinburgh, BA 2016)

- Helene Ho (Edinburgh, BA 2015))
- Emily Walker (GMU, *OSCAR* awarded 2012, BA 2013)