

## Emily Elizabeth Atkinson

Department of Language Studies  
University of Toronto Mississauga  
4150 Maanjiwe nendamowinan  
3359 Mississauga Road  
Mississauga, ON, L5L 1CB

E-mail: [e.atkinson@utoronto.ca](mailto:e.atkinson@utoronto.ca)  
URL: <http://emilyeatkinson.net/>

### EMPLOYMENT

- 2022 – Assistant Professor of Linguistics  
Department of Language Studies, University of Toronto Mississauga  
Department of Linguistics, University of Toronto
- 2021 Lecturer I  
Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan
- 2019 – 2021 Post-Doctoral Research Fellow  
Weinberg Institute of Cognitive Science & Department of Psychology, University of Michigan
- 2017 – 2019 Language Learning Visiting Assistant Professor  
Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan
- 2017 Lecturer  
Department of Cognitive Science, Johns Hopkins University

### EDUCATION

- 2011 – 2016 PhD in Cognitive Science, Johns Hopkins University  
Dissertation: *Active dependency completion in adults and children: Representations and adaptation*  
Advisor: Akira Omaki
- 2011 – 2013 Master of Arts in Cognitive Science, Johns Hopkins University  
Advisor: Akira Omaki
- 2013 Linguistic Society of America (LSA) Summer Institute, University of Michigan
- 2008 – 2010 Master of Science in General Linguistics, Georgetown University  
Advisor: Donna Lardierre
- 2005 – 2009 Bachelor of Arts with Honors in Psychology, Georgetown University  
Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa, Second major in Linguistics  
Advisor on Honors Project: Rachel Barr

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

Psycholinguistics – syntactic predictions; filler-gap dependencies; priming as a learning mechanism; interaction of grammatical constraints on processing; artificial language learning

First Language Acquisition – parser development; acquisition of syntax

Syntax – island constraints; *wh*-dependencies; agreement

### PUBLICATIONS

#### *Journal Articles*

- 2018 **Atkinson, E.**, Wagers, M., Lidz, J., Phillips, C., & Omaki, A. Developing incrementality in filler-gap dependency processing. *Cognition*, 179, 132-149.

- 2016 **Atkinson, E.**, Apple, A., Rawlins, K., & Omaki, A. Similarity of *wh*-phrases and acceptability variation in *wh*-islands. *Frontiers in Psychology: Language Sciences*, 6:2048. Doi:10.3389/fpsyg.2015.02048.
- 2010 Barr, R., Shuck, L., Salerno, K., **Atkinson, E.**, & Linebarger, D. Music interferes with learning from television during infancy. *Infant and Child Development*, 19, 313-331.

#### *Invited Book Chapters*

- accepted **Atkinson, E.** Sticking to what we know: Methodological limitations to generalizability. Invited chapter in K. Messenger (ed.), *Syntactic priming in language development: Populations, representations, and mechanisms*. Approved for the *Trends in Language Acquisition* series, John Benjamins.

#### *Refereed Proceedings*

- 2015 **Atkinson, E.** Gender features on *n* and the root: An account of gender in French. In J. Smith & T. Ihsane (Eds.), *Romance Linguistics 2012: Selected papers from the 42<sup>nd</sup> Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages (LSRL), Cedar City, Utah, 20-22 April 2012 (229-244)*, Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

#### *Manuscripts in Progress*

- submitted **Atkinson, E.** & Omaki, A. Adaptation of gap predictions in filler-gap dependency processing during reading. Submitted to *Journal of Memory and Language*.
- in prep Boland, J. E., **Atkinson, E.**, de los Santos, G., & Queen, R. What do we learn when we adapt to reading regional constructions?
- in prep **Atkinson, E.**, Lai, M., & Omaki, A. Prepositional object gap production primes active gap filling in 5-year-olds.
- in prep **Atkinson, E.** & Clothier, K. The learnability of novel cues to prediction: Artificial language learning of filler-gap dependencies.
- in prep Shapiro, N., Apple, A., **Atkinson, E.**, & Omaki, A. Developing sensitivity to linguistic cues in children's processing of verb complement ambiguity.
- in prep **Atkinson, E.** Priming children's interpretation of globally ambiguous sentences.

#### **INVITED TALKS**

- 2021 Confronting assumptions about children's processing: Insights from incrementality & priming. Colloquium talk in the Department of Language Studies, University of Toronto Mississauga, March 19.
- 2021 The learnability of sentence processing procedures: Acquisition & adaptation. Colloquium talk in the Department of Linguistics, University of Southern California, February 26.
- 2020 Developing incrementality in children's sentence processing: Insights from long distance dependencies. Colloquium talk in the Department of Linguistics, Cornell University, January 23.
- 2019 Learning to process sentences: Insights from filler-gap dependencies & syntactic priming. Colloquium talk in the Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan, October 4.
- 2018 Adaptation of gap predictions in filler-gap dependency processing. Invited talk at Sentence Processing: Computation, Experiments & Theory in the Department of Linguistics, Northwestern University, February 28.

**PRESENTATIONS & POSTERS***Spoken presentations*

- 2020 McInnerney, A. & **Atkinson, E.** (March 21). *Syntactically unintegrated parentheticals: Evidence from agreement attraction*. Presentation at the 33<sup>rd</sup> CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing. University of Massachusetts Amherst: Amherst, MA. [presented virtually]
- 2019 **Atkinson, E.** & Clothier, K. (June 20). *The learnability of a novel cue to prediction: An artificial language learning study of filler-gap dependencies*. Presentation at Psycholinguistics in Iceland – Parsing and Prediction (PIPP). University of Iceland: Reykjavik, Iceland.
- 2018 **Atkinson, E.**, Rigby, I., Shapiro, N., Woo, B., & Omaki, A. (March 15). *Syntactic adaptation effects do not transfer across tasks*. Presentation at the 31<sup>st</sup> CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing. University of California Davis: Davis, CA.
- 2016 **Atkinson, E.** & Omaki, A. (November 5). *Prepositional object gap production primes active gap filling in 5-year-olds*. Presentation at the Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD). Boston University; Boston, MA.
- 2016 **Atkinson, E.** & Omaki, A. (January 9). *Immature filler-gap dependency processing in 5- to 7-year-olds*. Paper presented at the 90<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America. Washington, DC.
- 2013 **Atkinson, E.**, Apple, A., Rawlins, K., & Omaki, A. (October 19). *Wh-island amelioration at the interfaces: Syntax, processing, and semantic distinctness*. Paper presented at NELS 44. University of Connecticut; Storrs, CT.
- 2012 **Atkinson, E.** (April 21). *Gender features on n and the root: An account of gender in French*. Paper presented at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages (LSRL). Southern Utah University; Cedar City, UT.
- 2011 Brito, N., Barr, R., McIntyre, P., **Atkinson, E.**, Dougherty, D., & Simcock, G. (March 31). *Long-term retention and reactivation of forgotten memories from books during toddlerhood*. Paper presented as part of “Learning from picture books: from infancy to early school days” symposium at the biennial meeting of SRCD. Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

*Poster presentations*

- 2021 **Atkinson, E.** & Boland, J. (March 6). *Regional constructions still need learned after adaptation*. Poster presented at the 34<sup>th</sup> CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing. University of Pennsylvania: Philadelphia, PA. [presented virtually]
- 2020 **Atkinson, E.** & Clothier, K. (January 2). *Making wh-questions bounded: Artificial language learning of a novel grammatical marker*. Poster presented at the 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America. New Orleans, LA.
- 2019 **Atkinson, E.**, Bloss, N., Johnson, S., & Jones, C. (March 31). *Priming children’s interpretation of globally ambiguous sentences*. Poster presented at the 32<sup>nd</sup> CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing. University of Colorado: Boulder, CO.
- 2019 **Atkinson, E.** & Johnson, S. (March 23). *Interpretative priming of globally ambiguous sentences*. Poster at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Child Development (SRCD). Baltimore, MD.
- 2017 **Atkinson, E.**, Clothier, K., & Vargas, C. (September 8). *Artificial language learning of an optional grammatical marker*. Poster presented at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Architectures and Mechanisms of Language Processing (AMLAP) conference. University of Lancaster: Lancaster, UK.

- 2016 **Atkinson, E.** & Omaki, A. (March 3). *Adaptation of gap predictions in filler-gap dependency processing*. Poster presented at the 29<sup>th</sup> CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing. University of Florida; Gainesville, FL.
- 2014 **Atkinson, E.**, Reisinger, D., & Omaki, A. (November 14). *Do small clause predicates ameliorate island violations?* Poster presented at Gradient Symbolic Computation Workshop. Johns Hopkins University; Baltimore, MD.
- 2014 **Atkinson, E.**, Omaki, A., & Wilson, C. (September 6). *Gamma function modelling of visual world eye-tracking data*. Poster presented at the 20<sup>th</sup> AMLaP conference. Edinburgh, UK.
- 2014 **Atkinson, E.** & Omaki, A. (September 6). *Grammatical faithfulness in processing of multiple dependencies?* Poster presented at the 20<sup>th</sup> AMLaP conference. Edinburgh, UK.
- 2013 **Atkinson, E.**, Simeon, K., & Omaki, A. (March 23). *The time course of filler-gap dependency processing in the developing parser*. Poster presented at the 26<sup>th</sup> CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing. Columbia, SC.
- 2009 **Atkinson, E.**, Salerno, K., Barr, R., & Linebarger, D. (March 6). *Examining how music interferes with imitation: Contrasting cognitive load with selective attention*. Poster presented at the meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association (EPA). Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2008 Barr, R., Shuck, L., Salerno, K., **Atkinson, E.**, Linebarger, D., & Miller, N. (March 27). *Background music interferes with televised and live demonstrations during infancy*. Poster presented at the 16<sup>th</sup> Biennial ICIS. Vancouver, BC, Canada.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### *University of Toronto Mississauga*

2022 Syntactic Patterns in Language (Winter)

### *University of Michigan*

2021 Cross-Disciplinary Perspectives in Cognitive Science (Graduate, Winter, co-instructor: Richard Lewis)  
Language Acquisition; Research Methods in Language, Cognition, & Development (Fall)

2019 Developmental Psycholinguistics (Graduate, Winter)

2018 Language Acquisition (Winter)  
Language & the Human Mind (Fall)

2017 Experimental Syntax & Semantics (Graduate, Fall)

### *Johns Hopkins University*

2017 American Dialects (1 credit); Psycholinguistics (Spring)

### *Teaching Assistantships*

2015 Psycholinguistics (Spring, Akira Omaki)

2014 Cognitive Development (Spring, Julia Yarmolinskaya)  
Formal Methods in Cognitive Science: Bayesian Inference (Fall, Colin Wilson)

2013 Cognitive Neuroscience: Exploring the Living Brain (Spring, Brenda Rapp)  
Formal Methods in Cognitive Science: Neural Networks (Fall, Paul Smolensky)

2012 World of Language (Spring, Geraldine Legendre)  
Psycholinguistics (Fall, Akira Omaki)

**MENTORING**

- 2020 – 2021 *Graduates:* Andrew McInnerney  
*Undergraduates:* Nina Pacheco, Isabella Tape, Vivian Wu (all Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) students); Ilana Mermelstein
- 2019 – 2020 *Graduates:* Andrew McInnerney  
*Undergraduates:* Darica Brazier, Mrinalini Iyer, Cole Wohlfiel (all UROP students)
- 2018 – 2019 *Graduates:* Andrew McInnerney  
*Undergraduates:* Natalie Bloss, Carolina Jones; Brett Polak (all UROP students)
- 2017 – 2018 *Undergraduates:* Sophia Johnson (UROP student), Christina Vargas
- 2011 – 2016 *Undergraduate Research Assistants:* William Harrison, Emily Lubin, Katherine Simeon

*Other Mentoring Activities*

- Research Design Wilkinson Wong Gonzales; Yourdanis Sedarous; Hezao (Alan) Ke; Yu-Chuan (Lucy) Chiang; Emily Sabo; Danielle Burgess
- Statistics Wilkinson Wong Gonzales; introductory workshop for Language & Cognition Lab (JHU)

**HONORS & HONOR SOCIETIES** (induction dates)

- 2019 Honored Lecturer, nominated by a student to University Housing for Fall 2018 semester
- 2014 – 2015 G. Heberton Evans Jr. Graduate Fellowship (JHU)
- 2013 Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute Tuition Fellowship
- 2008 Psi Chi (National Psychology Honors Society)

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES***Professional Development*

- 2017 – 2019 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Professional Development Certificate  
 Sponsored by Rackham Graduate School at the University of Michigan
- 2016 Johns Hopkins Summer Teaching Institute  
 Sponsored by the Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning (CIRTL)

*Membership in Professional Organizations*

- 2013 – 2020 Linguistic Society of America
- 2018 – Society for Research in Child Development

*Ad hoc Reviewing of Scholarly Works*

- Journals Applied Psycholinguistics; Child Development; First Language; Journal of Linguistics; Journal of Psycholinguistic Research; Language Acquisition; Language, Cognition & Neuroscience; Second Language Research
- Book Chapters John Benjamins (2022: *Syntactic priming in language development: Populations, representations, and mechanisms*)
- Grants National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement (2022)
- Conference Abstracts Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD); Cognitive Science Society (CogSci); Human Sentence Processing Conference (formerly CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing); Linguistics Society of America Annual Meeting (LSA); Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)

*Organizing Conferences and Workshops*

- 2014 Gradient Symbolic Computation: The Continuous and Discrete in Sentence Processing, Johns Hopkins University (student organizer)
- 2013 Mid-Atlantic Colloquium of Studies in Meaning, Johns Hopkins University (student organizer)
- 2012 Advances in Optimality Theory: Syntax and Semantics, Johns Hopkins University (student organizer)

*Other Service*

- 2017 – Freelance departmental statistical advisor
- 2019 – 2021 Coordinator Cognitive Science Seminar for Weinberg Institute for Cognitive Science
- 2018 – 2019 University of Michigan Linguistics Undergraduate committee
- 2014 – 2016 Member of the JHU Cognitive Science colloquium committee