Lillianna Righter

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A linguist with extensive research and project management experience bridging cognitive science and the humanities.

EDUCATION

University of Maryland, College Park · Bachelor of Arts, Linguistics · 2020
> Summa Cum Laude (GPA 4.0)
> Honors thesis: "Look, it's linking: Infants' use of the verb-event link to learn verb meaning."
> Honors Humanities Citation: "Mama Who Bore Me."

WORK EXPERIENCE

Lab Manager, Bergelson Lab (August 2020 - present)
 Harvard University, 2023-present
 Duke University, 2020-2023
> Collect, manage, clean, visualize, and analyze infant language learning data for 10+ simultaneous projects; lead participant communication and scheduling; create and execute science communication programs for local K-12 schools; build lab documentation; transcription and natural language processing of >3000 hrs of audio; construct project pipelines using task management platforms; oversee 40+ undergraduate researchers; write publications and present research findings; create and execute science communication programs with audience experience in mind; hire and train lab personnel; plan events; manage project timelines, IRB protocols, and grant submissions; manage data sharing; manage $2M+ grant portfolio; liaise with faculty and senior administration

Curriculum designer, UMD Linguistics, May-September 2020
> Create a database of teaching resources, educational media, and assessments for introductory linguistics courses, from individual problems to higher level subfield units (morphology, phonology, syntax, sociolinguistics, language acquisition, sign languages

Interim Outreach Coordinator, Infant and Child Studies Consortium at UMD, summer 2018 and 2019
> Plan 11-lab consortium's presence at community events for recruiting family research participants

Research Assistant, Project on Children's Language Learning, January 2017-May 2020
> Collect and organize infant language acquisition data

Outreach Assistant, Infant and Child Studies Consortium at UMD, May 2018-May 2020
> Attend community events to share research findings and recruit participants

Library Aide, Manchester Valley High School, 2015-2016
> Planned library events, organized collections, assisted library patrons

SKILLS
Research methods: corpus linguistics, survey, transcription, EEG, eyetracking, infant psycholinguistics and language development (Habituation, headturn preference procedure, elicitation tasks, preferential looking), NLP, phonological transcription, semantic annotation

Languages: English (native), Intermediate-high Spanish (non-native), beginner Korean. Intermediate proficiency in R. Basic proficiency in Git, Python, SQL, and HTML

Software: Microsoft Office, Adobe Creative Cloud (PremierePro, Audition, PhotoShop, InDesign), Google Suite, Zoom, Qualtrics, Asana, FileMakerPro database maintenance, Audacity, LucidPress, Praat, Habit, SuperCoder, CHILDES corpus, Homebank, TalkBank, Databrary, CLAN, ELAN, Datavyu, EyeLink Experiment Builder

Outreach: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, TikTok, traditional blogging, and MailChimp email listerv platform, K-12 educational programming

PUBLICATIONS
Righter, L., Garrison, H., & Bergelson, E. (2024). Language science outreach through schools and social media: critical considerations. *Linguistics Vanguard*. https://doi.org/10.1515/lingvan-2024-0078

Campbell, E. E., **Righter, L**., Lukin, G., & Bergelson, E. (2025). Comparing Language Input in Homes of Blind and Sighted Children: Insights from Daylong Recordings. *Language Development Research.*

Lukin, E., Campbell, E.E., **Righter, L**., Mair, P., & Bergelson, E. (submitted.) Comparing Utterance Types and Contents in the Input to Blind and Sighted Infants.

Kalenkovich, E., Koorathota, S., Tor, S., Amatuni, A., Egan-Dailey, S., Moore, C., Laing, C., Garrison, H., Baudet, G., Bulgarelli, F., Uner, S., **Righter, L.**, & Bergelson, E. (invited revision). Study of Environmental Effects of Developing LINGuistic Skills: the SEEDLingS-Nouns Dataset.

Righter, L., Campbell, E.E., & Bergelson, E. (submitted). Investigating the Grammar-Lexicon Interface and Acquisition Trajectories in Blind Toddlers.

Emmert, A., **Righter, L.**, Campbell, E.E., Houston, D., & Bergelson, E. (in prep). Examining the spoken language input of infants with cochlear implants.

Campbell, E.E., Bachman, M., **Righter, L**., Roberts, K., Woldorff, M., & Bergelson, E. (in prep). Electrophysiological signatures of wordform recognition in infants across the second year of life.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS
Righter, L., & Bergelson, E. The Sticking Point: Connections between real-time point comprehension and word knowledge in infancy (talk). Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, November 2024.

Righter, L., Campbell, E.E., Lukin, E., & Bergelson, E. The Interdependence of Vocabulary & Morphosyntax Development in Blind and Sighted Children (poster). Many Paths to Language, Nijmegen, October 2023.

Linguistics Communication 2023: online, February 6-10, 2023
   Memes—**Righter, L.**, & Bullions, E. (panel).
   LingComm in Schools—Shaver, A., Clayton, D., & **Righter, L.** (panel).

Righter, L., & Lidz, J. Look, it's linking: Infants' use of the verb-event link to learn verb meaning (talk). Virginia Area Linguistics Colloquium (VALING), Williamsburg, April 2019.

Righter, L. "Mama Who Bore Me: biography exploring motherhood and the women who came before me." Honors Humanities Keystone Symposium, College Park, April 20th 2018.

MENTORSHIP & TEACHING
Supervised summer research projects: Crismely Fermin, Praise Kidimbu, Juliette Jiminez, Samantha Chaney, Alex Emmert.
Co-supervised undergraduate theses: Grace Benkelman, Olivia O'Connell.
Trained & supervised >40 undergraduate research assistants.
Teaching Assistant: Language and Mind (Introduction to Linguistics), spring 2018, fall 2019, spring 2020. Instructors: Dr. Tonia Bleam, Dr. Peggy Antonisse
Professional Writing—Writing about Food, spring 2019. Instructor: Martha Thomas.