

Erika Nurmsoo

Curriculum Vitae

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University of Bristol
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Research Interests

Children's use of social information when learning from others, including: the development of trust in testimony; language acquisition, with special focus on word learning and its connection with theory of mind and preschoolers' source monitoring abilities; children's developing understanding and use of symbols, including in language, drawing, and pretence; children's sensitivity to eye gaze information.

Academic Positions

Postdoctoral Research Associate

University of Bristol
Department of Experimental Psychology
January 2008 to present

Associate Lecturer

Open University
part time position
January 2009 to present

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

University of Warwick, Department of Psychology
February 2006 to January 2008

Education

2000 - 2006: Yale University, New Haven CT

Ph.D., Psychology: 2006
Preschoolers' Sensitivity to Speaker Knowledge When Learning Words
Director: Paul Bloom

M. Phil, Psychology: 2006
Cues to Reference
Director: Paul Bloom

Education, continued:

M.S., Psychology: 2002
Fast Mapping of Observable and Unobservable Facts
Director: Paul Bloom

1997 - 2000: University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

M.A., Psychology: 2000
The Role of Prior Word Exposure on the Disambiguation Effect in Children's Word Learning
Directors: LouAnn Gerken and Merrill Garrett

1993 – 1997: McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada

B.A. & Sc. (Psychology and Arts & Science): 1997, Summa cum laude
Director: Laurel Trainor

Awards and Funding

2008: EPS Vacation Studentship, for work with Emma Brown

2008: EPS Grindley Travel Grant

2007: EPS Grindley Travel Grant

2006 – 2007: Named research fellow; E.J. Robinson, P.I. ESRC Learning from others: Identifying unreliable individuals vs. unreliable assertions

2004 – 2005: Yale University Dissertation Fellowship

2004: Conference Travel Award, Yale Graduate Student Assembly

2000 – 2002: Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada Post-Graduate Scholarship

1998 – 2000: Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada Post-Graduate Scholarship

Invited Talks

Workshop on Pragmatic Development, Lyon France, April 2009

Department of Psychology, University of Lancaster, Lancaster UK, January 2009

Department of Psychology, University of Birmingham, Birmingham UK, August 2007

Department of Psychology, University of Birmingham, Birmingham UK, June 2006

Professional Activities

Ad Hoc Reviewer for *Child Development*, *Developmental Science*, *Emotion*

Teaching Experience

Instructor

Child Development

February 2009, Open University

Introduction to Psychology

Summer, 2005, Yale University
Co-instructor with Dr. Gregory Walton

Introduction to Cognitive Development

Summer, 2000, University of Arizona

Teaching Fellow

Language Abilities in Animals, with Dr. Stephen Anderson (Autumn 2005)

Personality Psychology, with Dr. Mark Brackett (Spring 2004)

Introduction to Psychology,
with Dr. Nelson Donegan (Spring 2003)
with Dr. Peter Salovey (Spring 2002)

Introduction to Cognitive Psychology, with Dr. Brian Scholl (Autumn 2002)

Research Methods in Cognitive Psychology, with Dr. Christy Marschuetz (Autumn 2001)

Individuals and Society, with Dr. Paul Bloom (Autumn 1998)

Undergraduate Supervision

Bristol Cognitive Development Centre

Sarah Farndon (2008), Lucie Kanfischer (2008), Sarah Bronk (2009)

Yale Language and Cognition Lab

Imane El Andaloussi (2004), Lindsay Eisenberg (2004), Stephanie Hanson (2004), Alison Kadesh (2004-2005), Cristina Novoa (2004 – 2005), Jamie Podell (2005), Elizabeth Rawson (2004 – 2005)

Journal Publications and Book Chapters

Nummsoo, E., Allen, M., & Freeman, N. (in prep). *Representational Flexibility in the pictorial domain*. Unpublished manuscript.

Robinson, E. J., Butterfill, S. A., & **Nummsoo**, E. (in prep). *Gaining knowledge via other minds: Children's flexible use of others as sources of information*. Unpublished manuscript.

Einav, S., **Nummsoo**, E., & Hood, B. (under review). *Best friends: Children's Use of Mutual Gaze to Identify Third-Party Affiliation*. Manuscript under review, Psychological Science.

Gerken, L. A., Wilson, R., Gómez, R. L., & **Nummsoo**, E. (in press). The relation between morpho-syntactic analogies and syntactic categories. In J. Blevins & J. Blevins (eds.). *Analogy in grammar: Form and acquisition*

Nummsoo, E., Robinson, E. J., & Butterfill, S. A. (accepted). Are children gullible? Manuscript accepted for publication.

Nummsoo, E., & Robinson, E. J. (2009). Children's Trust in Previously Inaccurate Informants Who Were Well- or Poorly- Informed: When Past Errors Can Be Excused. *Child Development*, 80, 23-27.

Nummsoo, E., & Robinson, E. J. (2009). Identifying unreliable informants: Do children excuse past inaccuracy? *Developmental Science*, 41-47.

Robinson, E. J. & **Nummsoo**, E. (2009). When do children learn from unreliable speakers? *Cognitive Development*, 24, 16-22.

Nummsoo, E., & Bloom, P. (2008). Preschoolers' perspective-taking in word learning: Do they blindly follow eye gaze? *Psychological Science*, 19, 211-215.

Robinson, E. J., Haigh, S. N., & **Nummsoo**, E. (2008). Children's working understanding of knowledge sources: Confidence in knowledge gained from testimony. *Cognitive Development*, 23, 105-118.

Nummsoo, E. (2006). Preschoolers attend to a speaker's knowledge when learning adjectives. Proceedings of the 30th Boston University Conference on Language Development. Boston, MA: Cascadilla Press.

Bloom, P. & **Nummsoo**, E. (2002). Word learning. In L. Nadel (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Cognitive Science*, London: Macmillan.

Conference Presentations

Nurmssoo, E., Einav, S., & Hood, B. M. (April 2009). *Tracking fears and preferences: Typically developing children's monitoring of gaze in static and dynamic scenes*. Paper presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Meeting, Denver, CO.

Nurmssoo, E., Einav, S., & Hood, B. M. (April 2009). *Best friends: Children's sensitivity to social information in gaze*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Meeting, Denver, CO.

Nurmssoo, E., Allen, M. & Freeman, N. (April 2009). *Can a balloon be a lollipop? Four-year-olds use representational flexibility when understanding pictures*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Meeting, Denver, CO.

Nurmssoo, E., Einav, S., & Hood, B. M. (September 2008). *Best friends: Children's Sensitivity to Social Information in Gaze*. Poster presented at the workshop Theory of Mind: Celebrating 30 years, Nottingham UK, September 11-12.

Nurmssoo, E., Robinson, E. J., & Butterfill, S. (June 2008). *Extracting knowledge from other minds*. Paper presented at the European Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Utrecht, June 25-27.

Nurmssoo, E., & Robinson, E. J. (January 2008). *Children's inferences about the reliability of informants: When do they excuse past errors?* Paper presented at the Experimental Psychology Society London Meeting, Jan 3-4.

Nurmssoo, E., & Robinson, E. J. (August 2007). *Learning from others: Understanding speaker inaccuracy*. Paper presented at the British Psychological Society 2007 Developmental Section Conference.

Nurmssoo, E., & Robinson, E. J. (July 2007). *Learning from others: Children's understanding of speaker inaccuracy*. Paper presented at the 15th Annual Meeting of the European Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Geneva.

Nurmssoo, E., & Scholl, B. J. (July 2007). *Word learning and unlearning: Preschoolers revise the meanings of newly learned words*. Poster presented at the 15th Annual Meeting of the European Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Geneva.

Nurmssoo, E., & Robinson, E. J. (July 2007) *Learning from others: Identifying unreliable individuals vs. unreliable assertions*. Poster presented at the Experimental Psychology Society Edinburgh Meeting.

Nurmssoo, E., & Robinson, E. J. (March 2007). *Learning from others: Identifying unreliable individuals vs. unreliable assertions*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Meeting, Boston, MA.

Nurmssoo, E., & Bloom, P. (November 2005). *Do preschoolers attend to a speaker's knowledge when learning words?* Poster presented at the Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, Massachusetts.

Conference presentations, continued:

Nurmssoo, E. (June 2005). *Preschoolers reason about the artist's mental representations when naming a drawing*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Jean Piaget Society, Vancouver, Canada.

Nurmssoo, E., & Bloom, P. (April 2005). *Preschoolers' use of a speaker's perceptual knowledge when learning words*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia.

Gerken, L.A., **Nurmssoo, E., & Gomez, R.L.** (April 1999). *The role of meaning and form in the formation of syntactic categories*. Paper presented at the Society for Research in Child Development, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Zamuner, T., **Nurmssoo, E., Jurkowitz, L., & McKee, C.** (April 1999). *Mutual exclusivity effects in adjective acquisition*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development. Albuquerque, NM.

Nurmssoo, E., & Trainor, L. J. (April, 1998). *Changes between 6 and 8 months in the segmentation of tone patterns*. Poster presented at the 11th Biennial International Conference on Infant Studies, Atlanta, Georgia.

References

References available upon request