

**Lilia Rissman**

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**Curriculum Vitae**

Updated 3/2017

**EDUCATION**

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**Johns Hopkins University**, Baltimore, MD

Ph.D. in Cognitive Science, May 2013

Dissertation title: *Event participant representations and the instrumental role: a cross-linguistic study*

Advised by Barbara Landau & Kyle Rawlins

**Brandeis University**, Waltham, MA

B.A. in Linguistics and Cognitive Science; English and American Literature, May 2003

Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa

Highest Honors in Linguistics and Cognitive Science

Thesis title: *Subject pronoun expression in native and non-native grammars of Spanish*

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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2013-present: **University of Chicago**, Chicago, IL

Postdoctoral scholar

Department of Psychology

Advised by Susan Goldin-Meadow

**HONORS, AWARDS & FUNDING**

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2013-2016: NIH diversity supplement for postdoctoral research, parent grant: NIDCD RO1 DC000491 "From spontaneous sign systems to language." (PI: Susan Goldin-Meadow)

2006 - 2012: trainee under National Science Foundation Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship Program (IGERT): *Unifying the Science of Language*

2007: National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program honorable mention  
Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute fellowship

1999 - 2003: Brandeis University Hiatt Challenger fellowship

## **PUBLICATIONS & PAPERS**

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### **JOURNAL ARTICLES**

Rissman, L., Rawlins, K. (in press). Ingredients of instrumental meaning. *Journal of Semantics*.

Cartmill, E.A., Rissman, L., Novack, M., & Goldin-Meadow, S. (in press). The emergence of iconic features in co-speech gesture and homesign. *Language, Interaction and Acquisition*.

Rissman, L., Goldin-Meadow, S. (2017). The development of causal structure without a language model. *Language Learning and Development*.

Rissman, L., Rawlins, K., Landau, B. (2015). Using instruments to understand argument structure: Evidence for gradient representation. *Cognition*, 142(0), 266-290.

Rissman, L., Legendre, G., Landau, B. (2013). Abstract morphosyntax in two and three-year-old children: evidence from priming. *Language Learning and Development*, 9(3), 278-292.

### **CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS**

Rissman, L., Horton, L., Flaherty, M., Senghas, A., Copolla, M., Brentari, D., Goldin-Meadow, S. (2016). Strategies in gesture and sign for demoting an agent: effects of language community and input. *Proceedings from Evolution of Language 10*.

Rissman, L. (2015). Cinderella broke and broke: object deletion and manner-result complementarity. *Proceedings from Chicago Linguistic Society 51*. 425-439.

Rissman, L. (2013). Periphrastic use: a modal account of instrumentality. In Y. Fainleib, N. LaCara, & Y. Park (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 41st Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistics Society* (Vol. 2, pp. 137-150). Amherst, MA: GLSA Publications.

Rissman, L. (2011). Instrumental *with* and *use*: modality and implicature. *Proceedings from Semantics and Linguistic Theory 21*, 532-551.

Rissman, L. (2010). Instrumental *with*, locatum *with* and the argument/adjunct distinction. *LSA Meeting Extended Abstracts 2010*.

### **MANUSCRIPTS**

Rissman, L., Rawlins, K., Landau, B. (in preparation). Instrumental participants in verbal semantic structure: A comparison of English, Spanish and Mandarin.

Rissman, L., Horton, L., Flaherty, M., Senghas, A., Copolla, M., Brentari, D., Goldin-Meadow, S. (in preparation). Emergence of voice in Nicaraguan Sign Language.

Rissman, L., Woodward, A., & Goldin-Meadow, S. (in preparation). Event construal and production of English passive voice.

Rissman, L., Horton, L., & Goldin-Meadow, S. (in preparation). Conceptual event categories shape the structure of homesign: a cross-cultural study.

## PRESENTATIONS

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### INVITED TALKS

(2017) "Cognitive biases and the mapping from concepts to semantics." University of California Davis, Department of Linguistics (Davis, CA).

(2016) "How language structures cognition: insights from language development and variation." University of Richmond, Department of Psychology (Richmond, VA).

(2016) "From concepts to semantics: the development of agentive language." New York University, Department of Linguistics (New York, NY).

(2013) "How verbs determine event participant representation: the case of instruments." Northwestern University, Philosophy and Linguistics Workgroup (Evanston, IL).

### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Cartmill, E.A., Rissman, L., Novack, M., & Goldin-Meadow, S. (to be presented). "Mapping hand to world; Development of iconic representation in gesture and homesign." Poster presentation at Cognitive Science 2017 (London, England).

Horton, L., Rissman, L., Goldin-Meadow, S. & Brentari, D. (to be presented). "The Emergence of Agent-Marking Strategies in Child Homesign Systems." Paper presentation at the 53rd Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (Chicago, IL).

Horton, L., Rissman, L., Goldin-Meadow, S. & Brentari, D. (to be presented). "The Emergence of Agent-Marking Strategies in Child Homesign Systems." Paper presentation at Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory (Reykjavík, Iceland).

Rissman, L., Horton, L., & Goldin-Meadow, S. (2017). "Crosslinguistic biases shape the semantic structure of verbs: evidence from deaf homesigning children." Paper presentation at the 91st annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (Austin, TX).

Rissman, L., Horton, L., & Goldin-Meadow, S. (2016). "Event categories in the absence of linguistic input: a cross-cultural study of child homesign." Poster presentation at the 41st annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (Boston, MA).

Rissman, L., Horton, L., Flaherty, M., Senghas, A., Copolla, M., Brentari, D., Goldin-Meadow, S. (2016). "Strong and weak agents in gesture and emerging sign language." Paper presentation at the 7<sup>th</sup> biennial conference of the International Society for Gesture Studies (Paris, France).

Rissman, L., Horton, L., Flaherty, M., Senghas, A., Copolla, M., Brentari, D., Goldin-Meadow, S. (2016). "Strategies in gesture and sign for demoting an agent: effects of language community and input." Paper presentation at the 10<sup>th</sup> biennial Evolution of Language conference (New Orleans, LA).

Rissman, L., Horton, L., Brentari, D., Goldin-Meadow, S. (2016). "Demoting the agent in Nicaraguan Sign Language: effects of language input on linguistic structure." Paper presentation at the 90<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (Washington, DC).

Rissman, L. (2015). "Cinderella broke and broke: object deletion and manner-result complementarity." Paper presentation at the 51st Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (Chicago, IL).

Rissman, L. (2015). "Intentionality and modality in the semantics of an instrumental verb." Paper presentation at the Modality and Subjectivity workshop, Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society (Chicago, IL).

Rissman, L., Goldin-Meadow, S. (2015). "Morphological & lexical markers of causation in the gestures of a child homesigner." Paper presentation at the 89th annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (Portland, OR).

Rissman, L., Goldin-Meadow, S. (2014). "Does handling handshape mark causation in homesign? Evidence from two child homesigners." Paper presentation at the 11th annual meeting of the High Desert Linguistic Society, included in the panel "Effects of community and age in emerging sign languages" (Albuquerque, NM).

Rissman, L., Rawlins, K., Landau, B. (2013). "Instruments and verbal meaning: evidence from English, Spanish and Mandarin." Poster presentation at the University of Chicago Semantic Variation Workshop (Chicago, IL).

Rissman, L., Rawlins, K., Landau, B. (2013). "Argument judgments and the nature of verbal semantic structure." Paper presentation at the 31st West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (Tempe, AZ).

Rissman, L., Rawlins, K., Landau, B. (2012). "Event participants and verbal semantic structure." Paper presentation at the 1st annual PHLING research symposium (College Park, MD).

Rissman, L., Rawlins, K., Landau, B. (2011). "Semantic argument structure across languages." Paper presentation at the 44th International Annual Meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea, included in workshop "The Argument/ Adjunct Distinction Cross-Linguistically" (Logroño, Spain).

Rissman, L. (2011). "Instrumental *with* and *use*: modality and intention." Poster presentation at Semantics and Linguistic Theory 21 (New Brunswick, NJ).

Rissman, L. (2011). "Understanding instruments." Paper presentation at the 85th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (Pittsburgh, PA).

Rissman, L. (2010). "Periphrastic *use*: a modal account of instrumentality." Paper presentation at the 41st Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (Philadelphia, PA).

Rissman, L. (2010). "Periphrastic *use*: the expression of goals." Paper presentation at the Mid-Atlantic Colloquium of Studies in Meaning (Philadelphia, PA).

Rissman, L., Legendre, G., & Landau, B. (2010). "Abstract morphosyntactic representation in 2-year-old children: evidence from syntactic priming." Poster presentation at 17th Biennial International Conference on Infant Studies (Baltimore, MD).

Rissman, L. (2010). "Explaining the locative alternation." Paper presentation at the Georgetown Linguistics Society (Washington, DC).

Rissman, L. (2010). "Instrumental *with*, locatum *with* and the argument/adjunct distinction." Paper presentation at the 84th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (Baltimore, MD).

Rissman, L., Legendre, G., & Landau, B. (2009). "Abstract auxiliary BE representation in 2-year-old children: evidence from syntactic priming." Poster presentation at the 34th annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (Boston, MA).

Rissman, L., Legendre, G., & Landau, B. (2009). "Abstract auxiliary BE representation in 2-year-old children: evidence from syntactic priming." Poster presentation at the 31st annual meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (Amsterdam, the Netherlands).

Rissman, L. (2007). "L2 acquisition of Spanish subjects: is the NSP enough?" Poster presentation at the 81st annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (Anaheim, CA).

## **TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE**

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### **Lecturer positions**

*Spring 2017:* Meaning  
Northwestern University, Department of Linguistics

*Summer 2016:* Introduction to Developmental Psychology  
University of Chicago, Graham School for Continuing Education

### **Advisor to undergraduate research assistants**

*2013-present:* University of Chicago, Department of Psychology

*2007- 2012:* Johns Hopkins University, Department of Cognitive Science

### **Teaching assistant positions**

Johns Hopkins University, Department of Cognitive Science

*Spring 2012:* Language and Advertising with Prof. Kyle Rawlins

*Fall 2009, Fall 2011:* Semantics I with Prof. Kyle Rawlins

*Spring 2010:* Foundations of Cognitive Science with Prof. Paul Smolensky

*Spring 2009:* Classic Papers in Language Learning with Prof. Barbara Landau

*Fall 2008:* Introduction to Cognitive Development with Prof. Barbara Landau

*Spring 2008:* Cognition with Prof. Bob Frank

*Fall 2007:* Language and Mind with Prof. Bill Badecker

## SERVICE & OUTREACH

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Peer review for:

*Cognitive Science: a Multidisciplinary Journal*

*Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*

*Frontiers in Psychology: Language Sciences*

*Linguistics Vanguard*

*Semantics in Language Acquisition*; John Benjamins series *Trends in Language Acquisition Research*

Linguistic Society of America annual meeting

Cognitive Science Society annual meeting

2015: gave linguistics outreach talk "Amazon Mechanical Turk and the impact of technology on science" at SeanCon III, a Chicago technology conference

### **University of Chicago**

2014-2016: founding member of the University of Chicago Postdoctoral Association

2015: served on the panel "Finding a postdoc position," as part of the Academic Jobs Summer Camp sponsored by UChicagoGRAD

2015: presented the tutorial "Giving an effective conference talk" to the Psychology Department summer undergraduate reading group

2014: served on the panel "Becoming a Postdoc in a Laboratory," as part of the Learning in Laboratories series sponsored by University of Chicago Graduate Student Affairs

### **Johns Hopkins University, Cognitive Science Department**

2012: IGERT conference coordinating committee

2008 - 2010: Colloquium series coordinating committee

2006 - 2007: Departmental event coordinator

### **Baltimore Polytech High School**

2011: Presenter for Brain Awareness Week

### **Brandeis University, Linguistics Department**

2002 - 2003: Undergraduate Department Representative