

# Rachel A. Ryskin

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## POSITIONS

Postdoctoral Fellow. 2016 -

Dept. of Brain and Cognitive Sciences | Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Advisor: Ted Gibson

Visiting Researcher. 2016 -

Dept. of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences | Boston University

Advisor: Swathi Kiran

## EDUCATION

2016 | Ph.D. in Cognitive Psychology. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

*Thesis: Efficient Language Processing: The role of visuo-spatial context and memory*

*Committee: Sarah Brown-Schmidt, Aaron Benjamin, Gary Dell, Kara Federmeier, Frances Wang*

2012 | M.A. in Cognitive Psychology. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

2010 | B.A. in Cognitive Science. Northwestern University

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Broad: Language processing, Memory and Learning in Language

Specific: On-line language comprehension, Language-mediated eye-movements, Discourse processes, Pragmatics, Perspective-taking, Distributional learning, Syntactic processing, Speaker-specificity, Noisy-channel approaches to language comprehension

## TEACHING INTERESTS

Cognitive Science, Psycholinguistics, Learning and Memory, Statistics, Research Methods

## PUBLICATIONS

### Journal Articles

**Ryskin, R. A.**, Qi, Z., Duff, M., & Brown-Schmidt, S. (in press). Verb biases are shaped through lifelong learning. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition*.

**Ryskin, R. A.**, Wang, R. F. & Brown-Schmidt, S. (2016). Listeners use speaker identity to access representations of spatial perspective during online language comprehension. *Cognition*, 147, 75-84.

**Ryskin, R. A.**, Benjamin, A. S., Tullis, J. & Brown-Schmidt, S. (2015). Perspective-taking in comprehension, production, and memory: an individual differences approach. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 144, 898-915.

**Ryskin, R. A.**, Brown-Schmidt, S., Canseco-Gonzalez, E., Yiu, L., & Nguyen, E. (2014). Visuospatial Perspective-taking in Conversation and the Role of Bilingual Experience. *Journal of Memory and Language*, 74, 46-76.

**Ryskin, R. A.** & Brown-Schmidt, S. (2014). Do adults show a curse of knowledge in false-belief reasoning? A robust estimate of the true effect size. *PLoS ONE*, 9(3): e92406.

Rapp, D.N., Hinze, S.R., Kohlhepp, K., & **Ryskin, R.A.** (2014). Reducing reliance on inaccurate information. *Memory and Cognition*, 42, 11-26.

### Proceedings, Chapters, and Commentaries

**Ryskin, R. A.** & Brown-Schmidt, S. (in press). The Malleability of Linguistic Representations Poses a Challenge to the Priming-based Experimental Approach, Commentary on Branigan & Pickering, An Experimental Approach to Linguistic Representation, *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*

**Ryskin, R. A.**, Yoon, S., & Brown-Schmidt, S. (2015). Language, Memory, and Perspectives, in *Emerging Trends in the Social and Behavioral Sciences* (eds.) Robert Scott and Stephen Kosslyn, Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley and Sons

Brown-Schmidt, S., Yoon, S., & **Ryskin, R. A.** (2015). People as Contexts in Conversation. In B. H. Ross (Ed.), *Psychology of Learning and Motivation*, Vol. 62. San Diego, CA: Elsevier Academic Press.

**Ryskin, R. A.** & Brown-Schmidt, S. (2011). The impact of gender and bilingualism on cognition: the case of spatial perspective-taking. *Proceedings of the 15th annual workshop on the semantics and pragmatics of dialogue (SemDial)*, Los Angeles, CA.

## PRESENTATIONS

### Conference Talks

**Ryskin, R. A.**, Qi, Z., Duff, M. & Brown-Schmidt, S. (March, 2017). Syntactic variability between and within speakers: When to adapt, when to generalize?. Talk to be presented at the 30th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Cambridge, MA.

**Ryskin, R. A.**, Kurumada, C., & Brown-Schmidt, S. (March, 2016). Bottom-up adaptation of online pragmatic inferences to variability of speakers. Talk presented at the 29th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Gainesville, FL.

**Ryskin, R.A.**, Brown-Schmidt, S., Tullis, J. & Benjamin, A. (March, 2015). Perspective-taking: a domain-general cognitive ability? Talk presented at the 28th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Los Angeles, CA.

**Ryskin, R. A.** & Brown-Schmidt, S. (November, 2012). A Bilingual Disadvantage in Linguistic Perspective Adjustment. Talk presented at the 53rd annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Minneapolis, MN.

**Ryskin, R. A.** & Brown-Schmidt, S. (October, 2012). Contributions of Gender and Bilingualism to Spatial Perspective-taking. Talk presented at the 3rd annual UIC Bilingualism Forum, Chicago, IL

Rapp, D.N. & **Ryskin, R.** (November, 2010). Proofreading Fosters Resistance to the Effects of Inaccurate Information. Talk at the 51st annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, St. Louis, MO.

### Departmental/Colloquium Talks

Ryskin, R. A. (March, 2017). Language Comprehension in Context. Spring Cross-Program Gathering of the Sargent College Committee Enhancing Research and Collaboration in Health & Rehabilitation, Boston University.

Ryskin, R. A. (September, 2016). Learning about how other people talk: The case of syntax. Aphasia Research Mini-Symposium, Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, Boston University.

Ryskin, R. A. (March, 2016). Learning about how other people talk: The case of syntax. Cognitive division talk series, Department of Psychology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Ryskin, R.A. (September, 2015). Reproducibility in Psycholinguistics. Language processing talk series. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Ryskin, R. A. (December, 2014). Perspective-taking: a domain-general cognitive ability? Cognitive division talk series, Department of Psychology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Ryskin, R.A. (September, 2014). How do listeners encode spatial perspectives? Language processing talk series, Beckman Institute, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Ryskin, R. A. (September, 2011). The impact of gender and bilingualism on cognition: the case of spatial perspective-taking. Cognitive division talk series, Department of Psychology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

## Posters

**Ryskin, R. A.**, Fine, A. & Brown-Schmidt, S. (March, 2017). Do Listeners Learn Speaker/Accent-Specific Syntactic Biases?. Poster to be presented at the 30th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Cambridge, MA.

**Ryskin, R. A.**, Qi, Z., Covington, N., Duff, M. & Brown-Schmidt, S. (March, 2017). Knowledge and Learning of Verb Biases in Amnesia. Poster to be presented at the 30th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Cambridge, MA.

**Ryskin, R. A.**, Ng, S., Mimnaugh, K., Brown-Schmidt, S & Federmeier, K. (March, 2017). Speaker-specific predictions about category membership during language comprehension. Poster to be presented at the CNS Annual meeting in San Francisco, CA.

**Ryskin, R. A.**, Kurumada, C., & Brown-Schmidt, S. (November, 2016). Information integration in online modulation of pragmatic inferences during language comprehension. Poster presented at the 57th annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Boston, MA.

**Ryskin, R. A.**, , Qi, Z., Duff, M. & Brown-Schmidt, S. (March, 2016). Constraints on adaptation to syntactic variability between and within speakers. Poster presented at the 29th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Gainesville, FL.

**Ryskin, R. A.**, Qi, Z., & Brown-Schmidt, S. (November, 2015). Rapid learning of verb bias. Poster presented at the 56th annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Chicago, IL.

**Ryskin, R. A.**, Brown-Schmidt, S., & Kurumada, C. (March, 2015). Adaptation of Pragmatic Inferences Transfers across Contrastive Domains. Poster presented at the 28th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Los Angeles, CA.

**Ryskin, R. A.**, Wang, R.F., & Brown-Schmidt, S. (November, 2014). How do listeners encode spatial perspectives? Poster presented at the 55th annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Long Beach, CA.

**Ryskin, R. A.** & Brown-Schmidt, S. (November, 2013). Do adults show a curse of knowledge in false-belief reasoning? A robust estimate of the true effect size. Poster presented at the 54th annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Toronto, Canada.

**Ryskin, R. A.**, Canseco-Gonzalez, E, Yiu, L., Nguyen, E., Lopez, L., Hammond-Oakley, C. B.,

& Brown-Schmidt, S. (May, 2013). A Bilingual Disadvantage in Linguistic Perspective Adjustment. Poster presented at the International Workshop for Bilingualism and Cognitive Control, Krakow, Poland.

**Ryskin, R. A.** & Brown-Schmidt, S. (May, 2012). Contributions of Gender and Bilingualism to Spatial Perspective-taking. Poster presented at 2nd Annual Midwest Cognitive Science Conference, Bloomington, IN.

**Ryskin, R. A.** & Brown-Schmidt, S. (September, 2011). The impact of gender and bilingualism on cognition: the case of spatial perspective-taking. Poster presented at the 15th annual workshop on the semantics and pragmatics of dialogue (SemDial), Los Angeles, CA.

Kohlhepp, K., **Ryskin R.**, & Rapp, D.N. (May, 2011). Editing what's wrong to avoid learning it: Proofreading as intervention. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.

## FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

NIH Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA). 2016-2019

F32 Grant (PI): 1F32DC015163

Title: *Mechanisms of adaptation in (healthy and aphasic) noisy-channel comprehension*

Sarah C. Mangelsdorf Award. 2016

Designed to honor an outstanding female graduate student in Psychology

Dept. of Psychology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Alumni Advisory Board Graduate Student Travel Award. 2016

Dept. of Psychology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Cognitive Science / Artificial Intelligence Award. 2015

Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

William Brewer Teaching Award. 2015

Dept. of Psychology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Nancy Hirschberg Memorial Award. 2015

For outstanding original research in the area of individual differences

Dept. of Psychology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

University Fellowship. 2012

Dept. of Psychology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship. 2009

Cognitive Science Program, Northwestern University

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

The Language Lab at MIT. PI: Ted Gibson. 2016-  
Aphasia Research Lab at BU. PI: Swathi Kiran. 2016-  
Conversation Lab at UIUC. PI: Sarah Brown-Schmidt. 2010-2016  
Human Memory and Cognition Lab at UIUC. PI: Aaron Benjamin. 2013-2016  
Cognition and Language Lab at Northwestern. PI: Dedre Gentner. 2009-2010  
Reading Comprehension Lab at Northwestern. PI: David Rapp. 2009-2010

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Psycholinguistics Lab. Spring 2017  
Co-Instructor. Instructor: Ted Gibson  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Experimental Psychology of Human Learning. Spring 2016  
Guest Instructor. Topic: Memory and Language  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Introduction to Psychology. Fall 2013  
Instructor  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Learning and Memory. Spring 2011  
Teaching Assistant, Instructor: Aaron Benjamin  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

## MENTORING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Supervisor. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Mia Kaim. Fall 2014-Spring 2015  
Randy Knebel. Fall 2013  
Xi Chen. Fall 2011-Spring 2012

I-STEM Program Student Supervisor. University High School and UIUC  
*Supervised high school students participating in summer research program*  
Andrew Nguyen. Summer 2013  
Lea Slauch. Summer 2012

Conversation Lab. 2010-2016  
*Trained and supervised 3-5 undergraduate research assistants per semester*  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

### Ad Hoc Reviewing

*Cognition. Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition.* National Science Center, Poland. CogSci Conference. CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing

### Committee Participation

CUNY 2017 Organizing Committee

## MEDIA COVERAGE

Is Perspective-Taking a Skill? Psychology Today, October 22, 2015

[www.psychologytoday.com/blog/ulterior-motives/201510/is-perspective-taking-skill](http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/ulterior-motives/201510/is-perspective-taking-skill)