

Gerardo Ortega, Ph.D.

✉ University of Birmingham
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§ Positions held

2018 – to present	Associate Professor in Psycholinguistics English Language and Linguistics Department University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK. <i>Duties and responsibilities:</i> research activities; grant capture; delivering lectures at UG and MA level; PhD supervision; and departmental admissions tutor.
2017 - 2018	Postdoctoral Research Fellow Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics. Neurobiology of Language, the Netherlands
2014 - 2017	Postdoctoral Research Fellow Max Planck Institute of Psycholinguistics and Radboud University under an Early Career grant (Veni scheme) awarded by the Dutch Organisation for Scientific Research
2012 - 2014	Postdoctoral Research Fellow Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics and Radboud University ERC project: Language on the Hand Supervisor: Prof. Aslı Özyürek

§ Education

Ph.D. in Cognitive, Perceptual, and Brain Sciences

2008 - 2012	ESRC Deafness, Cognition, and Language Research Centre, University College London Dissertation: Acquisition of a signed phonological system by hearing adults: The role of sign structure and iconicity. Supervisors: Prof. Gary Morgan and Prof. Bencie Woll
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Postgraduate certificate in Higher Education (PGCHE)

2019-2021	Higher Education Futures institute (HEFi) University of Birmingham
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MA in Applied Linguistics

2004 - 2006	Universidad de las Américas, Puebla, Mexico Dissertation: Phonological access to Mexican Sign Language (LSM): a priming study
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§ Grants and awards

- 2025-2027** British Academy / Leverhulme Small Research Grants (SRG 2024-2024 Round). Project: *The grammar of the body: a multimodal investigation of P'urhepecha-Spanish bilinguals*. (£10,000). Dr Kate Bellamy (co-PI).
- 2019-2022** UK-German funding initiative in the Humanities from the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation). Project: *From icon to abstraction: how iconicity shapes the lexicon in the manual-visual modality* (£700,000). Prof. Pamela Perniss (co-PI) <https://bit.ly/3xKXHpl>
- 2014-2017** Early career research Veni grant awarded by the Dutch Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) for the project *The role of gesture during the acquisition of a signed language as a second language* (€250,000). Success rate: less than 10% (sole applicant) <https://bit.ly/3b1GSNy>
- 2017** Grant from Radboud University and the Max Planck Institute to organise the workshop *Type of iconicity in language use, development, and processing* (€4000) <https://bit.ly/3nQmvbo>
- 2008** UCL Global Excellence Award (£5000). Prize awarded to exceptional Ph.D. candidates enrolled in postgraduate study at the university.
- 2008** Scholarship by the Mexican National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT, Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología) to pursue a Ph.D. at University College London (£102,800).
- 1996** Jenkins Undergraduate Scholarship for Excellence. Universidad de las Americas, Puebla. The university paid 70% of tuition due to outstanding grades.

§ Peer-reviewed publications

- Ortega, G.**; Hirata, Y.; Kelly, S. (in press). The effect of iconicity in second language learning in speech, gesture, and sign. *Handbook of Iconicity in Language*. Fisher, O.; Akita, K. & Perniss, P. (eds.).
- Ortega, G.**, Schiefner, A., Lazarus, N. & Perniss, P. (2025) A lexical database of British Sign Language (BSL) and German Sign Language (DGS): Iconicity ratings, iconic strategies, and concreteness norms. *Behavior Research Methods* (57:139). <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13428-025-02660-z>
- Ortega, G.** (2024). Review of Żywiczyński, Blomberg & Boruta-Żywiczyńska (2024): Perspectives on Pantomime. *Gesture*. 22, 3 (325-336). <https://doi.org/10.1075/gest.24027.ort>

- Karadöller, D.; Peeters, D.; Manhardt, F.; Özyürek, A. & **Ortega**, G. (2024). Iconicity and gesture jointly facilitate learning of second language signs at first exposure in hearing non-signers. *Language Learning*. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/lang.12636>
- Hernández, D.; Puupponen, A.; Keränen, J.; **Ortega**, G. & Jantunen, T. (2024). Between bodily action and conventionalized structure: The neural mechanism of constructed action in sign language comprehension. *Brain and Language*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bandl.2024.105413>
- Niu, C.; Cienki, A.; **Ortega**, G.; Coen, M. (2022). How do children learning Mandarin learn to talk about causal events: A multimodal, developmental perspective. *Journal of Child Language*. <https://www.doi.org/10.1017/S0305000922000447>
- Ortega**, G. & Ostarek, M. (2020). Evidence for visual simulation during sign language processing. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*. 10.1037/xge0001041
- Ortega**, G. & Özyürek, A. (2019). Types of iconicity and combinatorial strategies distinguish semantic categories in the manual modality across cultures. *Language and Cognition*. 1-30. doi.org/10.1017/langcog.2019.28
- Ortega**, G. Özyürek, A. & Peeters, D. (2019). Hearing speakers' gestures influence perception of signs at first exposure but not after training: Evidence from ERPs. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory and Cognition*. dx.doi.org/10.1037/xlm0000729 (IF: 2.319)
- Ortega**, G. & Özyürek, A. (2019). Hearing non-signers use their gestures to predict iconic form-meaning mappings at first exposure to sign. *Cognition*. 191, 1-17 doi.org/10.1016/j.cognition.2019.06.008 (IF: 3.537)
- Ortega**, G. & Özyürek, A. (2019). Systematic mappings between semantic categories and types of iconic representations in the manual modality: A normed database of silent gesture. *Behavior and Research Methods*. doi.org/10.3758/s13428-019-01204-6. Open access database at the Open Science Foundation <https://osf.io/w4apb/> (IF: 4.425)
- Ortega**, G. (2017). Iconicity and sign language acquisition: A review. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 8: 1280. doi:10.3389/fpsyg.2017.01280 (IF: 2.067)
- Ortega**, G., Sümer, B. & Özyürek, A. (2017). Type of iconicity matters in the vocabulary development of signing children. *Developmental Psychology*, 53(1), 88-99. doi:10.1037/dev0000161 (IF: 2.934)
- Ortega**, G. & Morgan, G. (2015). Input processing at first exposure to a sign language. *Second Language Research*, 19(10), 443-463. doi:10.1177/0267658315576822 (IF: 1.750)
- Ortega**, G. & Morgan, G. (2015). Phonological development in hearing learners of a sign language: The role of sign complexity and iconicity. *Language Learning*. 65 (3), 660-668. doi:10.1111/lang.12123 (IF: 3.408)
- Ortega**, G. & Morgan, G. (2015). The effect of sign iconicity in the mental lexicon of hearing non-signers and proficient signers: Evidence of cross-modal priming. *Language Cognition and Neuroscience*, 30(5), 574-585. doi:10.1080/23273798.2014.959533 (IF: 1.925)

Ortega, G. (2014). Acquisition of a signed phonological system by hearing adults: The role of sign structure and iconicity. *Sign Language and Linguistics*. 17(2), 267-275.
doi:10.1075/sll.17.2.09ort. (IF: 0.645)

Ortega, G. & Morgan, G. (2010). Comparing child and adult development of a visual phonological system. *Language, Interaction and Acquisition*. 1(1), 67-81.
doi:10.1075/lia.1.1.05ort. (IF: 0.900)

§ Other peer-reviewed publications

Ortega, G., Schiefner, A., & Ozyurek, A. (2017). Speakers' gestures predict the meaning and perception of iconicity in signs. In G. Gunzelmann, A. Howe, & T. Tenbrink (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 39th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2017)* (pp. 889-894). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society.

Ortega, G., & Özyürek, A. (2016). Generalisable patterns of gesture distinguish semantic categories in communication without language. In A. Papafragou, D. Grodner, D. Mirman, & J. Trueswell (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 38th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2016)* (pp. 1182-1187). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society.

Ortega, G. (2016). Language acquisition and development. In G. Gertz, G. & P. Boudreault, P. (Eds.) *The SAGE Deaf Studies Encyclopedia: Vol 3* (p. 547-551). London: SAGE Publications Inc.

Ortega, G., Sümer, B. & Özyürek, A. (2014). Type of iconicity matters: Bias for action based signs in sign language acquisition. In P. Bello, M. Guarini, M. McShane, & B. Scassellati (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 36th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 1114-1119). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society.

Ortega, G. & Özyürek, A. (2013). Gesture-sign interface in hearing non-signers' first exposure to sign. In *Proceedings of the Tilburg Gesture Research Meeting*. Tilburg, The Netherlands.

Ortega, G. (2010). *MSJE TXT: un evento social* [Text messaging: a social event]. *Lectura y Vida. Revista latinoamericana de Lectura [Latin American Journal of Literacy]*. 4, 44-53.

§ Additional research activities

Organisation of the workshop *From icon to abstraction: how iconicity shapes the lexicon* (July 20-21, 2023). <https://t.ly/g19iY>

Secretary General of the Board of International Society for Gesture Studies (August 2022 – to date). <https://www.gesturestudies.com/>

Editorial board of the Journal *Sign Language and Linguistics*, John Benjamins (September 2020- to date).

Invited participant to the UCL-Stockholm sign L2 network (March-July 2021). Organised by Sannah Gulamani, Prof. Chloe Marshall, Julia Hofweber.

Keynote speaker at the 3rd International Conference on Sign Language Acquisition. Istanbul, Turkey (June 27-29, 2018)

Visiting scholar at Monash University, Melbourne, Australia (September 9-20, 2017). Host: Dr. Louisa Willoughby.

Organisation of the workshop *Types of iconicity in language use, development, and processing* (July 6-7, 2017). <http://iconicity.ruhosting.nl/workshop/>

§ Teaching experience

Lecturer on Research Methods, Applied Linguistics, Theories of Language (UG), and Language and Gesture (MA). University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK (2018-to date). Contact Hours: three hours per module. Overall student evaluation: 4.9/5.0 (three-year average).

Tutor of the MA course Language in the hand: Methodological approaches to multimodal language and communication. Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands (2017-2018). Contact hours: 6 per week over one semester.

Guest lecturer at the Language and Interaction Consortium Summer School: Language in the visual modality: co-speech gesture and sign (with Asli Özyürek) (July 4-14, 2016)

Guest lecturer at the Research Methods MA: Sign Psycholinguistics and Second Language Acquisition. Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands (2013-to date)

Guest lecturer at the MA course Visual Modes of Language: Iconicity in sign processing and acquisition. Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands (2013-to date)

Guest lecturer to the MA course Developmental Psychology: The acquisition of a sign language as a second language. City University London (2012)

Guest lecturer to the BA course Speech Sciences. University College London (2012)

Tutor of undergraduate psychology students on Research Methods. University College London (2009-2012). Contact hours: 6 per week

Spanish and English tutor at high school level. Colegio Indoamericano, Mexico City, Mexico (2007-2008). Contact hours: 30 per week

Lecturer on Spanish Linguistics and Pedagogical Grammar to undergraduate linguistics students. Universidad de las Americas, Puebla, Mexico (2006-2007). Contact hours: 15 per week

Instructor of Spanish and English as a second language. Universidad de las Americas, Puebla, Mexico (2004-2006). Contact hours: 15 per week.

§ Administrative duties (University of Birmingham)

- Admissions tutor of the department of English Language and Linguistics
- Involvement in PROFF for the design of new degrees

- Organisation of open day events for university applicants
- Development of research-based teaching materials for UG and MA programmes
- Responsible of the departments research webpage (with Dr Gareth Carol)
- Ambassador of Distance Learning programme in Japan and Korea
- Personal academic tutor for undergraduate students
- Mentor of new Teaching Assistants

§ Invited presentations

Keynote speaker at the workshop Dimensions of Iconicity in the Manual-Visual Modality with the talk Bodily actions as starting point. Evidence from sign and gesture. Göttingen, Germany (February 14-15, 2025). <https://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/dimensions+of+iconicity/688691.html>

Iconic gestures act as manual cognates in hearing non-signers during the acquisition of a sign language as a second language. Abralin Online Series (November 2021). <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4pOHIOXwSxc>

Similarities and differences in form-meaning mappings between silent gesture and signs. Part of the workshop on Iconicity in Language organized by Mutsumi Imai and Marcus Perlman. UK Cognitive Linguistics Conference, Birmingham, UK (July 2020).

Sign L2 learning at first exposure: gesture, iconicity and sign learning. LAMiNATE seminar series at Lund University, Sweden (March 2021).

Keynote speaker at the Gesture-Sign workshop: Converging the perspectives on theories, methods and applications. Prague, Czech Republic (May 16-17, 2019).

Keynote speaker at the 3rd International Conference on Sign Language Acquisition. Istanbul, Turkey (June 27-29, 2018).

Gesture and the acquisition of a sign language as a second language. Institute of German Sign Language, University of Hamburg, Germany (May 2018).

The role of iconicity in sign language acquisition. Hong Kong University, Hong Kong (September 2017)

The role of gesture in the acquisition of a sign language at first exposure. Monash University, Melbourne, Australia (September 2017)

The role of gesture in the acquisition of a sign language as a second language. Stockholm University, Stockholm, Sweden (October 2016).

The role of iconicity in sign language acquisition. Amsterdam Centre for Language and Communication. Universiteit van Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands (September 2014).

Learning visual sounds: The role of sign structure, iconicity and gesture in the emergence of sign L2 phonology. Nijmegen Sign Language Colloquium. Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands (January 2014).

Gestural influence on emerging sign languages. Minerva-Gentner Symposium on Emergent Sign Languages and Cultural Evolution. Max Plank Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, The Netherlands (June 2013).

Perceptual and gestural constraints during phonological acquisition by hearing learners of British Sign Language (BSL). Max Plank Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, The Netherlands (November 2012).

Emerging bilingual bimodals and cross-modality interference. Linguistics Department. University of York, York, England (October 2010).

L2-M2 learners: Challenges in second language-second modality acquisition. York St. John's University, York, England (February 2010).

Digital literacy: A social event. University of Texas at Brownsville, Brownsville, Texas, U.S. (June 2008).

§ Peer-reviewed conference presentations

Oral presentations

- **Ortega**, G., Özyürek, A., Peeters, D. (2019). Iconic gestures facilitate guessing the meaning of iconic signs never seen before. This talk was part of the symposium Universal vs. language-specific factors in the processing of iconic structures. International Convention of Psychological Sciences. Paris, France (March 7-9).
- **Ortega**, G., Schiefner, A., & Özyürek, A. (2018). Speakers' gestures predict the meaning and perception of iconicity in signs. 8th Conference of the International Society for Gesture Studies. Cape Town, South Africa (July 4-8).
- **Ortega**, G., Özyürek, A. & Peeters, D. (2018). Hearing speakers' gestures influence perception of signs at first exposure but not after training: Evidence from ERPs. 8th Conference of the International Society for Gesture Studies. Cape Town, South Africa (July 4-8).
- **Ortega**, G. & Özyürek, A. (2018). Systematic alignment in different types of iconicity and semantic domains in silent gesture: raw materials of sign language emergence. 12th International Conference on the Evolution of Language. Torun, Poland (16-19, April).
- **Ortega**, G., Schiefner, A., & Özyürek, A. (2017). Speakers' gestures predict the meaning and perception of iconicity in signs. Proceedings of the 39th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2017). London, U.K. (26-29 July).
- **Ortega**, G. & Özyürek, A. (2016). Generalisable patterns of gesture distinguish semantic categories in communication without language: Evidence from pantomime. 38th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2016). Philadelphia, U.S.A. (August 10-13, 2016).
- **Ortega**, G. (2016). Factors modulating mode of representation: Evidence from sign, pantomime and co-speech gestures in hearing adults and speakers with aphasia (panel

organiser). 7th Conference of the International Society for Gesture Studies. Paris, France (July 18-22).

- **Ortega, G. & Özyürek, A. (2016).** Generalisable patterns of gesture distinguish semantic categories in communication without language: Evidence from pantomime. 7th Conference of the International Society for Gesture Studies. Paris, France (July 18-22).
- **Ortega, G. & Morgan, G. (2015).** Phonological development in hearing learners of a sign language: The role of sign complexity and iconicity. Formal and Experimental Approaches to Sign Language Theory. Barcelona, Spain (May 4-6).
- **Ortega, G., Sümer, B. & Özyürek, A. (2014).** Type of iconicity matters: Bias for action-based signs in sign language acquisition. 36th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society. Quebec City, Canada (July 23-26, 2014).
- **Ortega, G., Sümer, B. & Özyürek, A. (2014).** Bias for action over perceptual features in sign language learning: Evidence from Turkish Sign Language (TİD). 13th International Congress for the Study of Child Language. Amsterdam, The Netherlands (July 14-18).
- **Ortega, G., Zwitserlood, I., Sümer, B. & Özyürek, A. (2014).** Preference for action over perceptual sign variants by children and caregivers during sign language acquisition. 6th Conference of the International Society for Gesture Studies. San Diego, U.S.A. (July 8 - 11, 2014).
- **Ortega, G. (2013).** Cross-linguistic priming in cross-modal bilinguals: the role of sign iconicity in word activation. 1st Conference on Cross-linguistic Priming in Bilinguals: Perspectives and Constraints. Nijmegen, The Netherlands (September 9 - 11, 2013).
- **Ortega, G. & Morgan, G. (2013).** Learning visual sounds: the role of sign structure and iconicity in the emergence of sign L2 phonology. European Second Language Association, EUROSILA 23. This was part of the colloquium 'Second language learning in the visual modality: from phonology to narratives'. Amsterdam, The Netherlands (August 28 - 31, 2013).
- **Ortega, G. & Özyürek, A. (2013).** Gesture-sign interface in hearing non-signers' first exposure to sign. Tilburg Gesture Research Meeting. Tilburg, The Netherlands (June 19 - 21, 2013).
- **Ortega, G. & Morgan G. (2012).** On the relationship between words, signs and gestures: a cross-modal lexical decision study. 5th Conference of the International Society for Gesture Studies. Lund, Sweden (July 24 - 27, 2012).
- **Ortega, G. & Morgan, G. (2011).** The dynamic relationship between language and motor skills in typical and atypical development. 12th Congress for the International Association for the Study of Child Language. Montreal, Canada (July 19 - 23, 2011).
- **Ortega, G. & Morgan, G. (2011).** Emerging bilingual bimodals and cross-modality interference. 8th International Symposium on Bilingualism. Oslo, Norway (June 15 - 18, 2011).
- **Ortega, G. (2007).** Phonological Access to Mexican Sign Language. 9th Congreso Nacional de Lingüística Aplicada. Zacatecas, Mexico (October 2 - 5, 2007).

Poster presentations

- **Ortega, G. & Özyürek, A. (2017).** Types of iconicity and combinatorial strategies distinguish categories in the manual modality across cultures. International Convention of Psychological Science (ICPS). Vienna, Austria (March 23-25).
- **Ortega, G. & Özyürek, A. (2016).** Generalisable patterns of gesture distinguish semantic categories in communication without language: Evidence from pantomime. 38th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society. Philadelphia, U.S.A. (August 10-13).
- **Ortega, G. & Morgan, G. (2016).** Acquisition of a signed phonology by hearing second language learners: the role of sign structure and iconicity. The 12th Conference on Theoretical Issues on Sign Language Research (TISLR). Melbourne, Australia (January 4-7).
- **Ortega, G., Sümer, B. & Özyürek, A. (2016).** Type of iconicity matters: Bias for action-based signs in sign language acquisition. The 12th Conference on Theoretical Issues on Sign Language Research (TISLR). Melbourne, Australia (January 4-7).
- **Ortega, G., Sümer, B. & Özyürek, A. (2015).** Type of iconicity matters: Bias for action-based signs in sign language acquisition. Symposium on Perspectives on the ontogeny of mutual understanding. Nijmegen, The Netherlands (October 1-2).
- **Ortega, G., Sümer, B. & Özyürek, A. (2015).** Type of iconicity matters: Bias for action-based signs in sign language acquisition. 2nd International Conference on Sign Language Acquisition. Amsterdam, The Netherlands (July 1-3).
- **Ortega, G., Zwitserlood, I., Sümer, B. & Özyürek, A. (2013).** Bias for action over shape in learning sign-referent links: Evidence from Turkish Sign Language (TID). 38th Boston University Child Language Development Conference. Boston, U.S. (October 31 - November 3).
- **Ortega, G. Morgan, G. & Woll, B. (2010).** The emergence of a visual phonological system by hearing adults. 1st Conference on Second Language Acquisition of Phonology. York, England (July 6, 2012).
- **Ortega, G. & Morgan, G. (2010).** Gestures and iconicity in the acquisition of phonology of sign languages in L2 learners. 4th Conference of the International Society for Gesture Studies. Frankfurt/Oder, Germany (July 25 - 30, 2010).
- **Ortega, G. Morgan, G. & Woll, B. (2010).** Learning to be a sign language user: the influence of gestures and visual iconicity on the acquisition of British Sign Language phonology in hearing adults. 12th Conference of laboratory Phonology. Albuquerque, New Mexico (July 8 - 10, 2010).

§ Ph.D. supervision

Candidate: Qingfeng Leng
Project: Iconicity and the evolution of writing systems
Co-supervised with Marcus Perlman

Candidate: Nia Lazarus

Project: From icon to abstraction. How iconicity shapes the lexicon in the manual modality
Co-supervised with Prof. Pamela Perniss (University of Cologne)

Candidate: Annika Schiefner

Project: From icon to abstraction. How iconicity shapes the lexicon in the manual modality
Co-supervised with Prof. Pamela Perniss (University of Cologne)

Candidate: Rebeca Martínez Rodríguez

Project: The use of space in conditional sentences in Mexican Sign Language (LSM).
Co-supervised with Prof. Antoinette Hawayek (Universidad Autónoma de México).

Candidate: Chenxi Niu

Project: Causal events in Chinese speaking children: a multimodal language learning study
Co-supervised with Prof. Alan Chenki (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)

Candidate: Paulina Poplawska

Project: Conceptual transfer in English-Polish bilinguals in speech and gesture
Co-supervised with Prof. Adam Schembri (University of Birmingham)

§ Ph.D. external examination

Candidate: Dilay Karadoller

Thesis: The effect of age of acquisition and modality in language acquisition
Institution: Radboud University and Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Netherlands

Candidate: Josefina Safar

Thesis: A comparative study of Yucatec Mayan Sign Language
Institution: Stockholm University, Stockholm, Sweden

Candidate: Maria Kyuseva

Thesis: Size and Shape Specifiers in Russian Sign Language
Institution: University of Birmingham

Candidate: Elizabeth Manrique

Thesis: Achieving mutual understanding in Argentine Sign Language
Institution: Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics. Nijmegen, the Netherlands

§ Mentoring experience (BA and MA students)

Tyaab Mohammad: data collection, gesture annotation, iconicity rating of BSL signs. He wrote his BA dissertation on the role of gesture to predict iconicity ratings in BSL signs (grade: 75).

Annika Schiefner and Anita Slonimska: data collection, quantitative methods, gesture/sign coding, stimuli selection for psycholinguistic experimentation (Radboud University, 2016). Annika is co-author in one of the publications listed above and is currently PhD student in Cologne. Anita is completing her PhD on Italian Sign Language.

Elise van Wonderen and Sara Sigríðar Ingvarsdóttir (on-going): data collection on EEG study investigating sign processing, use of the linguistic annotator ELAN (Radboud University, 2017).

Swen Schreiter and Deniz Cetin on gesture and sign coding, use of the linguistic annotator

ELAN (Radboud University, 2016).

Luz Hernandez Guerrero, BA thesis: Attitudes towards deafness and sign languages from medical and non-medical professionals (Universidad de las Americas, Puebla, 2004).

§ Referee activities

i) International journals

Applied Psycholinguistics; Language, Cognition, and Neuroscience; Sign Language and Linguistics; Language Learning; Bilingualism: Language and Cognition; Topics in Cognitive Science; Language, Interaction, and Acquisition; Acta Psychologica; Linguistic Typology
Proceedings of the Royal Society B

ii) Funding agencies

- Ministro de Cultura de España (Spanish Ministry of Culture). Area: mind, language, and thought round 2020
- Dutch Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) Veni round 2020. Area: Language
- Austrian Science Fund (FWF). Round 2020
- Israeli Science Foundation (2017)
- Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (2016)

iii) International conferences

Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci)
Evolution of Language International Conference (EvoLang)
International Conference on Sign Language Acquisition (ICSLA)

§ Media and public engagement

Talk: Iconicity and gesture in sign language learning. Lecture delivered online to the Association of British Sign Language Teachers and Assessors (15 March 2024).

Interview for BBC's *World Service: Unexpected Elements*. The Discussion revolves around sign languages, how they emerge naturally, and how they are far from being universal around the globe (25 January 2024).

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/w3ct4wkq>

Interview for Newsli Magazine - Association of Sign Language Interpreters (ASLI). Issue 125, July 2023, p. 18-21.

Talk: Action as starting point: insights of action representations in sign and gesture. Lectures delivered to sign language teachers as part of the 25th anniversary of the Sign Language Centre at Jyväskylä University, Finland (23 June 2023.)

Interview for BBC's Arts and Ideas. *New Thinking: British Sign Language*. Interviewed by Naomi Paxton along with Dr Kate Rowley (13 March 2023).

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0f81jz0>

- Talk: Aplicaciones y retos de las investigaciones en las lenguas de señas (Applications and challenges in sign language research). Workshop at the Human Rights Commission in Mexico City (March 3, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3eRvPal>
- Talk: Gesture, iconicity, and sign languages. Instituut voor Gebaren, Taal & Dovenstudies, Hogeschool Utrecht, the Netherlands (May 17, 2018).
- Talk: Learning British Sign Language: Bridging Research and Practice. Guest speaker at workshop organised by Prof. Gary Morgan and Sannah Gulamani at City University London (November 10, 2017). <https://goo.gl/BPBZVz>
- Talk: Do gestures influence sign language acquisition? Presentation to teachers of Australian Sign Language. Melbourne Polytechnic (September 16, 2017).
- Talk: Iconicity and Sign Language Acquisition. LANGU-dag. Presentation to the Student Linguistics Society of the Netherlands (June 16, 2017).
- Organiser of Sign Language Colloquium: The Role of Gesture in the Acquisition of a Sign Language as a Second Language. Series of talks aimed at sign language professionals and deaf public in general where the results of my Veni three-year grant were presented (June 9, 2017).
- Talk: My gestures help me understand signs... sometimes. NGT-dagen (Sign Language of the Netherlands Day). Presentation to the deaf community about research on sign linguistics in the Netherlands. <http://www.ru.nl/gebarentaal/actueel/gin2016/> (July 1, 2016).
- Newspaper article: Fascinatie voor de communicatie van doven [Fascination for deaf communication]. De Gelderlander (May 12, 2015). <https://goo.gl/2KrxL7>
- Talk: Deafness, sign language and the Deaf community in the UK. Lecture delivered to undergraduate students as part of the course Intercultural Communication. Hogeschool van Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands (December 4, 2013).
- Talk: Signs, gestures, and how language connects them. Lecture given during the Red Room Project to celebrate the centenary of the death of August Strindberg. UCL, London, England (October 2, 2012).
- Article: Lezing over de articulatie van gebaren door tweede-taalleerders van de BSL [The articulation of gestures by second language learners of BSL]. Levende Talen [Modern Languages, Dutch newsletter] (December, 2011).
- Talk: It's a sign, not a gesture! Acquisition of BSL by hearing non-signers. Presented to BSL tutors and students at Signamic (June 13th, 2012).
- Talk: How do hearing adults learn to sign? Presented at DCAL Roadshow 2011 at Birmingham Deaf Cultural Centre (March 19th, 2011).
- Contributor to BBC Horizon documentary 'Why do we talk?' (October 10th, 2009) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UTbl-G42JoY&feature=related>

Member of the organising committee of the II Forum on the Linguistic Rights for the Deaf.
[Segundo foro de los Derechos Lingüísticos de los Sordos], Mexico City, Mexico
(November 2006).

§ Language skills

Spanish: Native

English: Native-like. Cambridge's Proficiency Examination (Grade: C). IELTS (band 8).

British Sign Language (BSL): Level 2 Signature Certificate (currently taking Level 3)

Sign Language of the Netherlands (NGT): Basic

French: Intermediate

Dutch: Basic