

# Victor Gomes

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## Academic Positions

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### Postdoctoral Researcher, Department of Psychology

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

- Mentor: Jesse Snedeker

Cambridge, MA

September 2024 -

## Education

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### University of Pennsylvania

PHD PROGRAM IN PSYCHOLOGY

- Advisor: John Trueswell

Philadelphia, PA

Aug. 2019 - May 2024

### University of Pennsylvania

M.S. IN PSYCHOLOGY

Philadelphia, PA

2021

### Swarthmore College

B.A. IN PSYCHOLOGY AND COGNITIVE SCIENCE, HIGH HONORS

Swarthmore, PA

Aug. 2013 - May 2017

## Honors & Awards

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2021	<b>Paula Menyuk Award</b> , Boston University Conference on Language Development
2020	<b>Mellon Graduate Fellow</b> , Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
2019	<b>Fontaine fellow</b> , Penn Fontaine Fellowship Program
2017	<b>High honors in Cognitive Science</b> , Swarthmore College
2014-2017	<b>HHMI Summer Research Funding</b> , Howard Hughes Medical Institute
2015	<b>Sigma Xi induction</b> , Sigma Xi
2013	<b>Questbridge Scholar</b> , Questbridge

## Publications

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- Gomes, V.** (2024), Whither Developmental Psycholinguistics? *Language Development Research*, 5(1), 144–187.  
<http://doi.org/10.34842/gomesllm>.
- Gomes, V.** and Doherty, R. and Smits, D. and Goldin-Meadow, S. and Trueswell, J.C. and Feiman, R. (2023), It's not just what we don't know: The mapping problem in the acquisition of negation. *Cognitive Psychology*, 145, 101592. 10.1016/j.cogpsych.2023.101592.
- de Carvalho, A. and **Gomes, V.** and Trueswell, J. (2022), English-learning preschoolers can correctly parse and interpret negative sentences to guide their interpretations of novel noun and verb meanings in the acquisition of negation. *Language Acquisition*.
- Knowlton, T. and **Gomes, V.** (2022), Linguistic and non-linguistic cues to acquiring the strong distributivity of *each* *Proceedings of the Linguistic Society of America* (Vol. 7).
- Gomes, V.** and Huh, Y. and Trueswell, J. (2020), Not what you expect: The relationship between violation of expectation and negation in the acquisition of negation. *Proceedings of the 42nd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*. *Cognitive Science Society*.
- Gomes, V.** and de Carvalho, A. (2019), "Look up!" Using easy words to explain how we learn hard words and other aspects of language, an interview with Lila Gleitman. *Revista Lingüística*, 14(3), 12-20.

## Submitted

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- Gomes, V.**, Huh, Y., Yun, H., and Trueswell, J. (submitted), Failure is always an option: Event failures serve as minimal discourse contexts for early negator use and inference.

## Conference Talks

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- Gomes, V.**, Huh, Y., Yun, H., Trueswell, J. (2024), Failures succeed in affirming negation: Event perception & negator learning. Talk presented at the *49th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD)*.
- Gomes, V.**, Knowlton, T., Papafragou, A., Trueswell, J. (2022), Differentiating Universal Quantifiers by Differentiating their Domains? Talk presented at the *47th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD)*.
- Knowlton, T. and **Gomes, V.** (2022), Linguistic and non-linguistic cues to acquiring the strong distributivity of *each*. Talk presented at the *Linguistic Society of America (LSA) Annual Meeting*.
- Gomes, V.**, Huh, Y., Goldin-Meadow, S., Feiman, R., and Trueswell, J. (2021), Not as hard as it looks? Linguistic, and not conceptual, ability drives negation acquisition, Talk presented at the *46th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD)*.
- de Carvalho, A, **Gomes, V.**, and Trueswell, J. (2021), English-learning preschoolers use negative sentences to constrain novel word meanings of expectation and negation. Talk presented at the *34th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing*.
- Gomes, V.**, Huh, Y. and Trueswell, J. (2020), Not what you expect: The relationship between violation of expectation and negation. Talk presented at the *42nd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*.

## Conference Posters

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- Gomes, V.**, Huh, Y., Yun, H., and Trueswell, J. (2024), Failure teaches success: Linking real-time event processing & production with negation. Poster to be presented at the *37th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing*.
- Gomes, V.**, LaTourrette, A., Tangen, K., and Trueswell, J. (2023), Similarity is an uneven guide to meaning: Developmental differences in cross-situational polyseme learning. Poster presented at the *48th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development*.
- Gomes, V.**, Doherty, R., Smiths, D, Goldin-Meadow, S., Trueswell, J., and Feiman, R. (2023), It's not just what we don't know: The mapping problem in the acquisition of negation. Poster presented at the *49th Annual Meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology*.
- Gomes, V.** (2023), How to think negative thoughts (to learn negators with). Poster presented at *9th meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Colloquium of Studies in Meaning*.
- Gomes, V.**, Goldin-Meadow, S., Trueswell, J., and Feiman, R. (2020), Observing negation: Artificial and Naturalistic Human Simulation Paradigms. Poster presented at the *45th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development*.

## Invited Talks

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- Gomes, V.** (2024), What sorts of violations of expectations lead to negation? *Talk given to Cesana-Arlotti Lab at Yale University, on April 5th.*
- Gomes, V.** (2023), Is there nothing in your head? What word learning has to do with observation. *Talk given to Firestone Lab at Johns Hopkins University, on October 2nd.*
- Gomes, V.** (2023), It's not just what we don't know: The mapping problem in the acquisition of negation. *Talk given to LaPsyDÉ, on June 3rd.*
- Gomes, V.** (2020), Not as hard as it looks? *Talk given to the Integrated Language Science and Technology Seminar at the University of Pennsylvania, on March 26th.*

## Other Experience

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## RESEARCH

### University of Pennsylvania Language Learning Lab

RESEARCH SPECIALIST & LABORATORY MANAGER

- PIs: John Trueswell & Lila Gleitman

### Swarthmore College EEG Lab

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

- PIs: Les Sikos & Amanda Elam

### Swarthmore Psycholinguistics Lab

RESEARCH ASSISTANT AND THESIS STUDENT

- PI: Daniel Grodner

### Swarthmore College Neurobehavioral Psychopharmacology Lab

HEAD UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCHER

- PI: Allen Schneider

Philadelphia, PA

Apr. 2018 – Aug. 2019

Swarthmore, PA

Feb. 2015 - May. 2017

Swarthmore, PA

May. 2015 - May. 2017

Swarthmore, PA

Aug. 2013 - May. 2017

## EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION

### Lila R. Gleitman Undergraduate Summer Program in Interdisciplinary Mind & Brain Studies (mindCORE)

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Philadelphia, PA

Summers 2020-Fall 2023

### College of Physicians, Mütter Museum

OUT4STEM PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Philadelphia, PA

Nov. 2018 - 2023

### Nautilus Magazine

EDITORIAL INTERN

New York, NY

Aug. 2017 - May. 2018

## Teaching

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### University of Pennsylvania, Psychology Department

TEACHING ASSISTANT

- Introduction to Developmental Psychology (Fall 2018)
- Introduction to Perception (Fall 2020)
- Language & Thought (Spring 2021 & 2022, Fall 2023)
- Introduction to Cognitive Science (Fall 2021)
- Social Psychology (Spring 2023)

Philadelphia, PA

Sept. 2018 - 2023

### College of Physicians, Mütter Museum

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

- Introduction to Coding
  - Introduction to general compsci concepts and Python. Students make simple dialogue-tree chat & a car with Lego Mindstorms.
- The Science of Sound
  - Learning how we perceive sound with the help of a synthesizer, theremin, and drum machine.
- The Scientific Method: Science & Trust
  - Through the lens of alchemy (and counterfeiting), the scientific method is introduced as a standard system for applying skepticism.
- What is Linguistics?
  - Starting with sound & working up to meaning, we survey different ways language & communication are researched scientifically.
- The Great Verb Game
  - Game-based introduction to psycholinguistics research. Students learn about challenges different words pose to language learners.
- Sociolinguistics: Language & Identity
  - How does how we identify shape how we speak, and vice-versa? We discuss how language differences arise, with a focus on Philly.
- Queer Zines
  - History of censorship of LGBT+ publication, & how photocopying reduced cost (& risk) of sharing info. Developed with Zach Ozma.
- Behind "the Algorithm"
  - We explore how machine learning shapes what we see online, as well as its limitations and how it can recreate existing biases.
- Introduction to Interview Skills for Journalism
  - A series of sessions on how to conduct interviews, from research to practicing interpersonal skills key to interviewing.

Philadelphia, PA

Nov. 2018 - 2023

## Committees

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2019-2021

**Organizer**, Integrated Language Sciences & Technology (ILST) Seminar

2019-2024.

**Student Representative**, mindCORE Education Committee

2021-2023

**Member**, (Ad-Hoc) Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Access Committee, Mütter Museum College of Physicians

2023

**Founding Co-Chair**, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Access Committee, College of Physicians