

Victor Gomes

Department of Psychology, University of Pennsylvania: 425 S. University Ave, Philadelphia PA, 19104

✉ victorgomes@victorgom.es | 🏠 victorgom.es

Education

University of Pennsylvania

PHD PROGRAM IN PSYCHOLOGY, LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION SCIENCES CERTIFICATE

- Advisor: John Trueswell

Philadelphia, PA

Aug. 2019 - ongoing

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

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

Publications

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

Gomes, V. (under review), Whither Developmental Psycholinguistics? *Language, Learning, and Development: Special Issue on "What Large Language Models can('t) teach us about language acquisition."*

Conference Talks

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

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

Gomes, V. (2024), Failure teaches success: Linking real-time event processing & production with negation. *Talk to be given to Hafri Lab at University of Delaware, on April 29th.*

Gomes, V. (2024), What sorts of violations of expectations lead to negation? *Talk to be 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

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

Philadelphia, PA

Apr. 2018 – Aug. 2019

Swarthmore, PA

Feb. 2015 – May. 2017

Swarthmore Psycholinguistics Lab

RESEARCH ASSISTANT AND THESIS STUDENT

- PI: Daniel Grodner

Swarthmore, PA

May. 2015 - May. 2017

Swarthmore College Neurobehavioral Psychopharmacology Lab

HEAD UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCHER

- PI: Allen Schneider

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

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

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