

Priscilla Fung, PhD

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EMPLOYMENT

2025-Present **Postdoctoral Fellow** *University of Toronto Mississauga*
Biopsychosocial Investigations of Gender Laboratory,
Department of Psychology
Supervisors: Doug VanderLaan, Jessamyn Schertz

EDUCATION

2019-25 **Ph.D., Psychology** *University of Toronto*
Thesis: *Navigating Variability: Language Development in Linguistically Diverse Environments*
Committee: Elizabeth K. Johnson (supervisor), Craig Chambers, Mireille Babineau

2018-19 **M.A., Psychology** *University of Toronto*
Thesis: *When Word Learning Heuristics Meet Cross- situational Word Learning: A Comparison between Monolingual and Bilingual Toddlers*
Committee: Elizabeth K. Johnson (supervisor), Craig Chambers, Samuel Ronfard

2013-17 **B.Sc., Psychology Research Specialist** *University of Toronto*

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Fung, P., Buckler, H. & Johnson, E.K. (in revision). Vocabulary growth amongst children in a linguistically diverse community: A Large-scale study. *Child Development*.

Badr, S., **Fung, P.**, & Schertz, J. (submitted). Kids are such copycats: The role of intonation and segmental information in phonetic convergence in children and adults. *Language Learning and Development*.

Fung, P., St. Pierre, T., Raja, M., & Johnson, E.K. (2023). Infants' and toddlers' language development during the pandemic: SES mattered. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, 236. doi.org/10.1016/j.jecp.2023.105744

Fung, P., Buckler, H., & Johnson, E.K. (2023). Effects of accent exposure on monolingual and bilingual children's early vocabulary development. *Proceedings of the 45th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.

Fung, P., Schertz, J., & Johnson, E.K. (2021). The development of gendered speech in children: Insights from adult L1 and L2 perceptions. *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America Express Letters*, 1(1), 014407. doi.org/10.1121/10.0003322

Fung, P., & Johnson, E.K. (2020). Monolingual and bilingual toddlers' reliance on the mutual exclusivity principle and statistics to learn colour labels. *Proceedings of the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 2298-2304.

Manuscript in preparation

Fung, P., Badr, S., & Johnson, E.K. (in prep). Predictors of unfamiliar accent comprehension in monolingual and bilingual children.

Fung, P., & Johnson, E.K. (in prep). Revisiting the debate: Is cross-situational word learning too computationally complex for infants in the real world?

Fung, P., Schertz, J., & Johnson, E.K. (in prep). The role of parental socialization on the development of gendered speech perception and production.

Fung, P., Young, F., & Johnson, E.K. (in prep). Accent processing in toddlerhood: Another difference between monolingual and bilingual children.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Schertz, J., **Fung, P.**, Dhillon, A. K., Gómez, F. R., Chan, H. S. Y., Pojanapotha, P., Johnson, E. K., & VanderLaan, D. (2025). Gender-based differences in Thai children's speech: a preliminary investigation. Oral presentation at the *NWAV-Asia-Pacific 8*, Singapore.

Fung, P., Schertz, J., & Johnson, E.K. (2024). Like father/mother, like son/daughter? The influence of parents on children's gendered speech production. Poster presented at the *Laboratory Phonetics*, Seoul, Korea.

Schertz, J., **Fung, P.**, & Johnson, E.K. (2024). Influence of bilingualism on phonetic imitation in children: a preliminary study. Phonetic imitation: representation, sound change, and other theoretical implications: Oral presentation at the satellite session of *Laboratory Phonetics*, Seoul, Korea.

Fung, P. & Johnson, E.K. (2024). Revisiting the debate: Is cross-situational word learning too computationally complex for infants in the real world? Poster present at the *Workshop on Infant Language Development*, Lisbon, Portugal.

Fung, P. & Johnson, E.K. (2024). Does language experience shape accent adaptation abilities in toddlers? Poster present at the *Workshop on Infant Language Development*, Lisbon, Portugal.

Bradley, H., **Fung, P.**, & Johnson, E.K. (2024). Beyond babble: Investigating predictors of toddler intelligibility in adults and children. Poster present at the *Workshop on Infant Language Development*, Lisbon, Portugal.

Fung, P., Buckler, H., & Johnson, E.K. (2023). Effects of accent exposure on monolingual and bilingual children's early vocabulary development. Poster present at the *45th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, Sydney, Australia.

Fung P., Schertz, J., & Johnson E.K. (2023). It starts at home: The role of parental socialization on the development of gendered speech. Poster present at the *45th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, Sydney, Australia.

Fung, P., St. Pierre, T., Raja, M., & Johnson, E.K. (2022). Too much screen time and not enough books: How SES impacted infants' experiences during the pandemic. Poster presented at the *International Congress of Infant Studies*, Ottawa, ON.

Fung, P., Schertz, J., & Johnson, E.K. (2022). Can children tell apart boys and girls from their peer's speech? Talk presented at the *PGSA Symposium*, Toronto, ON

Fung, P. & Johnson, E.K. (2021). Vocabulary growth in infancy and toddlerhood: The impact of COVID-19. Poster presented at the *Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, Vienna, Austria.

Fung, P., Schertz, J., & Johnson, E.K. (2021). The development of children's sensitivity to how boys and girls talk. Poster presented at the *Society for Research in Child Development 2021 Virtual Biennial Meeting*.

Fung, P., & Johnson, E.K. (2021). Revisiting the mutual exclusivity principle: Colour label learning in monolingual and bilingual toddlers. Poster presented at the *International Association for the Study of Child Language*, Philadelphia, PA.

Fung, P., & Fecher, N., Johnson, E.K. (2020). Children get better over time at identifying people's voices – But why? Poster presented at the *Psychonomic Society 2020 Annual Meeting*, Montreal, QC.

Fung, P., & Johnson, E.K. (2020). Monolingual and bilingual toddlers' reliance on the mutual exclusivity principle and statistics to learn colour labels. Poster presented at the *Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, Toronto, ON.

Fung, P., Fecher, N., & Johnson, E.K. (2019). How do adults and children recognize bilingual voices? Poster presented at the *PsyLinCS UTM*, Mississauga, ON.

Fung, P., Buckler, H., & Johnson, E.K. (2019). The effects of linguistically diverse input on vocabulary growth in infancy and toddlerhood. Poster presented at the *Workshop on Infant Language Development*, Potsdam, Germany.

Fung, P., Buckler, H., & Johnson, E.K. (2019). The effects of linguistically diverse input on vocabulary growth in infancy and toddlerhood. Poster presented at the *Graduate Research Conference*, Mississauga, ON.

Invited talk

Fung, P., Dhillon, A.K., Gómez, F. R., Pojanapotha, P., Schertz., J., & VanderLaan, D. (2026). Overview of Research in Thailand by the Biopsychosocial Investigations of Gender Laboratory. Oral presentation at the *Northern Thailand MPLUS*, Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Fung, P., Dhillon, A.K., Gómez, F. R., Pojanapotha, P., Schertz., J., & VanderLaan, D. (2026). Gender diversity in Thai children. Oral presentation at the *Department of Psychiatry of Chiang Mai University*, Chiang Mai, Thailand.

KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

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| 2025 | Co-organizer of Mind Explorers Community Outreach Event at the Hazel McCallion Library |
| 2024 | Infant and Child Studies Newsletter
<i>"Can children understand words spoken in unfamiliar accents?"</i> |
| 2023, 24 | Introduce high school students to psychological research through lab tours |
| 2023 | Infant and Child Studies Newsletter
<i>"How do children learn words?"</i> |
| 2022 | Across Acoustics Podcast
<i>"When do gender differences start to emerge in children's speech?"</i>
Infant and Child Studies Newsletter
<i>"Do children think boys and girls sound different?"</i> |
| 2021 | Infant and Child Studies Newsletter
<i>"The pandemic's effect on children.", "Gender attitudes in kids"</i> |
| 2020 | Infant and Child Studies Newsletter
<i>"How do children recognize voices?"</i> |
| 2019 | Infant and Child Studies Newsletter
<i>"Word learning in bilingual toddlers."</i> |

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

PSY410: Special Topics in Developmental Psychology	Course Instructor	2025 (Fall, Winter)
PSY317: <i>Gendered Speech Development</i>	Guest Lecturer	2025
JLP315: <i>Language Use</i>	Guest Lecturer	2024
PSY384: Speech Perception and Production	Tutorial Leader	2022
PSY201: Statistics	Teaching Assistant	2020
PSY100: Introduction to Psychology	Teaching Assistant	2020, 2022
PSY270: Introduction to Cognitive Psychology	Teaching Assistant	2019-2022
PSY312: Cognitive Development	Teaching Assistant	2019
PSY201/ PSY202: Research Design and Analysis in Psychology	Teaching Assistant	2018, 2021-2026
PSY210: Introduction to Developmental Psychology	Teaching Assistant	2018-2021, 2023-2025
JLP315: Language Acquisition	Teaching Assistant	2018-2024

STUDENTS MENTORED

2025-26	Undergraduate Research Project Student – Thea De Silva <i>“Gendered Gendered Speech Development in Thai Children: The Role of Gender Identity Independent of Assigned Sex at Birth”</i>
2024-25	Undergraduate Research Project Student – Noemi Caponi <i>“How accent and gender shape children’s social choices”</i>
2023-25	Undergraduate Research Project Student – Shahad Badr <i>“Monolingual and bilingual children’s word recognition in unfamiliar accents”</i>
	Undergraduate Research Project Student – Dua Khan <i>“Revisiting cross-situational word learning with the human simulation paradigm”</i>
2022-25	Undergraduate Research Project Student – Faith Young <i>“Monolingual and bilingual toddlers’ accent adaptation abilities”</i>
2024	Undergraduate Research Project Student – Luna Alkabra & Blythe Apostol <i>“Accent Processing in Monolingual and Bilingual Children”</i> <i>“Investigating word learning with the human simulation paradigm”</i>
2023-24	Undergraduate Thesis Student – Sophia MacKeigan <i>“The Effect of Linguistically Diverse Input on Toddlers’ Production Accuracy”</i>
	Undergraduate Research Project Students – Brianna Branco <i>“Word recognition and accent adaptation abilities in monolingual and bilingual toddlers”</i>
2023	Undergraduate Research Project Students – Reem Idris & Jana AlFaras <i>“Children’s processing of unfamiliar accents”</i>
2023	Mitacs International Research Internship Student – Yantong Xiang

	<i>"How language experience impacts toddlers' ability to understand other-accented talkers"</i>
2022-23	Undergraduate Thesis Student – Jessica Hira <i>"Could audiovisual alignment facilitate cross-situational word learning in young children?"</i>
	Undergraduate Research Project Student – Emily Kuik <i>"Investigating word learning with the human simulation paradigm"</i>
	Undergraduate Research Project Student – Danyel Ore <i>"Parental socialization on children's development of gendered speech"</i>
	Undergraduate Research Project Student – Grace Sun <i>"Exploring gender differences in early vocabulary composition"</i>
2022	Mitacs International Research Internship Student – Eason Shum <i>"Parental socialization on children's development of gendered speech"</i>
2021-22	Undergraduate Research Project Student – Jessica Hira <i>"Toddlers vocabulary growth in a linguistically diverse community"</i>
2019-21	Undergraduate Research Project Student – Momina Raja <i>"Infants' and toddlers' vocabulary development in a linguistically diverse community"</i>
2018-19	Undergraduate Research Project Student – Changhao Gao <i>"Language experience and the detection of vocal cues to child gender"</i>

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2024	Exploring Course Design	<i>University of Toronto</i>
	Effective Practices for Engaging Lectures	<i>University of Toronto</i>
2021	Graduate Teaching Workshop	<i>University of Toronto</i>
	Foregrounding Your Research Contribution Writing Workshop	<i>University of Toronto</i>
2020	Classroom Management & Cultivating Community	<i>University of Toronto</i>
	Grading & Giving Effective Feedback	<i>University of Toronto</i>
	Preparing Your Teaching Dossier	<i>University of Toronto</i>

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer for *Developmental Psychology*, *International Journal of Bilingual Education, Cognition, Cognitive Development*, *Developmental Science*, *Developmental Psychology*, *Acta Psychologica*

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

2025	Judge for Undergraduate Knowledge Translation Presentations
2023	Mentor for BIPOC high school students
2023	Judge for Ontario Ethics Bowl
2021, 2022	Judge for Undergraduate Poster Presentation Award
2019-20	Committee Member on Assistant Professor Searches
2019	Conference Chairing Committee (PsyLinCS, University of Toronto Mississauga)

AWARDS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

- 2025 Insight Development Grant (Role: Co-Investigator) - \$56674
"A Cross-Cultural Perspective on Gendered Speech in Cisgender and Gender-Diverse Children"
SSHRC, Canada
- 2025 Postdoctoral Fellowships - \$140000
"A Cross-Cultural Perspective on Gendered Speech in Cisgender and Gender-Diverse Children"
SSHRC, Canada
- 2023 CogSci2023 Travel Award – USD1200
Cognitive Science Society
- 2023 Ontario Graduate Scholarship - \$15000
Government of Ontario, Canada
- 2022 Ontario Graduate Scholarship - \$15000
Government of Ontario, Canada
- 2018 Canada Graduate Scholarships - Master's - \$17500
SSHRC, Canada