

Brent Strickland

Born: 08/08/1981

Place of Birth: Columbia, South Carolina

American Citizen/Married to French National

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Email: brent.strickland@ens.fr

English native language; French spoken fluently

Education and Academic Experience

September 2016 - Indefinite: Permanent CNRS researcher (Centre National de le Recherche Scientifique). Institut Jean Nicod – Departement d'Etudes Cognitives – Ecole Normale Supérieure. Paris, France.

September 2015 – August 2016: Visiting assistant professor (“enseignant chercheur temporaire”) at the Ecole Normale Supérieure and Institut Jean Nicod. Paris, France.

September 2013 – August 2015: Postdoctoral fellow at the Institut Jean Nicod and the Laboratoire de la Psychologie de Perception. Funding: Fyssen Foundation. Paris, France.

August 2008 – August 2013: PhD in developmental/ cognitive psychology at Yale University. Principal advisor: Frank Keil. Secondary Advisors: Brian Scholl, Joshua Knobe and Laurie Santos. Funding: Yale University graduate fellowship/Yale University teaching fellowship. New Haven, Connecticut, USA.

August 2007 – August 2008: Full time, paid, researcher at Georgia State University Psychology Department (with Rihana Williams-Smith). Atlanta, Georgia, USA.

August 2006-August 2007: PhD student in Human Centered Computing at the Georgia Institute of Technology College of Computing (Transferred to Yale). Funding: President's graduate fellowship. Atlanta, Georgia, USA.

August 2005 – August 2006: Research assistant at the University of South Carolina, Psychology Department (with Amit Almor). Columbia, South Carolina, USA.

Sept. 2004-Aug. 2005: Masters in Cognitive Science in joint program between the Ecole Normale Supérieure/Ecole Des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (“Cogmaster”). Paris, France.

Sept. 2003—Aug. 2004: *Maîtrise* in theoretical linguistics at the University of Paris V. Research directed by Alain Bentolila. Paris, France.

Sept. 1999—Aug. 2002: Bachelor of Arts from New York University. 3.48/4 grade point average. Major in French language and culture.

Active Research Areas

- Core knowledge in development and adult perception/cognition
- Biases and heuristics in reasoning
- The psychology of language
- Political psychology
- Social cognition
- Visual cognition: events, memory and attention

Peer-reviewed Publications and Commentaries

Hafri, A., Trueswell, J., & Strickland, B. (in press). Extraction of Event Roles From Visual Scenes is Rapid, Automatic, and Interacts with Higher-Level Visual Processing. *Cognition*.

- Strickland, B., & Chemla, E. (2018). Cross-linguistic regularities reflect “core” mechanics. *PLOS ONE* 1(18): e184132. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0184132>.
- Kominsky*, J., Strickland *, B., Wertz, A., Keil, F., & Wynn, K. (2017). Categories and constraints in causal perception. *Psychological Science*, 28(11), 1649-1662. *joint first author.
- Fisher, M., Knobe, J., Strickland, B., & Keil, F. (2017). The influence of social interaction on epistemic intuitions. *Cognitive Science*, 41(4), 1119-1134.
- Strickland, B., Aristodomo, V., Kuhn, J., & Geraci, C. (2017). The categorical role of structurally iconic signs. *Behavioral & Brain Sciences (peer reviewed commentary)*, 40, doi:10.1017/S0140525X15003076.
- Hafri, A., Trueswell, J. C., & Strickland, B. (2016). Extraction of event roles from visual scenes is rapid, automatic, and interacts with higher-level visual processing. In *Proceedings of the 38th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*. Philadelphia, PA.
- Strickland, B., Silver, I., & Keil, F. (2016). The texture of causes and effects. Domain specific biases in causal reasoning. *Memory & Cognition*. doi:10.3758/s13421-016-0668-x.
- Helming, K., Strickland, B., & Jacob, P. (2016). A pragmatic approach to the puzzle about early belief ascription. *Mind & Language*, 31(4), 438-469.
- Strickland, B. (2016). Language reflects core cognition: A new theory on the origin of cross-linguistic regularities. *Cognitive Science*, online ahead of print DOI: 10.1111/cogs.12332.
- Strickland, B., Geraci, C., Chemla, E., Schlenker, P., Kelepir, M., & Pfau, R. (2015). Event representations constrain the structure of language: Sign language as a window into universally accessible linguistic biases. *Proceedings of the Natural Academy of Sciences*, 112(19), 5968-5973.
- Strickland, B., & Scholl, B. (2015). Event types in visual cognition: The case of containment vs. occlusion. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 144(3), 570-580.
- Strickland, B., Fisher, M., Knobe, J., & Keil, F. (2014). Syntax and intentionality: An automatic link between language and theory-of-mind. *Cognition*, 133(1), 249-261.
- Peyroux, E., Strickland, B., Tapiero, I., & Franck, N. (2014). The intentionality bias in Schizophrenia. *Psychiatry Research*, 219(3), 426-430.
- Helming, K., Strickland, B., & Jacob, P. (2014). Making sense of early belief understanding. *Trends in Cognitive Science*, 18(4), 167-170.
- Strickland, B., & Mercier, H. (2014). Bias neglect: A blindspot in the evaluation of scientific results. *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*, 67(3), 570-580.
- Strickland, B., & Suben, A. (2012). Experimenter philosophy: The problem of experimenter bias in experimental philosophy. *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*, 3, 457-467.
- Strickland, B., Fisher, M., & Knobe, J (2012). Moral structure falls out of event structure. *Psychological Inquiry, (peer reviewed commentary)*, 23, 198-205.
- Mercier, H., & Strickland, B. (2012). Evaluating arguments from the reaction of the audience. *Thinking & Reasoning*, 18(3), 365-378.
- Strickland, B., & Keil, F. (2011). Event completion: Event based inferences distort memory in a matter of seconds. *Cognition* 121(3), 409-415.
- Strickland, B., Fisher, M., Peyroux., E., Keil, F. (2011). Syntactic biases in intentionality judgments. *Proceedings of the Thirty-Third Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*. Cognitive Sciences Society: Boston.
- Strickland, B., Barrie, S., & Williams, R. (2011). Discourse structure and word learning. *Pragmatics and Society* 2(2), 260-281.

Almor, A., Arunachalem, S., & Strickland, B. (2007). When the creampuff beat the boxer: Cost and function in reading metaphorical reference. *Metaphor & Symbol. 22*(2), 169–193.

Journal Articles Currently Under Revision (*=joint first author)

Helming, K., Jacob, P., & Strickland, B. (under revision at *Cognition*). “Where should we hide the nasty spider? 3-year-olds succeed in a novel elicited false-belief task.”

Hafri, Trueswell, & Strickland (under revision at *Cognition*). Extraction of Event Roles From Visual Scenes is Rapid, Automatic, and Interacts with Higher-Level Visual Processing.

Labouret, G., Izard, V., Keil, F., Wertz, A., & Strickland, B. (under revision at *JEP: General*). The principles of continuity and solidity in event perception: A surprising discrepancy.

Journal Articles Currently Under Review (*=joint first author)

Strickland, B., Kominsky, J., Fangor, A., & Keil, F. (under review). Cognitive biases in event representation: Legacies from infancy shape adult causal perception.

Kuhn, J., Geraci, C., Schlenker, P., & Strickland, B. (under review). Intuitive, abstract iconicity for events and objects.

Journal Articles In Preparation (i.e. All relevant data have been collected, and the manuscript has been started or is about to start. **Indicates that I served as the primary scientific advisor on the project).

O'Madagain, C., Stoeber, G., & Strickland, B. (in preparation). Is pointing ritualized touch?

Conference Talks and Demonstrations

Strickland, B. (2017). Intuitive iconicity for events and objects: Telicity and the count/mass distinction across modalities. (Invited speaker). Event representations in the brain, language, and development. Nijmegen, Netherlands.

Strickland, B. (2017). Perceiving solidity violations. Invited presentation for a conference on Language, Morality and Thought at the Ecole Normale Supérieure. Paris, France.

Strickland, B. (2017). Perceiving causality. Invited talk to the department of Cognitive Science at the Central European University (CEU). Budapest, Hungary.

Strickland, B. (2016). Intuitive iconicity for events and objects: Telicity and the count/mass distinction across modalities (Invited speaker). International Society for Gesture Studies 7th annual meeting (ISGS 7). Paris, France.

Strickland, B. (2015). How the internet is transforming cognitive psychology (Invited speaker). Web2day. Nantes, France.

O'Madagain, C., Strickland, B., & Stoeber, G. (2015). Is pointing ritualized touching. Talk presented at the European Society for Philosophy and Psychology (ESPP) annual meeting. Tartu, Estonia.

Bourmaman, A. & Strickland, B. (2015). The significance of connotation within lexical meaning. Talk presented at the European Society for Philosophy and Psychology (ESPP) annual meeting. Tartu, Estonia.

Murez, M., Smortchkova, J., & Strickland, B. (2015). Empirical challenges to the mental file theory of singular thought. Talk presented at the European Society for Philosophy and Psychology (ESPP) annual meeting. Tartu, Estonia.

Strickland, B., Geraci, C., Chemla, E., Schlenker, P., Kelepir, M., & Pfau, R. (2015). Event representations constrain the structure of language: Sign language as a window into universally accessible linguistic biases. Talk presented at the European Society for Philosophy and Psychology (ESPP) annual meeting. Tartu, Estonia.

Strickland, B. (2015). The Pulfrich Solidity Illusion. Demonstration presented at demo night during the annual meeting of the *Vision Sciences Society*, 05/16/15, St. Pete's Beach, FL.

- Strickland, B. (2013). Continuity and solidity in visual perception. Symposium talk presented at *Birminghamfest*. Paris, France.
- Strickland, B., & Scholl, B.J. (2012). Triggering event types in visual cognition: Containment, occlusion and the cues that separate them. Symposium talk presented at the *International Society for Infant Studies (ICIS)*. Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- Strickland, B., & Scholl, B. J. (2012). "Event type" representations in vision are triggered rapidly and automatically: A case study of containment vs. occlusion. Talk presented at the *Vision Sciences Society*. Naples, FL.
- Strickland, B., & Scholl, B.J., (2012). Visual perception involves event type representations: The case of containment vs. occlusion. Round-table discussion at *PHLINC Symposium on Events*. College Park, Maryland.
- Strickland, B. (2011). Syntactic biases in intentionality judgments. Talk at the annual *Harvard/Yale Social Cognitive Development Workshop*. New Haven, Connecticut.
- Strickland, B., & Smith, R. (2009). Eye movements to white space while reading highly visualizable text. Talk at the *Society for Text and Discourse*. Rotterdam, NL.
- Strickland, B., & Smith, R. (2008). White space and the comprehension of highly visualizable texts. Talk at the « *Association Pour la Recherche Cognitive* » (Arco'08). Lyon, France.
- Strickland, B., Smith, R., & Barrie, S. (2008). Discourse structure and word learning. Talk at *Analyse de Discours et Demande Sociale (ADDS)*. Paris, France.

Conference Posters

- Strickland, B., Wertz, A., Labouret, G., Keil, F., & Izard, V (2015). The principles of object continuity and solidity in adult vision: Some discrepancies in performance. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the *Vision Sciences Society*, 05/16/15, St. Pete's Beach, FL.
- O'Madagain, C., Strickland, B., & Stoeber, G. (2015). Is pointing ritualized touching. Poster to be presented at the *Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)*. Philadelphia, PA, USA.
- Wertz, A., Kominsky, J., Strickland, B., Keil, F., & Wynn, K. (2015). 9-month-olds but not 7-month-olds show sensitivity to principles of Newtonian physics in causal launching events. Poster to be presented at the *Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)*. Philadelphia, PA, USA
- O'Madagain, C., Strickland, B., & Stoeber, G. (2015). Is pointing ritualized touching. Poster to be presented at the *Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)*. Philadelphia, PA, USA.
- Strickland, B., & Keil, F. (2011). Event completion: Event based inferences distort memory in a matter of seconds. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the *Vision Sciences Society*, 05/08/11, Naples, FL.
- Strickland, B., & Keil, F. (2011). Naive little Newtons: prediction and explanation in children's understanding of collision mechanics. Poster presented at the bi-annual meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, 04/02/11, Montreal, CA.
- Strickland, B., & Scholl, B. J. (2010). Representations of "event types" in visual cognition: The case of containment vs. occlusion. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the *Vision Sciences Society*, 5/12/10, Naples, FL.

Honors/Awards

- Won PSL "Aux frontières des Labex" grant for project entitled "Improving prediction for a better world" (40k, 2016-2018)
- Won Fyssen Foundation Post-graduate Fellowship (2013-2015)
- Won Fulbright Fellowship (2013) – declined
- Recipient of Yale University Dissertation Fellowship (2012-2013)
- Recipient of Yale University Graduate Fellowship (2008-2012)
- Recipient of FAS Imaging Grant for fMRI project on naive physics (2011)
- Recipient of Yale Graduate Travel Grant (2009)

- Recipient of the President's Graduate Fellowship at Georgia Tech (2006-2007)
- Co-Winner of the Psi Chi regional research award. "Semantic Impairments in Categorical Deficits of Alzheimer's Patients". March 16-19, 2006. Presented at the Southeastern Psychological Association Convention. Atlanta, GA.

Editorial Experience

Executive editor for the *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*

Editor for the *Proceedings of the Cognitive Sciences Society, 2016*

Reviewing Experience

Ad-hoc reviewer for

- Journal of Experimental Psychology: General
- Memory & Cognition
- Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, & Cognition
- Review of Psychology and Philosophy (ROPP)
- Discourse Processes
- Infancy

Research Mentoring Experience

Fall 2013 – current: Research mentor at the Institut Jean Nicod/ENS (founder of Experimental Philosophy group)

Description: I currently serve as the co-director for one PhD Student and three master's students from the Cogmaster program, of which I am a member of the conseil pedagogique. In my work with the Experimental Philosophy group at the ENS-Institut Jean Nicod, I additionally oversee a number of empirical projects carried out by young psychologists, linguists and philosophers. In many cases, these projects create novel experimental paradigms to test theoretical questions of wide interest to the cognitive science community. The primary aim of our research group is scientific, but it also has the side-effect of training many philosophers and linguists in experimental methods.

Fall 2009 – Summer 2013: Research mentor at Yale University in Yale Cognition and Development Lab (with Frank Keil).

Classes Taught

Oct., 2016-present: Atelier experimental at l'Ecole Normale Superieure (Cogmaster). Paris, France. Topics covered: Experimental design, avoiding biased research practices, replicability problem. Graduate level.

Oct., 2016-present: Philosophie experimentale at l'Ecole Normale Superieure. Paris, France. Topics covered: Experimental design, cognitive biases, psychology of language, visual cognition. Graduate level.

July, 2017: Introduction to Psychology at Yale University (YSS). New Haven, CT. Undergraduate level.

Oct. 2017-present: Introduction to Psychology at the American University

Feb. 2005-June 2005: Critical Reasoning at L'Université Marne La Vallée. Marne La Vallée, France. Topics covered: Critical reasoning, logical fallacies, the psychology of reasoning. Undergraduate level.

Teaching Assistant Experience

- Spring 2011: Teaching assistant for "Sex, Evolution & Human Nature" taught by Laurie Santos.

- Fall 2011: Teaching assistant for "Introduction to Cognitive Science" taught by Brian Scholl.
- Spring 2011: Teaching assistant for "Introduction to Psychology" taught by Marvin Chun.
- Fall 2010: Teaching assistant for "Introduction to Cognitive Science" taught by Julie van Dyke.
- Spring 2010: Teaching assistant for "Psychology and the Law" taught by Kristi Lockhart.
- Fall 2009: Teaching assistant for "Developmental Psychology" taught by Frank Keil. Includes grading and leading one section per week.
- Spring 2007: Teaching assistant for "Philosophical Issues in Computation" taught by Nancy Nersessian in the College of Computing at Georgia Tech.
- Fall 2006: Teaching assistant for "Introduction to Cognitive Science" taught by Ron Ferguson in the College of Computing/Psychology Department at Georgia Tech.

Programming skills/experience

- Matlab/Psychtoolbox
- Java
- LISP
- HTML

Languages spoken

- English (native language)
- French (fully fluent)