

Olly Robertson

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EDUCATION

PhD in Psychology <i>Centre for Psychological Research</i>	Keele University <i>Sept. 2016 – Current</i>
MSc in Language Sciences (Neuroscience & Communication) <i>Division of Psychology and Language Sciences</i>	University College London <i>Sept. 2014 – July 2016</i>
BSc in Psychology with Japanese (First Class) <i>School of Psychology</i>	University of Central Lancashire <i>Sept. 2009 – July 2014</i>
Diploma in Advanced Intermediate Japanese <i>Department of Japanese Language</i>	Nagasaki University of Foreign Studies <i>Sept. 2011 – August 2012</i>

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant <i>The Oxford Psychological Interventions for Children and adolescents Research Group</i>	January 2021 – Present <i>University of Oxford</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Managed a novel, rapid deployment trial which evaluated low intensity, digital app based behaviour management tools for parents of primary school aged children, with the aim of supporting both parent and child during lockdown eventsLed multiple cross-institution collaborations for studies requiring advanced statistical analyses and used my specialised knowledge and insights to develop innovative research paradigmsFounded and chaired university wide initiatives to decolonise research methods and practicesProvided input and support to parliamentary briefings on the effects of COVID-19 on child, adolescent, and parent well-being	
Research Assistant <i>Emotions and Social Relations Lab</i>	October 2019 – January 2021 <i>University of Oxford</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Managed an international research collaboration with colleagues at University of Southern California and maintained day-to-day running of the Emotions and Social Relations lab, which included managing junior staff members, and devising experimental and analytical protocolsUndertook advanced statistical analyses, including hierarchical linear modelling and factor analyses, using R to answer pre-registered and exploratory research questions which were written up for publicationCo-supervised undergraduate and postgraduate research projects, which included coding paradigms in Python, creating analysis scripts in R, and adapting lab-based experiments to online studies due to COVID-19 restrictionsAdvised colleagues on best open science practices, facilitated ReproducibiliTea journal club initiatives, and delivered talks on scientific integrity through role as a Reproducible Research Oxford Fellow	
Sessional Lecturer in Psychology <i>Centre for Psychological Research</i>	September 2017 – May 2019 <i>Keele University</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Devised and delivered original teaching materials and lectures for undergraduate students on BPS accredited psychology degree coursesGained Associate Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy through successful completion of the first year of the Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Practice course at Keele UniversityCollaborated with module teaching teams in developing pedagogically informed and engaging teaching methods which challenge students intellectually and promote their development in line with key graduate attributes	
Laboratory Manager <i>Centre for Psychological Research</i>	Apr. 2019 – July 2019 <i>Keele University</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Worked with diverse stakeholder groups, including external advertising agencies, to formulate study design, advise on best practice for psychophysiological data collection, and create promotional materials available to the general publicTrained and managed the research team, including senior members of staff, in experimental protocols and ECG data collection methods using BIOPAC MP36Contributed to dissemination of research results through writing of reports and articles for publication, and delivering invited talks at Universities across the UK	

Visiting Researcher

Department of Social Psychology

September 2018 – November 2018

Tilburg University

- Led an international research collaboration which required the fostering of positive relationships with technical, support, and academic staff across Tilburg University
- Managed day-to-day operations of experimentation, including designing experimental protocol; gaining ethical approval across multiple sites; coding experiment in Inquisit 5.0; recruiting and scheduling participants; and managing psychophysiological equipment
- Successfully applied for funding to extend study beyond original scope following reflection on the direction and needs of the current study, culminating in the translation and validation of the Positive and Negative Affect Schedule - Extended into Dutch

PROJECTS

Consortium for Research About Profanity (CRAP) | Co-Founder of International Research Group

| August 2020 – Present

- Currently devising a systematic review of the empirical literature to properly characterise the variety of theories, perspectives, and evidence which have been thus far produced
- Compiling resources on perspectives on profanity, which aims to collate a rough taxonomy of approaches available as both a published article and through expressive media
- Managed and coordinated research activity across a number of projects, including providing research materials, arranging adversarial collaborations, submitting conference symposia submissions, and guidance to consortium members

Discussions on Race and Ethnicity for Allies and Minorities (DREAM) | Co-Founder of Cross-Organisation Forum | June 2020 – Present

- Collaborated with internal university and external institution stakeholders to curate an educational space on matters relating to diversity and equality for researchers based at the Wellcome Centre for Integrative Neuroimaging and the Department of Experimental Psychology at University of Oxford
- Sat on the University of Oxford's Department of Experimental Psychology Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee, and advised on science outreach in local schools for students in Key Stages 4 and 5
- Organised and chaired regular reading groups and film clubs which facilitated discussions relating to race and ethnicity for staff and students, including chairing a decolonising open science research methodologies journal club and seminar series

ARTICLES PUBLISHED

Robertson, O., Parkinson, B., & Shore, D. (in prep) Communicative Facial Movements during Iterative Prisoner's Dilemma Gameplay

Kostyrka-Allchorne, K., Creswell, C., Byford, S., Day, C., Goldsmith, K., Koch, M., Muret Guitierrez, W., Palmer, M., Raw, J., **Robertson, O.**, Shearer, J., Shum, A., Slovak, P., Waite, P., Sonuga-Barke, E. (2021). Supporting Parents Kids Through Lockdown Experiences (SPARKLE): A parallel randomised controlled trial of a digital parenting support application implemented in the general population during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Trials*, 22, 267. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13063-021-05226-4> [PDF],

Stephens, R., & **Robertson, O.** (2020). Swearing as a response to pain: Assessing hypoalgesic effects of novel "swear" words. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 11, 723. [PDF], [Pre-print]

Robertson, O., & Evans, M. S. (2020). Just how reliable is your internal reliability? An Overview of Cronbach's Alpha. *PsyPAG Quarterly* [PDF]

Robertson, O., & Dunsmore, J. (2019). Dealing with disappointment in the application process. *Psychology Postgraduate Affairs Group Guide (2nd ed)*, 26-32. Leicester, UK: the British Psychological Society. [PDF]

Robertson, O., Robinson, S. J., & Stephens, R. (2017). Swearing as a response to pain: A cross-cultural comparison of British and Japanese participants. *Scandinavian journal of pain*, 17, 267-272. [PDF]

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Robertson, O., & Stephens, R. (October 2020) "Can You Teach A New Dog Old Tricks?: Novel Swearwords and Pain". Invited speaker at the *Department of Psychology Seminar Series*, University of Leeds, UK. [Video], [Slides]

- Robertson, O.**, (February 2020). “The Secret Life of Swearing”. Invited speaker at the *Centre for Health and Relationships Seminar Series*, University of Buckingham, UK. [Slides]
- Robertson, O.**, (September 2019). “Heart Rate Variability as a Biomarker of Emotion Regulation”. Workshop presented at the *Cognitive and Developmental Psychology Section Pre-Conference: Research in Aspects of Social Development: Collaborations between the UK and Japan*, Stoke, UK. [Slides]
- Robertson, O.**, Stephens, R., & van Beest, I. (September 2019). “Swearing as Emotion Regulation”. Presented at the *Psychobiology Annual Scientific Meeting*, Lake Windemere, UK.
- Robertson, O.**, Robinson, S. J., & Stephens, R., (September 2014). “A Cross-Cultural Investigation into the Pain-Relieving Effects of Swearing in Japanese and English”. Presented at the *Psychobiology Annual Scientific Meeting*, Lake Windemere, UK.

PRESENTATIONS, PANEL DISCUSSIONS AND WORKSHOPS

- Robertson, O.** (April 2021). Falsifying Academic Assumptions with Lived Experiences: Coherence Between ‘Non-Scientific’ Realities & ‘Scientific’ Theories of Emotion presented at the *Society for Affective Science Annual Conference*. Online. [Abstract] [Video]
- Robertson, O.** (April 2021). The Hidden Benefits of Swearing: Going Beyond the Tip of The Iceberg presented at the *Social Psychology Days 2021 Conference*. University of Helsinki, Online. [Abstract]
- Robertson, O.**, Beers Fagersten, K., Evans, T., Stapleton, K., & Stephens, R. (April 2021). Swearing Good Health: Rethinking Social Norms and Wellbeing Working Group presented at the *Social Psychology Days 2021 Conference*. University of Helsinki, Online. [Abstract]
- Stephens, R. & **Robertson, O.**, (September 2020). “Assessing hypoalgesic effects of novel “swear” words” Presented at the *Psychobiology Annual Scientific Meeting*, Lake Windemere, UK.
- Robertson, O.**, & Clark, O. (July 2020). “Replican or Replican’t? Collaborative Assessment of Research Reliability via RepliCATs” Workshop on critical evaluation and inferencing skills presented at *Psychology Postgraduate Affairs Group Annual Conference*. Online.
- Robertson, O.**, Nosek, B. A., Aquino, M. R. J., Orben, A., Slegers, W. W. A., Martin, J. W., & Murphy, E. (August 2019). “First Steps into Open Science”. Webinar lecture and panel discussion introducing postgraduate students and early career researchers to open science convened and chaired by myself, online.
- Robertson, O.**, & Sutton, J., (July 2019). “Bringing Reproducible Science to the People – A Story of Change.” Workshop on effective science communication presented at *Psychology Postgraduate Affairs Group Annual Conference*, Sheffield, UK.
- Robertson, O.**, Stephens, R., van Beest, I. (May 2019). “TFI Emotion Regulation: The Moderating Effect of Swearing on Negative Emotions following Social Exclusion” presented at *Staffordshire Psychology Postgraduate Conference*, Stoke-on-Trent, UK.
- Fitzgerald, G., Else, V., Norris, E., & **Robertson, O.**, (December 2018). “Speaker Panel Discussion”. Panel discussion chaired by myself at the *British Psychological Society’s Careers in Psychology event*, London, UK.

TEACHING AND SCHOLARSHIP EXPERIENCE

University of Oxford

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| Mar. 2020 - Jul. 2021 | Social Psychology Tutor (Level 4-7)
<i>Harris Manchester College, Hertford College, & Wadham College</i> |
| Mar. 2020 - Jul. 2020 | Social Psychology Lab Demonstrator (Level 5)
<i>Department of Experimental Psychology</i> |

Keele University

Sept. 2017 - Jul. 2019	Sessional Lecturer Natural, Unnatural, and Supernatural Psychology (Level 4) Psychology and Culture (Level 6)
Sept. 2017 - Jul. 2019	Seminar Lead Social and Developmental Psychology (Level 4) Cognitive and Biological Psychology (Level 4)
Sept. 2017 - Jul. 2019	Lab Demonstrator Research Methods and Statistics (Level 4) Cognitive and Biological Research Methods in Psychology (Level 5) Qualitative and Survey Research Design (Level 5)

SCIENTIFIC OUTREACH

- Can swearing be good for us? (16th March 2021). *Drive, ABC Radio Perth*. [\[Audio\]](#)
- When ‘oh, fudge’ won’t do: Researchers find benefits to swearing (15th June 2020). *The World Radio Show, British Broadcasting Company*. [\[Audio\]](#)
- The science of why bad words feel so good during painful moments (29th May 2020). *Quirks and Quarks Radio Show, Canadian Broadcasting Company*. [\[Audio\]](#)
- Swearing: The Fastest Acting Pain Reliever of Them All (1st May 2020). *Forbes Magazine*. [\[Article\]](#)
- The neuroscience of the Christmas cheer ‘emotion’ (24th December 2019). *The Conversation*. [\[Article\]](#)
- Why swearing is good for you (June 2019). *Psychology in the Pub, Stoke-on-Trent, UK*.
- Are we ever truly objective? Implicit Biases and You (January-March 2019). *Six-week course for Key Stage 4 and 5 students (age 14-18), Alsager School, Staffordshire, UK*.
- Zombie Neuropsychology (December 2018). *The Big Bang Science Fair: STEAM into HE, Harper Adams University, UK*.
- How to swear in Japanese (May 2018). *Psychology in the Pub, Stoke-on-Trent*
- Swearing helps us battle pain – no matter what language we curse in (13th December 2017). *The Conversation*. [\[Article\]](#)
- Does swearing change how we experience the world? (December 2017). *BBC Radio Stoke*.

OTHER SERVICE AND MEMBERSHIPS

Committee Membership

2021 - present	University of Oxford Decolonised Research Interest Group, Founder and Co-Chair
2020 - present	Reproducible Research Oxford Fellow
2020 - present	Consortium for Research about Profanity, Co-Founder and Chair
2020 - present	University of Oxford Psychology Diversity and Inclusivity Working Group Member
2020 - present	Discussions on Race and Ethnicity for Allies and Minorities Co-Founder
2018 - present	Society for Affective Science Student Committee UK Representative
2018 - 2020	Psychology Postgraduate Affairs Group Communications Officer
2017 - 2019	Keele University Centre for Psychological Research Athena Swan Committee Member
2017 - 2019	BPS Annual Conference Committee Member Postgraduate Representative

Professional Membership

2018 - present	Associate Fellow of Higher Education Authority
2018 - present	European Association of Social Psychology

GRANTS

- Robertson, O.,** Khan, S., Lamont, A., & Stephens, R. (2019). *British Psychological Society Psychobiology Section*. Awarded funding to attend the Psychobiology Annual Scientific Meeting. **£379.00.**
- Robertson, O.,** (2019). *Psychology Postgraduate Affairs Group Workshop Bursary*. Grant to fund First Steps into Open Science Webinar. **£102.00.**

- Robertson, O.,** Khan, S., & Stephens, R. (2019). *Centre for Psychological Research, Keele University*. Internal grant to fund various research activities. **£1,827.41.**
- Robertson, O.,** (2019). *Keele Postgraduate Association Bursary*. Grant to attend emotion regulation workshop in Boston, USA. **£376.99.**
- Robertson, O.,** (2018). *Department of Social Psychology, Tilburg University*. Grant to fund research activities. **£277.84.**
- Robertson, O.,** (2018). *Psychology Postgraduate Affairs Group International Conference Bursary*. Grant to attend the Society for Affective Science 2019 conference in Boston, USA. **£300.00.**
- Robertson, O.,** Khan, S., & Stephens, R. (2018). *Centre for Psychological Research, Keele University*. Internal grant to fund various research activities associated with international collaboration at Tilburg University, Netherlands. **£723.20.**
- Robertson, O.,** Khan, S., & Stephens, R. (2018). *Faculty of Natural Sciences Professional Development Fund, Keele University*. Funded two months of international collaborative research at Tilburg University, Netherlands. **£1,147.01.**
- Robertson, O.,** Harrison, E., Alyobi, Z., & Melia, C. (2017). *Centre for Psychological Research, Keele University*. Internal grant to fund attendance of the PsyPAG 2017 Conference, Newcastle, UK. **£657.90.**
- Robertson, O.,** Khan, S., & Stephens, R. (2016). *Faculty of Natural Sciences, Keele University*. Competitive PhD stipend, including tuition fees living costs for 3 years. **£56,967.00.**
- Robertson, O.,** (2014). *University of Central Lancashire..* International travel scholarship to fund clinical psychology placement in Rannipauwa, Nepal. **£1,500.00.**
- Robertson, O.,** (2013). *School of Psychology, University of Central Lancashire*. Grant to undertake outreach activities with undergraduate students. **£1000.00.**
- Robertson, O.,** (2012). *University of Central Lancashire..* International travel scholarship to fund 2-month language immersion programme and conference attendance in Japan. **£1,750.00.**
- Robertson, O.,** (2010). *University of Central Lancashire Undergraduate Research and Professional Experience Grant*. International travel scholarship to fund conference attendance in Japan. **£1,250.00.**
- Robertson, O.,** Neafcy, P., Liu, C., James, J., Donohue, N., Simpson, S., Hayat, Z., Holden, B., & Lees, M. (2008). *University of Central Lancashire Undergraduate Research and Professional Experience Grant*. International travel scholarship to undertake Teaching English as a Foreign Language course placement in Kobe, Japan. **£13,500.00.**

Total to Date: £81,860.35

AWARDS AND HONOURS

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| 2019 | Postgraduate Research Award
<i>British Psychological Society Psychobiology Section</i> |
| 2019 | Bob Beattie Postgraduate Student of the Year Award
<i>Keele Postgraduate Association, Keele University</i> |
| 2019 | Best Paper Presentation Award
<i>Staffordshire Psychology Postgraduate Conference, Staffordshire University</i> |
| 2018 | Science Communication Award
<i>Institute of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Keele University</i> |
| 2017 | Outstanding Paper Presentation Award
<i>Faculty of Natural Sciences, Keele University</i> |
| 2014 | School President of the Year Award
<i>University of Central Lancashire Students' Union</i> |
| 2014 | Livesey Gold Leadership Award, Highly Commended Award
<i>Blue Edge Training and the Institute of Leadership and Management Centre</i> |
| 2014 | We Heart You Award
<i>University of Central Lancashire. Awarded in recognition of excellence which benefits the university and student body</i> |
| 2012 | Dean's List
<i>Nagasaki University of Foreign Studies</i> |

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

April 2021	Compiling a Clinical Trial Report <i>King's College London</i>
March 2021	Good Clinical Practice <i>National Institute for Health Research</i>
Nov. 2019	Voices of Young Scientists: Working with Policymakers and Journalists <i>Stand Up for Science, UK</i>
Oct. 2019	Podcasting Your Science <i>University of Oxford, UK</i>
2017 - 2018	Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Training Programme <i>Keele University, UK</i>
July 2017	Grant Writing Workshop <i>Keele University, UK</i>