

Gil Verbeke

Curriculum Vitae

(Last updated: 20 February 2025)

PERSONALIA

Date of Birth	21 June 1999
Email Address	Gil.Verbeke@UGent.be
Work Address	Blandijnberg 2 9000 Gent, Belgium
Homepage	https://research.flw.ugent.be/en/gil.verbeke

EDUCATION

Doctor of Linguistics, Ghent University

Oct 2021 – present

Master of Linguistics and Literature: Dutch-English, Ghent University – *Summa Cum Laude*

Sep 2020 – Sep 2021

General Linguistics & Research Specialisation

Erasmus, English and General Linguistics, King's College London – *First (A*)*

Sep 2019 – Jan 2020

Exchange programme

Bachelor of Linguistics and Literature: Dutch-English, Ghent University – *Magna Cum Laude*

Sep 2017 – Sep 2020

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Doctoral Researcher, Ghent University

Nov 2022 – present

Research project aimed at examining how phonetic variation in native and non-native English accents affects intelligibility and spoken word recognition for non-native listeners of English (supervisors: Prof. dr. Ellen Simon & Prof. dr. Holger Mitterer).

Predocctoral Researcher, Ghent University

Oct 2021 – Sep 2022

Research project on the comprehensibility, accentedness and intelligibility of native and non-native accents of English to high-proficiency English as a Foreign Language learners in Flanders (supervisor: Prof. dr. Ellen Simon).

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Fieldwork and Data Collection, University College London

Nov 2024

Host supervisor: Prof. dr. Stuart Rosen

Visiting Researcher, MARCS Institute for Brain, Behaviour and Development, Western Sydney University

Nov 2023 – Dec 2023

Host supervisor: Prof. dr. Paola Escudero

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Language variation
- Phonology and phonetics
- Psycholinguistics
- Second language acquisition
- Speech perception and production

RESEARCH

Articles (peer-reviewed)

De Timmerman, R., & Verbeke, G. (in prep.). Perception versus acoustics: Measuring /ai/ monophthongization in sung performance.

Verbeke, G., Escudero, P., Mitterer, H., & Simon, E. (in prep.). Perceiving vowel variation in regional accents of English: Evidence from Dutch-speaking English as a Foreign Language learners.

Verbeke, G., & Van Praet, W. (under review). The interplay between prosodic accentuation and boundary strength in the production of English checked steady-state vowels. Submitted for consideration to *English Text Construction*.

Verbeke, G., Mitterer, H., & Simon, E. (2025) Phonetic reduction in native and non-native English speech: Assessing the intelligibility for L2 listeners. *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition*. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1366728925000021>

Verbeke, G., Simon, E., Hartsuiker, R. J., Mitterer, H., & De Cuypere, L. (2024). Perceptie van een anderstalig accent: Een experimentele studie naar de perceptieve aanpassing aan een exogeen geaccentueerd Nederlands klinkercontrast. *Handelingen – Koninklijke Zuid-Nederlandse maatschappij voor taal- en letterkunde en geschiedenis*, 76, 225–252. <https://doi.org/10.21825/kzm.90450>

Verbeke, G., & Simon, E. (2023). Listening to accents: Comprehensibility, accentedness and intelligibility of native and non-native English speech. *Lingua* 292(1), 103572. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.lingua.2023.103572>

Book Chapters (peer-reviewed)

Verbeke, G. (2024). On the role of ecological validity in language and speech research. In J. Buysschaert & A. Lefèvre (Eds.), *Taalkunde nu* (pp. 69–95). Gent: Skribis. Series Studia Germanica Gandensia (Libri) & Spieghel Historiae.

Research Data (peer-reviewed)

Van Praet, W., & Verbeke, G. (forthcoming). “Replication data for: The interplay between prosodic accentuation and boundary strength in the production of English checked steady-state vowels”, DataversoNO, Draft Version.

Verbeke, G., Mitterer, H., & Simon, E. (2025). “Replication data for: Phonetic reduction in native and non-native English speech: Assessing the intelligibility for L2 listeners”, <https://doi.org/10.18710/OHP3O3>, DataversoNO, V1.

Verbeke, G. (2024). “Replication data for: On the role of ecological validity in language and speech research”, <https://doi.org/10.18710/R5JLFR>, DataversoNO, V1.

Verbeke, G., & Simon, E. (2023). “Replication data for: Listening to accents: Comprehensibility, accentedness and intelligibility of native and non-native English speech”, <https://doi.org/10.18710/8F0Q0L>, DataversoNO, V1.

Verbeke, G., Simon, E., Hartsuiker, R. J., Mitterer, H., & De Cuypere, L. (2022). "Replication Data for: Perceptie van een anderstalig accent: Een experimentele studie naar de perceptieve aanpassing aan een exogeen geaccentueerd Nederlands klinkercontrast", <https://doi.org/10.18710/NICOX0>, DataverseNO, V2.

Conference Presentations

Verbeke, G. (submitted). How do L2 listeners perceive vowel variation in familiar and unfamiliar regional accents of English? Submitted for consideration to *Psycholinguistics in Flanders*, 19-20 May 2025, Lille, France.

Verbeke, G., Mitterer, H., Escudero, P., & Simon, E. (accepted). Perception of vowel variation in regional accents of English by Dutch-speaking L2 listeners [Poster Presentation]. To be presented at *New Sounds 2025*, 22-25 April 2025, Toronto, Canada.

Verbeke, G., Mitterer, H., & Simon, E. (accepted). How does phonetic reduction in native and non-native English accents affect intelligibility and spoken word recognition for L2 listeners? [Oral Presentation]. To be presented at *New Sounds 2025*, 22-25 April 2025, Toronto, Canada.

Verbeke, G. (accepted). Phonetic variation in native and non-native English accents: Assessing the intelligibility for L2 listeners [Doctoral Workshop Presentation]. To be presented at *New Sounds 2025*, 22-25 April 2025, Toronto, Canada.

Verbeke, G., Mitterer, H., Escudero, P., & Simon, E. (2024). Perceiving vowel variation in regional accents of English: Evidence from Dutch-speaking English as a Foreign Language learners [Oral Presentation]. Presented at *BAAHE Conference 2024: (Trans)Portable: English in the World*, 13 December 2024, Brussels, Belgium.

- Verbeke, G., Simon, E., & Mitterer, H. (2024). Phonetic reduction in English accents: Assessing the intelligibility for L2 listeners [Oral Presentation]. Presented at *The 12th International Conference on Language Variation in Europe*, 9-11 July 2024, Vienna, Austria.
- Verbeke, G., Simon, E., & Mitterer, H. (2024). 'Please sport' or 'police support'? Examining the effect of phonetic reduction on speech intelligibility for L2 listeners [Oral Presentation]. Presented at *The 33rd conference of the European Second Language Association*, 3-6 July 2024, Montpellier, France.
- Verbeke, G. (2022). The comprehensibility, accentedness and intelligibility of regional and non-native varieties of English to Flemish EFL learners [Oral Presentation]. Presented at *LinGhentian Doctorials 2022*, 20-21 December 2022, Gent, Belgium.
- Verbeke, G., & Simon, E. (2022). Listening to accents: Comprehensibility, accentedness and intelligibility of non-native and World English varieties of English [Oral Presentation]. Presented at *55th Annual Meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea*, 24-27 August 2022, Bucharest, Romania.
- Van Praet, W., & Verbeke, G. (2022). The role of accentuation status in the articulation of English consonant clusters [Online Oral Presentation]. Presented at *Current Trends in English Linguistics*, 19 May 2022, Oldenburg, Germany.
- Verbeke, G., Simon, E., Hartsuiker, R. J., Mitterer, H., & De Cuypere, L. (2022). Perceptie van een anderstalig accent: Een experimentele studie naar de perceptieve aanpassing aan een exogeen geaccentueerd Nederlands klinkercontrast [Online Oral Presentation]. Presented at *Lentevergadering van de Koninklijke Zuid-Nederlandse Maatschappij voor Taal- en Letterkunde en Geschiedenis*, 26 March 2022, Ghent, Belgium.
- Verbeke, G., Simon, E., Hartsuiker, R. J., & Mitterer, H. (2021). Top-down or bottom-up generalization of L2 accented speech: An experimental study on lexically-guided perceptual learning of a Dutch vowel contrast [Online Poster Presentation]. *TABU Dag 2021*, 10-11 June 2021, Groningen, The Netherlands.
- Verbeke, G., Simon, E., Hartsuiker, R. J., & Mitterer, H. (2021). Top-down or bottom-up generalization of L2 accented speech: An experimental study on lexically-guided phonetic retuning of a Dutch vowel contrast [Online Oral Presentation]. *28th Manchester Phonology Meeting*, 26-28 May 2021, Manchester, United Kingdom.

Talks at Local Workshops and Meetings

- Verbeke, G. (2025). Segmental variation in native and non-native accents: Assessing the intelligibility for L2 learners of English [Poster Presentation]. Presented at *LOT Winter School 2025*, 13 January 2025, Nijmegen, The Netherlands.
- De Haes, H., Ostiguy, C., Verbeke, G., & Simon, E. (2024). Accents uncovered: From speech to understanding in second language phonetics and phonology [Poster Presentation]. Presented at *The LW Research Day*, 27 November 2024, Ghent, Belgium.
- Verbeke, G. (2024). Relationship between speech production and speech perception. Presented at *Language and Speech Journal Club*, 4 October 2024, Ghent Belgium.

Verbeke, G. (2024). From research to reality: Exploring the role of authentic speech data in linguistic studies. Presented at *MULTIPLEtalks*, 15 March 2024, Ghent, Belgium.

Verbeke, G. (2024). Ecological validity in language research. Presented at *Language and Speech Journal Club*, 1 March 2024, Ghent Belgium.

Verbeke, G. (2023). Understanding accents: The intelligibility of native and non-native English speech to English as a Foreign Language learners. Presented at *MARCS Research Meeting*, 28 November 2023, Sydney, Australia.

Verbeke, G. (2023). Phonetic reduction in native and non-native English speech: Assessing the intelligibility for L2 listeners. Presented at *Psycholinguistics Interest Group Meeting*, 27 November 2023, Sydney, Australia.

Science Communication

Verbeke, G. (2023, December 12). Hoe goed begrijp jij Sir David Attenborough? *Eos Blogs*.
<https://www.eoswetenschap.eu/algemeen/hoe-goedbegrijp-jij-sir-david-attenborough>

TEACHING

English Linguistics: Phonology (A005758), Ghent University

Nov 2024

Guest lecture on second language acquisition and second language phonology.

Oct 2023

Guest lecture on consonant possibilities and the consonants of English.

Since 2021

Hands-on tutorials aimed at introducing students to Praat speech analysis software.

English: General Language Proficiency (A005751), Ghent University

Jan 2020 – Jun 2021

Teaching Assistant for the writer development component of English Language Proficiency I.

Sept 2018 – Jun 2021

Writing Mentor for the writer development component of English Language Proficiency I.

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

External Funding

FWO Grant for Participation in a Congress Abroad, *Fonds voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek – Vlaanderen* (K131425N; EUR 930)

Feb 2025

FWO Grant for a Short Study Visit Abroad, *Fonds voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek – Vlaanderen* (K253023N; EUR 4,795)

Sept 2023

MARCS International Visiting Scholarship, *The MARCS Institute for Brain, Behaviour and Development, Western Sydney University* (AUD 2,500)

Apr 2023

FWO PhD Fellowship Fundamental Research, *Fonds voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek – Vlaanderen* (1178623N)

Nov 2022 – Oct 2026

Internal Funding

CWO Travel Grant for Academic Conferences Abroad, *Faculty Research Fund, Ghent University* (EUR 800)

The 11th International Symposium on the Acquisition of Second Language Speech (New Sounds), Toronto, Canada

CWO Travel Grant for Academic Conferences Abroad, *Faculty Research Fund, Ghent University* (EUR 664)

Aug 2022

55th Annual Meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea (SLE), Bucharest, Romania

SERVICES

OAP Representative in the Department Council

Jan 2025 - present

Representing early-career researchers in the Linguistics Department Council.

Language and Speech Journal Club

Jan 2024 - present

Together with Mariia Baltais, I organise monthly meetings to discuss recent papers within the fields of psycholinguistics and neurolinguistics, natural language processing, clinical linguistics and translation studies. The aim of the journal club is not only to stay updated with the state-of-the-art literature in language sciences, but also to bridge the gap between various departments at Ghent University (i.e. Department of Linguistics [LW06], Department of Psychology [PP02], Department of Translation, Interpreting and Communication [LW22], and Department of Rehabilitation Sciences [GE37]).

Thesis Supervision

Sara Descamps (ongoing). *Title TBD* (BA paper; Role: Co-supervisor; Supervisor: Prof. dr. Ellen Simon).

Marte Huygens (2024). *Non-native listeners' perception of Spanish-accented English: An exploration of accentedness, comprehensibility and intelligibility, and the role of L2 proficiency* (MA paper; Role: Co-supervisor; Supervisor: Prof. dr. Ellen Simon).

Marte Huygens (2023). *The glottal stop: Production in the casual speech of West Flemish adolescents.* (BA paper; Role: Co-supervisor; Supervisor: Prof. dr. Ellen Simon).

Marjan Janssens (2022). *EFL learners vs. the World Englishes: The comprehensibility and accentedness of varieties of English according to secondary school students* (BA paper; Role: Co-supervisor; Supervisor: Prof. dr. Ellen Simon).

Hannelore Huyghe (2022). *Listen up! Flemish secondary school pupils' general attitudes towards English varieties and their assessment of the comprehensibility and accentedness of native and non-native English varieties* (BA paper; Role: Co-supervisor; Supervisor: Prof. dr. Ellen Simon).

Peer-Review

Review for conference submissions (*Belgian Association of Anglicists in Higher Education (BAAHE)*; *Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development (BCCCD)*; *International Congress of Phonetic Sciences (ICPhS)*; *LinGhentian Doctorials; New Sounds*) and manuscript submissions (*Studies in Second Language Acquisition*).

Conference Organisation

LinGhentian Doctorials 2024

17–18 Dec 2024

<https://www.linghentiadoctorials.ugent.be/2024-edition/>

Taal en Tongval 2024

22 Nov 2024

<https://www.taalentongval2024.ugent.be/>

LinGhentian Doctorials 2023

20–21 Dec 2023

<https://www.linghentiadoctorials.ugent.be/2023-edition/>

COURSES, SUMMER SCHOOLS & WORKSHOPS

LOT Winter School: “The phonetics and phonology of prosody”, Radboud University

Jan 2025

Lecturer: Prof. dr. Amalia Arvaniti

LOT Winter School: “Neurocognitive effects in language acquisition and bilingualism”, Radboud University

Jan 2025

Lecturer: Dr. Sergio Miguel Pereira Soares

Workshop: “Networking for researchers”, Nature Masterclass

Oct 2024

Team: Sarah Blackford, Dr. Ben Johnson, Prof. Tanya Menon, David Payne, Prof. Despina Sanoudou

Summer School: “Methods in language science: Praat”, Ghent University

Jul 2024

Lecturer: Prof. dr. David Weenink

Workshop: “Power and sample size calculations”, FLAMES

Mar 2024

Lecturer: Dr. Emmanuel Abatih

Workshop: “Predictive modeling using logistic regression”, FLAMES

Feb 2024

Lecturer: Dr. Emmanuel Abatih

Workshop: “Popular science writing”, Scicomm Academy (in collaboration with FWO, Taalunie and Eos Wetenschap)

Oct 2023

Lecturer: Ilse Boeren

Workshop: “Statistical data analysis of Likert scale data”, Ghent University

Mar 2023

Lecturer: Dr. Emmanuel Abatih

Summer School: “Methods in language science: Introduction to linear mixed modelling”, Ghent University

Aug 2022

Lecturer: Prof. dr. Shravan Vasishth

Course: “Eye-tracking in language research”, Ghent University

Feb 2022 – Jun 2022

Lecturer: Prof. dr. Holger Mitterer

Summer School: “Methods in language science: Eye-tracking”, Ghent University

Jul 2021

Lecturers: Dr. Aurélie Pistono & Xuemei Chen

Course: “Quantitative research methods in linguistics”, Ghent University

Sep 2020 – Dec 2020

Lecturer: Dr. Ludovic De Cuypere

Workshop: “Moving research online”, Boston College [online]

Jun 2020 – Aug 2020

Lecturers: Prof. dr. Joshua Hartshorne, Prof. dr. Joshua R. de Leeuw & Dr. Becky Gilbert