Philippine Geelhand

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Current position

Oct 2026-	**F.R.S-FNRS Scientific Collaborator**, Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium

Previous positions

2025-2026	**Data analysis assistant** for the *Service d'Analyse de Données (SAD),* Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium
2020-2024	**F.R.S-FNRS Postdoctoral Fellowship**, Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium
2020-2021	**Substitute lecturer**, Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium Courses: General Linguistics – Bachelor 1 & 2
2019-2020	**Substitute lecturer**, Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium Courses: General Linguistics – Bachelor 1 & 2, Semantics and Pragmatics – Master level, Experimental Linguistics – Master level
2015-2019	**Joint PhD in Langues, lettres et traductologie and English**, Université libre de Bruxelles (Belgium) & University of British Columbia (Canada) *Discourse coherence and atypicality in autistic adults: from corpus analysis to subjective impressions of spoken discourse* supervisor: Professor Mikhail Kissine (Université libre de Bruxelles) co-supervisor: Professor Jessica de Villiers (University of British Columbia)
2015-2018	**Teaching assistant**, Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium Level: Undergraduates (Bachelor 1 & 2) Topics: General Linguistics

Education

2015-2019	**Joint PhD in Langues, lettres et traductologie and English**, Université libre de Bruxelles (Belgium) & University of British Columbia (Canada)
2017	**12-month Research Stay (Joint PhD),** University of British Columbia, Canada

2013-2015 **Research Master in Linguistics**, Utrecht University, the Netherlands

2010-2013 **Bachelor in Germanic Languages and Literatures**, University of Namur, Belgium

Publications

Submitted or under review

Geelhand, P. & Belenger, M. (submitted). Gender differences in first impressions of French-speaking autistic and non-autistic adults by non-autistic adults: an online study on typicality ratings, social engagement, and prosodic cues. *Advances in Autism*.

Book chapters

Peristeri, E., **Geelhand**, **P**., & Tsimpli, I-M. (2025). Narration. Language in Autism. Wiley.

Peer-reviewed international journals

Merken, F., Niblett, E., Sowden-Carvalho, S., Deliens, G., & **Geelhand, P**. (2026). Communication preferences of French-speaking autistic and non-autistic adults across social contexts. *Research in Autism*, *135*, 202943. 10.1016/j.reia.2026.202943

Belenger, M., Dumont, C., **Geelhand, P.**, & Kissine, M. (2026). Distinct Pause Patterns in Autism: Effects of Sex and Conversational Context in French-Speaking (Pre) adolescents. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*, 1-15. https://doi.org/10.1044/2026_JSLHR-25-00565.

Van Tiel, B., Franke, M., Sauerland, U., & **Geelhand, P**. (2026). Bespoke Probabilistic Modelling Reveals Subtle Effects of Autism on Pragmatic Optimisation in the Expression of Quantification. *Computational Brain & Behavior*, 1-20. https://doi.org/10.1007/s42113-026-00274-y.

Merken, F., Deliens, G., & **Geelhand, P**. (2025). Brief Report—Written Personal Narratives of Autistic and Non-autistic Women: A Linguistic Analysis. Journal of autism and developmental disorders, 1-10. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10803-025-06972-z.

Belenger, M., Dumont, C., **Geelhand, P**., & Kissine, M. (2025). Investigating sex differences in narrative production of autistic pre-adolescents and adolescents. Research in Autism, 124, 202589. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.reia.2025.202589.

Geelhand, P., Papastamou, F., Jaspard, S., & Kissine, M. (2024). Autistic adults display different verbal behavior only in mixed-neurotype interactions: Evidence from a referential communication task. Autism, 29(5), 1129-1142.https://doi.org/10.1177/13623613241298376.

Keating, C. T., Hickman, L., **Geelhand, P.**, Takahashi, T., Leung, J., Monk, R.,... & Sowden-Carvalho, S. (2024). Cross-cultural variation in experiences of acceptance, camouflaging and mental health

difficulties in autism: A registered report. Plos one, 19(3), e0299824. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0299824.

Geelhand, P., Papastamou, F., Belenger, M., Clin, E., Hickman, L., Keating, C. T., & Sowden, S. (2023). Autism-related language preferences of French-speaking autistic adults: An online survey. Autism in Adulthood, 5(3), 275-288. https://doi.org/10.1089/aut.2022.0056.

Geelhand, P., Papastamou, F., Deliens, G., & Kissine, M. (2021). Judgments of spoken discourse and impression formation of neurotypical and autistic adults. Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders, 82, 101742. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rasd.2021.101742.

Geelhand, P., Papastamou, F., & Kissine, M. (2021). How do autistic adults use syntactic and prosodic cues to manage spoken discourse? Clinical Linguistics & Phonetics, 35(12), 1184-1209. https://doi.org/10.1080/02699206.2021.1878278.

Kissine, M., **Geelhand, P.**, De Foy, M.P., Harmegnies, B., & Deliens, G. (2021). Phonetic inflexibility in autistic adults. Autism Research, 14(6), 1186-1196. https://doi.org/10.1002/aur.2477.

van Tiel, B., Deliens, G., **Geelhand, P.**, Murillo Oosterwijk, A., & Kissine, M. (2021). Strategic deception in adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders, 51, 255–266. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10803-020-04525-0.

Geelhand, P., Papastamou, F., Deliens, G., & Kissine, M. (2020). Narrative production in autistic adults: A systematic analysis of the microstructure, macrostructure and internal state language. Journal of Pragmatics, 164(C), 57-81. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pragma.2020.04.014.

Bernard, P., **Geelhand, P.**, & Servais, L. (2019). The face of sexualization: Faces wearing makeup are processed less configurally than faces without makeup. International Review of Social Psychology, 32(1), 16. http://doi.org/10.5334/irsp.211.

Ostashchenko, E., **Geelhand, P.**, Deliens, G., & Kissine, M. (2019). Struggling with alternative descriptions: Impaired referential processing in children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders, 66, 101414. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rasd.2019.101414.

Geelhand, P., Bernard, P., van Tiel, Bob., Klein, O., & Kissine, M. (2019). The role of gender in the perception of autism symptom severity and future behavioral development. Molecular Autism. 10(1), 16, https://doi.org/10.1186/s13229-019-0266-4.

Kissine, M., & **Geelhand, P**. (2019). Brief Report: Acoustic Evidence for Increased Articulatory Stability in the Speech of Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Journal of autism and developmental disorders, 49, 2572–2580. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10803-019-03905-5.

Ostashchenko, E., Deliens, G., **Geelhand, P.**, Bertels, J., & Kissine, M. (2018). Referential processing in 3- and 5-year-olds is egocentrically anchored. Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition, 45(8), 1387-1397. https://doi.org/10.1037/xlm0000659.

Deliens, G., Papastamou, F., Ruytenbeek, N., **Geelhand, P.**, & Kissine, M. (2018). Selective pragmatic impairment in Autism Spectrum Disorder: indirect requests vs. irony. Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10803-018-3561-6.

Academic activities

Invited talks/guest lectures

Sept 4, 2026 — **Invited talk for the Workshop on Language in Autism**, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, Italy
How do we perceive autistic speakers? Linguistic and social evaluations of French-speaking autistic individuals across raters, ages, and gender

June 5, 2026 — **Speaker for the inter-university certificate in Autism Spectrum Disorder** (7th edition), Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgique
The neurodiversity movement

Apr 2, 2026 — **Invited talk for the Conférence sur la Neurodiversité – CIUM & BeMSA ULB**, Université libre de Bruxelles
Mental health in autism: camouflage, gender biases, and the neurodiversity paradigm (en collaboration avec Dr. Marie Belenger)

Mar 28, 2026 — **Speaker for the inter-university certificate in Autism Spectrum Disorder** (7th edition), Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgique
The issue of gender in autism

Mar 27, 2026 — **Invited lecture for a bachelor-level course (Linguistique française: français moderne),** KU Leuven, Belgique
Communication style in autism: An analysis of cohesive links in narrative discourse and online written interactions

Nov 13, 2025 — **Invited talk for Radio Campus – Histoire de Savoir**, Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium
Neurodiversity, autism and gender in autism

Nov 4, 2025 — **Invited talk within the context of mental health awareness week,** Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium
Autism and mental health (in collaboration with Dr. Marie Belenger)

May 28, 2024 — **Invited talk for the Forschungskolloquium at the Institut für Linguistik (Phonetik)**, Universität zu Köln, Germany
Verbal behaviors of French-speaking autistic and non-autistic adults: from monologue to cross-neurotype social interactions

Apr 6, 2024 — **Speaker for the inter-university certificate in Autism Spectrum Disorder** (6th Edition), Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium
The issue of gender in autism

Nov 9, 2023 **Invited talk within the context of mental health awareness week,** Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium
Autism and mental health

Nov 6, 2023 **Invited lecture for a master-level course (Linguistique française: français moderne),** KU Leuven, Belgium
Discourse analysis as methodology

Oct 23, 2023 **Invited lecture for a master-level course (Linguistique française: français moderne),** KU Leuven, Belgium
Social communication in autistic adults

Mar 17, 2022 **Invited speaker for CAL-Charleroi**, Charleroi, Belgium
The issue of gender in autism and the phenomenon of camouflage
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tjvqc-Ntjsk

Mar 11, 2022 **Speaker for the inter-university certificate in Autism Spectrum Disorder** (5th Edition), Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium
The issue of gender in autism

Apr 24, 2021 **Speaker for the inter-university certificate in Autism Spectrum Disorder (4th Edition)**, Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium
The issue of gender in autism

Apr 22, 2021 **Invited speaker for the Cercle de Philosophie et Lettres**, Université de Bruxelles, Belgium
Introduction to autism (in collaboration with Dr. Marielle Weyland)

Sept 18, 2020 **Speaker for the inter-university certificate in Autism Spectrum Disorder (3rd Edition),** Université de Mons, Belgium
The issue of gender in autism

May 18, 2019 **Speaker for the inter-university certificate in Autism Spectrum Disorder (2nd Edition),** Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium
The issue of gender in autism

Feb 2, 2018 **Speaker for the inter-university certificate in Autism Spectrum Disorder (1st Edition)**, Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium
The issue of gender in autism

Oral presentations

April 30-May 3, 2025 **INSAR 2025**, Seattle Convention Center, Seattle, Washington (USA)
Autistic adults display different verbal behavior only in mixed-neurotype interactions: evidence from a referential communication task

Jan 26, 2024 **LACA Workshop "Language, learning and processing across neurotype: Focus on methodology"**, Amsterdam, Universiteit van Amsterdam, the Netherlands
The role of neurotype matching on task efficiency and verbosity during an online referential communication task in autistic, non-autistic and mixed-neurotype interactions

June 9-10, 2022 **TABU Dag 2022**, Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, the Netherlands
Investigating dyadic composition on communication efficiency and first impressions of verbal interactions in autistic and non-autistic adults

Nov 26, 2021 **GCPN 2021**, Université de Liège, Belgium
Investigating dyadic composition on communication efficiency and first impressions of verbal interactions

Nov 21-23, 2019 **M-M. Delacroix Autism Workshop 2019**, Brussels, Belgium
Judgments of spoken discourse and impression formation of neurotypical and autistic adults

June 20-21, 2019 **TABU Dag 2019**, Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, the Netherlands
Judgments of spoken discourse and impression formation of neurotypical and autistic adults

May 25, 2018 **Linguistic Society of Belgium 2018 Day**, Université de Liège, Belgium
Acoustic variability in speech production of autistic adults

Nov 8, 2016 **Journée des Doctorants en Psychologie 2016**, Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium
Narrative discourse of French-speaking autistic adolescents and adults

Oct 25, 2016 **GCPN 2016 Meeting**, Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium
Groupe de contact FNRS « Psycholinguistique & Neurolinguistique »
Narrative discourse of French-speaking autistic adolescents and adults

May 13, 2016 **Linguistic Society of Belgium 2016 Day**, Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium
Different perspectives on conversation abilities in autistic adults

June 5, 2015 **TABU Dag 2015**, Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, the Netherlands
Eye-tracking experiment in French on the processing of generic and specific connectives

Poster presentations

Sept 17-19, 2025 **Xprag 2025**, Cambridge University, United Kingdom
Verbal behaviors of French-speaking autistic and non-autistic adults: from monologue to cross-neurotype social interactions

Mar 14-16, 2024 **MoLA Conference**, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina (USA)
Autistic adults display different verbal behavior only in mixed-neurotype interactions: evidence from a referential communication task

Mar 13-14, 2023 **ITAKOM 2023**, Edinburgh International Conference Centre, Scotland
Investigating the effect of neurotype-matching on communication efficiency and first impressions of verbal interactions of autistic and non-autistic adults

Mar 8, 2022 **Workshop on language in autism**, University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Investigating the effect of neurotype-matching on communication efficiency and first impressions of verbal interactions

Dec 10, 2019 **GCPN 2019**, Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium
Judgments of spoken discourse and impression formation of neurotypical and autistic adults

May 1-5, 2019 **INSAR 2019**, Palais des Congrès, Montreal, Canada
Judgments of spoken discourse and impression formation of neurotypical and autistic adults

March 23, 2018 **Language Abilities in Children with Autism (LACA)**, University of Reading, United Kingdom
Greater articulatory stability in the speech of autistic adults: acoustic evidence

Jan 15, 2018 **Language Abilities in Children with Autism (LACA),** Villa di Breme Gualdoni Forno, Italy
Discourse strategies in narratives of autistic adolescents and adults

Mar 10-12, 2016 **Autism Research Workshop**, Universiteit Gent, Belgium
Different perspectives on conversation abilities in autistic adults

Supervision

PhD thesis

- 2022- : Florence Merken (Aspirante F.R.S-FNRS, Université libre de Bruxelles, co-supervision with Prof. Gaétane Deliens)

Master thesis

- 2023-2024: Laurence Madonna (KU Leuven, Faculteit Letteren, co-supervision with Prof. Karen Lahousse)
- 2022-2024: Alizée Tihon (Université libre de Bruxelles, Faculté de Lettres, Traduction et Communication, co-supervision with Prof. Philippe de Brabanter)

- 2022-2024: Margot Sans et Amanda Zygaldo (Université libre de Bruxelles, Faculté des Sciences psychologiques et de l'Éducation, co-supervision with Marie Belenger and Prof. Gaétane Deliens)
- 2022-2024: Lola Charlier et Manon Duval (Université libre de Bruxelles, Faculté des Sciences psychologiques et de l'Éducation, co-supervision with Marie Belenger and Prof. Gaétane Deliens)
- 2021-2023: Biaggio Capodici (Université libre de Bruxelles, Faculté des Sciences psychologiques et de l'Éducation, co-supervision with Marie Belenger and Prof. Gaétane Deliens)
- 2021-2023: Siham El Amrani et Oumaima Essakili (Université libre de Bruxelles, Faculté des Sciences psychologiques et de l'Éducation, co-supervision with Marie Belenger and Prof. Gaétane Deliens)
- 2019-2021: Florence Merken (Université libre de Bruxelles, Faculté de Lettres, Traduction et Communication)
- 2016-2018: Fanny Papastamou (Université libre de Bruxelles, Faculté des Sciences psychologiques et de l'Éducation, co-supervision with Prof. Mikhail Kissine)

Internship

- 2022(2nd semester): Sümeyra Nizam (Université libre de Bruxelles, Faculté des Sciences psychologiques et de l'Éducation, co-supervision with Prof. Gaétane Deliens)
- 2021(1st semester): Guérand Bernard (Université libre de Bruxelles, Faculté des Sciences psychologiques et de l'Éducation, co-supervision with Prof. Gaétane Deliens)

Examination committee

Jan 2021: Jury member of the PhD examination committee of Emma Vanden Wyngaerd
Dissertation title: Bilingual implications *Using code-switching data to inform linguistic theory*

Prizes, awards and fellowships

2026 (starting in October): F.R.S-FNRS 1-year Scientific Collaborator Fellowship (~€72k)
2020: F.R.S-FNRS 3-year Postdoctoral fellowship (~180k€)
2020: Paul G. Stanwood Prize ($700) for best PhD dissertation in the Department of English, University of British Columbia
2019: Faculty of Arts Graduate Award UBC ($1500), University of British Columbia
2016: Université libre de Bruxelles CCCI mobility funding, Travel and accommodation grant (4000€) for research stay at University of British Columbia

Academic courses

Jan-Apr 2017	Semester at University of British Columbia, Canada
	Seminar on Autism (Graduate level)
	Theories of Cognitive Assessment (Graduate level)
	Research Methods and Professionalization (Graduate level)

Childhood and Adolescence (Undergraduate level)
Contemporary Topics in Social, Developmental, Personality, and Clinical Psychology (Undergraduate level, audit)

Career breaks

August 2022-January 2023: maternity leave
October 2024-January 2025: maternity leave

Languages

French: native language
English: near native level
Dutch: intermediate level