



# THOMAS CASTELAIN

COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGIST

## PROFILE SUMMARY

- Professor at the University of Costa Rica: Institute for Psychological Research, Institute for Linguistic Research and School of Psychology.
- Research interests: Reasoning, social cognition, language and communication.
- Methods: Experimental, developmental and cross-cultural studies.
- Nine years experience teaching Cognitive Psychology and Experimental methods.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### EDUCATION

#### Ph.D. COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY

2013 - 2016 // University Lumière Lyon II  
 Institute for Cognitive Sciences – CNRS  
 Supervisor: Hugo Mercier

#### M.A. COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY & NEUROPSYCHOLOGY

2006 - 2008 // University Lumière Lyon II  
 Institute for Cognitive Sciences – CNRS  
 Supervisor: Jean-Baptiste Van der Henst

#### B.A. PSYCHOLOGY

2004 - 2006 // University Lumière Lyon II

### CONTACT

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🌐 [https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Thomas\\_Castelain](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Thomas_Castelain)

### SKILLS

- E-PRIME
- SPSS
- QUALTRICS
- SMI (Eye tracker)

- 2019 Present

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR**  
 University of Costa Rica | San José, Costa Rica

Researcher at the Institute for Psychological Research (IIP) and the Institute for Linguistic Research (INIL)  
 Lecturer at the School of Psychology and the Master of Cognitive Science
- 2019 2017

**ASSISTANT PROFESSOR**  
 University of Costa Rica | San José, Costa Rica

Researcher at the Institute for Psychological Research (IIP) and the Institute for Linguistic Research (INIL)  
 Lecturer at the School of Psychology and the Master of Cognitive Science
- 2016 2013

**RESEARCH ASSISTANT**  
 University of Neuchâtel | Neuchâtel, Switzerland

Research assistant for the Ambizione Project "Reasoning in its social, cultural and argumentative context" directed by Hugo Mercier
- 2013 2010

**LECTURER**  
 University of Costa Rica | San José, Costa Rica

Lecturer at the School of Psychology and the Master of Cognitive Science
- 2013 2008

**RESEARCH SCIENTIST**  
 University of Costa Rica | San José, Costa Rica

Researcher in applied psychology at the Institute for Psychological Research (IIP)



## EXPERTISE

- REASONING
- SOCIAL COGNITION
- EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN
- DEVELOPMENTAL STUDIES
- CROSS-CULTURAL STUDIES
- EVOLUTIONNARY PSYCHOLOGY



## RESEARCH FIELDS

### LATIN AMERICA

// ECUADOR // Adults from K'iche' and Chachi communities

// GUATEMALA // Adults and children from Mayan communities

// COSTA RICA // Adults and children from several communities

### EUROPE

// FRANCE // Children from 2 to 6 y.o.

### AFRICA

// YEMEN // University Students



## LANGUAGE

- FRENCH
- SPANISH
- ENGLISH



## REFERENCE

### HUGO MERCIER

CNRS / Institut Jean Nicod

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Ecole Normale Supérieure  
29, rue d'Ulm. Paris cedex 05

[hugo.mercier@gmail.com](mailto:hugo.mercier@gmail.com)

<https://sites.google.com/site/hugomercier/>

## ONGOING PROJECTS

Leader

### LEARNING TO GIVE BETTER REASONS

Collaborators | Hugo Mercier, *CNRS*  
Olivier Mascaro, *CNRS*

Theme | Development of argumentative skills in young children

Award: *Fondo de Estímulo de la Universidad de Costa Rica - \$15K*

Leader

### HOW IS INFORMATION ABOUT THE SOURCES OF OUR OPINIONS PRODUCED AND EVALUATED

Collaborators | Hugo Mercier, *CNRS*

Simeon Floyd, *University San Francisco de Quito*

Theme | Evidentiality and source reporting in small-scale societies

Leader

### EFFECTS OF LANGUAGE OPACITY AND BILINGUALISM ON READING PROCESSING

Collaborators | Diego de León Rodríguez, *University of Fribourg*

Antonio Leoni de León, *University of Costa Rica*

Theme | Language processing in bilinguals (Eye-tracker)

Leader

### METODOLOGICAL ALTERNATIVES FOR THE STUDY OF POLITICAL BEHAVIOR IN COSTA RICA

Collaborator | Daniela Alonso, *National University of Córdoba*

Theme | Experimental strategies to study voting behavior

Collaborator

### POLITICAL APOLOGIES ACROSS CULTURES

Project coordinator | Juliette Schaafsma, *University of Tilburg*  
*European Research Council project*

Collaborator

### REGISTRED REPLICATION REPORT OF FLAVELL, BEACH & CHINSKY (1966)

Project coordinator | Emily Elliott, *Louisiana State University*

Collaborator

### PERSONALITY, VALUES AND BELIEFS: A MULTINATIONAL STUDY

Project coordinator | Brock Bastian, *University of Melbourne*



## NETWORK OF COLLABORATORS

### FRANCE

Hugo Mercier - CNRS  
Jean-Baptiste Van der Henst - CNRS  
Olivier Mascaro - CNRS

### SWITZERLAND

Joanna Blochowiak - University of Geneva  
Diego de León - University of Fribourg  
Jacques Moeschler - University of Geneva

### NETHERLANDS

Juliette Schaafsma - University of Tilburg

### GERMANY

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Emily Elliott - Louisiana State University  
Narges Afshordi - University of Minnesota

### ECUADOR

Simeon Floyd - University San Francisco de Quito

### ARGENTINA

Daniela Alonso - National University of Córdoba

### AUSTRALIA

Brock Bastian - University of Melbourne

### JAPAN



## REVIEWER

- FRONTIERS IN PSYCHOLOGY
- COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT
- ACTUALIDADES EN PSICOLOGIA
- REVISTA COSTARRICENSE DE PSICOLOGIA



## MEMBERSHIP

Association for Psychological Science

Society for Research in Child Development

Cognitive Science Society

**Castelain, T.**, Floyd, S., & Mercier, H. (in prep.). Evidentiality and accuracy of source reporting.

Cambronero, A., **Castelain, T.**, & de León, D. (in prep.). Metodología de selección de estímulos en paradigmas psicolingüísticos aplicados al bilingüismo.

de León, D., Cambronero, A., Leoni, A., & **Castelain, T.** (in prep.). The modulation of the optimal viewing position effect in bilinguals: effects of language opacity, visual field and readers proficiency.

Cambronero, A., de León, D., Leoni, A., & **Castelain, T.** (in prep.). Orthographic depth and its impact on reading aloud processes.

**Castelain, T.**, Guillén, L. D., & Solís, M. (in prep.). Razonamiento y toma de decisiones políticas.

**Castelain, T.**, Alonso, D., Calderón, M., Méndez, R., Pérez, R., Quirós, M., Salas, S., & Vega, M. (in prep.). Alternativas experimentales para el estudio del comportamiento político electoral en Costa Rica.

Blochowiak, J., **Castelain, T.**, & Musolino, J. (submitted). Does pragmatic enrichment occur for conditionals? Experimental investigation of conditional and biconditional reasoning with abstract and realistic materials.

**Castelain, T.** (submitted). Razonamiento y argumentación: un enfoque intercultural y desarrollista.

Charafeddine, R., Yamada, T., Matsui, T., Sudo, M., Germain, P., Bernard, S., **Castelain, T.**, Mercier, H., & Van der Henst, J.-B. (in press). Cross-cultural differences in the valuing of dominance by young children. *Journal of Cognition and Culture*.

**Castelain, T.**, Villarreal Galera, M. P., Molina Delgado, M., & Rodríguez Villagra, O. (in press). An application of the LLTM for the construction of a Fluid Intelligence Test. *Actualidades Investigativas en Educación*.

Blochowiak, J., & **Castelain, T.** (2018). How logical is natural language conjunction? An experimental investigation of French 'et'. In Pierre Saint-Germier (Ed.) *Language, Evolution and Mind. Essays in Honour of Anne Reboul*. College Publications.

Sheskin, M., Chevallier, C., Adachi, K., Berniunas, R., **Castelain, T.**, Hulín, M., Lenfesty, H., Regnier, D., Sebesteny, A., & Baumard, N. (2018). The needs of the many do not outweigh the needs of the few: partner-choice theory limits individual sacrifice across diverse cultures. *Journal of Cognition and Culture*, 18, 205–223.

Mercier, H., Sudo, M., **Castelain, T.**, Bernard, S., & Matsui, T. (2018). Japanese preschoolers' evaluation of circular and non-circular arguments. *European journal of developmental psychology*, 15(5), 493–505.

**Castelain, T.**, Bernard, S., & Mercier, H. (2017). Evidence that two-year-old children are sensitive to information presented in arguments. *Infancy*, 23(5), 1–12.

Mercier, H., **Castelain, T.**, Hamid, N., & Marín Picado, B. (2017). The power of moral arguments. In Bonnefon, J.-F. & Trémolière, B. (Eds.) *Moral Inferences*. Psychology Press.

Bernard, S., **Castelain, T.**, Mercier, H., Kaufmann, L., Van der Henst, J.-B. & Clément, F. (2016). The Boss is Always Right: Preschoolers Endorse the Testimony of a Dominant Over that of a Subordinate. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, 152, 307-317.

**Castelain, T.**, Giroto, V., Jamet, F. & Mercier, H. (2016). Evidence for benefits of argumentation in a Mayan indigenous population. *Evolution and Human Behavior*, 37(5), 337-342.

**Castelain, T.**, Bernard, S., Van der Henst, J.-B. & Mercier, H. (2016). The influence of power and reason on young Maya children's endorsement of testimony. *Developmental Science*, 19(6), 957-966.

Blochowiak, J., **Castelain, T.**, Moeschler, J., (2015). Les interprétations logiques, temporelles et causales de la conjonction. Une approche expérimentale. *Les nouveaux cahiers de la linguistique française*, 32, 71-83.

Bonnefond, M., **Castelain, T.**, Cheylus, A. & Van der Henst, J.-B. (2014). Reasoning from transitive premises: An EEG study. *Brain and Cognition*, 90, 100-108.

**Castelain, T.**, Marín Picado, B., (2014). *Psicología experimental: fundamentos y protocolos experimentales para el estudio de procesos cognitivos*. Serie Cuadernos Metodológicos. San José, CR: Instituto de Investigaciones Psicológicas.

Blanca, E., Quesada, S., **Castelain, T.**, Smith, V. & Pérez, R. (2014). Evaluación emocional prototípica de música de valencia afectiva positiva y negativa. *Interamerican Journal of Psychology*, 48, 30-41.

Montero, E., **Castelain, T.**, Moreira, T., Alfaro, L., Cerdas, D., García, A. & Roldán, M. G. (2013). Evidencias iniciales de validez de criterio de los resultados de una Prueba de Razonamiento con Figuras para la selección de estudiantes indígenas para la Universidad de Costa Rica y el Instituto Tecnológico de Costa Rica. *Revista Educación*, 37(2), 103-117.

Blochowiak, J., Moeschler, J., **Castelain, T.** (2010). The impact of order and aspect of casually linked sentences. *ISCA Experimental Linguistics*, 13-16.

Moeschler, J., Chevallier, C., **Castelain, T.**, Van der Henst, J.-B., Tapiero, I. (2006). Le raisonnement



## ACADEMIC DUTIES

- ACADEMIC COMMITTEE  
MASTER IN COGNITIVE SCIENCE
- ACADEMIC COMMITTEE  
SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY

## TEACHING

2018 - 2019	<b>INTRODUCTION TO COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY</b>
2011 - 2013	Bachelor   School of Psychology, University of Costa Rica
2017 - 2019	<b>COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY</b>
2012 - 2013	Bachelor   School of Psychology, University of Costa Rica
2017 - 2018	<b>COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY</b>
2010 - 2013	Master   Cognitive Science, University of Costa Rica
2012 & 2019	<b>QUANTITATIVE METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY</b>
	Master   Psychological Research, University of Costa Rica
2012	<b>PHYSICOCHEMICAL ASPECTS OF HUMAN BEHAVIOR</b>
	Bachelor   School of Psychology, University of Costa Rica
2011	<b>PSYCHOBIOLOGY</b>
	Bachelor   School of Psychology, University of Costa Rica
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2019	<b>EXPERIMENTAL METHODS FOR LANGUAGE STUDIES</b>
	Workshop instructor   University of Heidelberg & University of Costa Rica
2016	<b>ANALYSING DATA FROM E-PRIME 2.0 EXPERIMENTS</b>
	Workshop instructor   CUSO Doctorate School, University of Geneva
2015	<b>PROGRAMING EXPERIMENTS WITH E-PRIME 2.0</b>
	Workshop instructor   CUSO Doctorate School, University of Geneva
2012	<b>INTRODUCTION TO E-PRIME 2.0 &amp; OPENSESAME</b>
	Workshop instructor   Institute for Psychological Research, University of Costa Rica



## SUPERVISION

### CURRENT

**Alejandro Cambronero** (Master in Cognitive Science). University of Costa Rica

**Luis Diego Guillén** (Master in Cognitive Science). University of Costa Rica

**Johan Espinoza** (Master in Cognitive Science). University of Costa Rica

**Pablo Sánchez** (Master in Psychological Research). University of Costa Rica

**Luisa Rodríguez** (Bachelor in Psychology). University of Costa Rica

**Verónica Marín** (Bachelor in Psychology). University of Costa Rica

**Marianela Calderón, Roxana Méndez, Róger Pérez, Mariela Quirós, Sócrates Salas, Monserrat Vega** (Bachelor in Psychology). University of Costa Rica

### PAST

**Bradly Marín Picado** (Master in Cognitive Science - 2017). University of Costa Rica

**Pauline Le Floch & Shelby Wicklacz** (M1 in Psychology - 2016). University Lyon II

**Jérémy Colloby-Clerc & Alan Ferreira** (M1 in Psychology - 2015). University Lyon II

## ★ INTEREST



Travel



Music



Cinema



Reading

Castelain, T., Floyd, S. & Mercier, H. (talk - Forthcoming). Evidentiality and accuracy of source reporting: evidence from Quichua and Cha'palaa speakers. *5th Latin American Regional Conference of the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology*. San José, Costa Rica.

Castelain, T. (talk - 2019). Evidence that 2 Years Old Children are Sensitive to Argument Strength. *II Jornadas de Investigación en Ciencias Sociales, UCR*. San José Costa Rica.

Castelain T., Cambronero A. & de León D. (talk - 2018). The modulation of the optimal viewing position effect in bilinguals: effects of language opacity and readers proficiency. *III Jornada de Investigación INIL, UCR*. San José, Costa Rica.

Blochowiak J., Castelain T. & Musolino J. (talk - 2018). When and why do we enrich? An experimental investigation of pragmatic enrichment in reasoning. *CogLing 8*. Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium.

Blochowiak J., Castelain T. & Musolino J. (talk - 2018). How causality biases our reasoning. *EPICS VIII*. Sevilla, Spain.

Castelain, T. (flash talk and poster - 2017). How children take arguments and hierarchy into account: the role of culture and conflicting cues. *Arthur M. Sackler colloquia of the National Academy of Sciences*. Irvine, United States.

Castelain, T. (talk - 2017). Evidence for benefits of argumentation in a Mayan indigenous population. *Jornadas del 55 aniversario del Instituto de Investigaciones Psicológicas, UCR*. San José, Costa Rica.

Castelain, T. (talk - 2017). The influence of power and reason on young Maya children's endorsement of testimony. *I Jornadas de Investigación en Ciencias Sociales, UCR*. San José Costa Rica.

Castelain, T. (talk - 2017). Razonamiento y argumentación: un enfoque intercultural y desarrollista. *Escuela de Psicología y Instituto de Investigaciones Psicológicas, UCR*. San José, Costa Rica.

Castelain, T. (talk - 2017). How children take arguments and hierarchy into account: the role of culture and conflicting cues. *University of Oslo*. Oslo, Norway.

Castelain, T., Bernard, S., & Mercier, H. (talk - 2016). Evidence that 2 Years Old Children are Sensitive to Argument Strength. *International Conference on Thinking – ICT 2016*. Providence, United States.

Castelain, T., Bernard, S., Van der Henst, J.-B., & Mercier, H. (talk - 2016). The influence of power and reason on young Maya children's endorsement of testimony. *Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development*. Budapest, Hungary.

Castelain, T. (talk - 2015) Razonamiento y argumentación: una perspectiva intercultural y desarrollista. *Universidad de Costa Rica*. San José, Costa Rica.

Bernard, S., Castelain, T., Mercier, H., Kaufmann, L., Van der Henst, J.-B., & Clément, F. (poster - 2015). The boss is always right: Preschoolers endorse the testimony of a dominant over that of a subordinate. *XVII European Conference on Developmental Psychology*. Braga, Portugal.

Castelain, T. (talk - 2015) Can reason overcome power in the endorsement of testimony? The case of young Maya children. *LogPrag Workshop*. Les Diablerets, Switzerland.

Mercier, H., Castelain, T. & Bernard, S. (talk - 2015) How children take arguments into account: the role of culture and conflicting cues. *SRCD 2015*. Philadelphia, United States.

Castelain, T. (poster - 2015) The influence of power and reason on young Maya children's endorsement of testimony. *Ecole doctorale Neuroscience et Cognition*. Lyon, France.

Castelain, T. (talk - 2014) Teoría Argumentativa del Razonamiento. *Universidad de Costa Rica*. San José, Costa Rica.

Castelain, T. (talk - 2012) La integración de las premisas en el razonamiento transitivo: un estudio en potenciales relacionados a eventos. *II Jornadas de Psicobiología*. San José, Costa Rica.

Castelain, T. (talk - 2011). Sistema integrado de la Prueba de Razonamiento de Figuras. *VIII Jornadas Internas de Investigación*. San José, Costa Rica.

Smith, V., Castelain, T. (talk - 2010). Infrahumнизación y Prejuicio. *VII Jornadas Internas de Investigación*. San José, Costa Rica.

Baumard, N., Chevallier, C., Regnier, D., Berniukas, R. & Castelain, T. (poster - 2010). Does religion promote sacrifice for the group? Toronto, Canada.

Castelain, T., & Van der Henst, J.-B. (talk - 2008). Influence of language on spatial reasoning: the case of reading habits. *19th International Congress of the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology*. Bremen, Alemania.

Van der Henst, J.-B., & Castelain, T. (talk - 2007). Influence of language on spatial reasoning: the case of reading habits. *Second International AELIC conference*. Lille, France.