

**Project Title:****An empirical study in English Linguistics (RDF16/HUM/PATTEN)****Project Description**

The PhD level research project will involve an empirical investigation in any area of Linguistics (to be negotiated with the potential supervisor)

The specific topic will be negotiated with the supervisor, but we particularly welcome data-driven projects in the following areas of linguistic study:

- i) Corpus linguistics;
- ii) Cognitive linguistics;
- iii) Pragmatics;
- iv) Critical discourse analysis;
- v) Psycholinguistics;
- vi) Second language acquisition;
- vii) Heritage languages;
- viii) Applied linguistics;
- ix) Language and society;
- x) Historical linguistics

The successful candidate will undertake PhD level study, working in tandem with similar research currently being undertaken by staff and associated PhD students in the English Language & Linguistics group at Northumbria University

<https://www.northumbria.ac.uk/about-us/academic-departments/humanities/research/english-research/english-language-and-linguistics/>

It is expected that candidates will have a background in an area of linguistics or English language relevant to their chosen topic. However, applications from candidates with a background in other subject areas relevant to the topic would also be considered.

The University of Northumbria has a large and lively postgraduate community in the Humanities. Our PhD students benefit from generous research space and resources in the recently expanded Glenamara Centre as well as the new Institute of the Humanities. PhD students develop a portfolio of skills and competencies through the Humanities Training Programme, the Teaching Shadowing Scheme, the annual PhD conference and the Graduate School's Professional Development and Research Training Programme. In addition, each PhD student is allocated a personal research allowance to be used for fieldwork costs and/or conference

attendance as well as funding to support the organisation and development of research networks, conferences and seminar series

**Faculty**

**Faculty of Arts, Design and Social Sciences**

**Department**

**Humanities, English Language and Linguistics**

**Principal Supervisor**

Dr Amanda Patten  
Senior Lecturer in Language and Linguistics

Email: [amanda.patten@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:amanda.patten@northumbria.ac.uk)

and

Professor Ewa Dabrowska  
Professor of Linguistics

and

(and other English Language and Linguistics staff as appropriate)

### Recent publications by supervisors relevant to this project

Dr Amanda Patten

Patten, A.L. (2012) *The English it-cleft: A constructional account and a diachronic investigation*. Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton [Topics in English Linguistics TiEL 79].

Patten, A.L. (2012) The historical development of the it-cleft: a comparison of two different approaches. *Studies in Language* 36:3, 548-575.

Professor Ewa Dabrowska

Dąbrowska, Ewa (2015) What exactly is Universal Grammar, and has anyone seen it? *Frontiers in Psychology* 6: 852.

Dąbrowska, Ewa (2014) 'Words that go together': Measuring individual differences in native speakers' knowledge of collocations". *Mental Lexicon* 9: 401-418.

Please also refer to the English Language and Linguistics staff research pages:

<https://www.northumbria.ac.uk/about-us/academic-departments/humanities/research/english-research/english-language-and-linguistics/english-language-and-linguistics-staff/>

Deadline for applications: 18 March 2016

Interview date (if known): w/c 2 May 2016

Start Date: 3 October 2016