

Curriculum Vitae

Jacqueline D. Woolley

Addresses

Office: The University of Texas at Austin
Department of Psychology
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Austin, Texas 78712-1043

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Present position Professor
Department of Psychology
University of Texas

Education University of Michigan,
Ph.D. August, 1990
Specialization: Developmental Psychology

University of Michigan,
M.S. in Psychology, 1987

Carnegie-Mellon University,
B.S. in Psychology, 1980

Grants and Awards

2022 University of Texas Rapoport-King Scholarship:
Faculty Mentor to 2 students (\$2000)

2019-2022 John Templeton Foundation ID: 61462,
“Children’s Developing concepts of God.”
(\$463,067)

2019 University of Texas Undergraduate Research
Apprenticeship (\$1200)

2017 University of Texas Special Research Grant (\$700)

2011-2015 National Institutes of Health R01HD030300,
“Development and Formation of Reality Status
Judgments” (\$818,479), no-cost extension

2006-2011	National Institutes of Health R01HD030300, “Development and Formation of Reality Status Judgments” (\$818,479)
2011	Elected Fellow of the <i>Association for Psychological Science</i>
2011	University of Texas Rapoport-King Scholarship: Faculty Mentor (\$1000)
2010	College of Liberal Arts Undergraduate Research Fellowship: Faculty Mentor (\$1000)
2009	University of Texas Rapoport-King Scholarship: Faculty Mentor (\$1000)
2009	College of Liberal Arts Undergraduate Research Fellowship: Faculty Mentor (\$1000)
2007	University of Texas Rapoport-King Scholarship: Faculty Mentor (\$1000)
2007	College of Liberal Arts Undergraduate Research Fellowship: Faculty Mentor (\$1000)
2006	University of Texas Rapoport-King Scholarship: Faculty Mentor (\$1000)
2006	College of Liberal Arts Undergraduate Research Award: Faculty Mentor (\$1000)
2006	University Cooperative Society Undergraduate Research Fellowship: Faculty Mentor to two students (\$1800)
2005	University Cooperative Society Undergraduate Research Fellowship: Faculty Mentor (\$1,000)
2004	University Cooperative Society Undergraduate Research Fellowship: Faculty Mentor to three students (\$3000)
1999	University of Texas Rapoport-King Award: Faculty Mentor (\$1,000)
1999	Hewlett Foundation Grant for teaching (\$4,000)

1998-1999	Research Internship, University of Texas at Austin (\$15,000)
1993-1999	National Institutes of Health, First Independent Research Support and Transition (FIRST) Award (\$279,530)
1997	Nominated for APA Boyd McCandless Award
1994	Ford Foundation Grant for the study of Social Science Concepts in Area Studies (\$4,000)
1992	Research Grant, University Research Institute, University of Texas at Austin (\$4,276)
1991	Summer Salary Award, University Research Institute, University of Texas at Austin
1989-1990	University of Michigan Psychology Department Fellowship
1984-1985	NICHD Predoctoral Traineeship
Professional organizations	American Psychological Society Cognitive Development Society Society for Research in Child Development
Professional activities	Editorial Board: <i>Journal of Cognition and Culture</i> (2001-present) <i>Journal of Cognition and Development</i> (2013-present) <i>Psychological Bulletin</i> (2002–2004) Invited Guest Editor: Special Issue, <i>Cognitive Development</i> (2015) Consulting editor: <i>Child Development</i> (2003-2007) <i>Developmental Psychology</i> (1997-1999) Ad hoc reviewer: <i>Behavioral Processes</i> <i>British Journal of Developmental Psychology</i> <i>British Journal of Psychology</i> <i>Child Abuse and Neglect</i> <i>Child Development</i>

Cognition
Cognitive Development
Cognitive Psychology
Cognitive Science
Developmental Review
Developmental Science
Infancy
Infant and Child Development
International Journal of Behavioral Development
Journal of Cognition and Culture
Journal of Cognition and Development
Journal of Experimental Child Psychology
Merrill-Palmer Quarterly
Metacognition and Learning
Parenting: Science and Practice
Philosophical Psychology
Psychological Reports
Psychological Science
Psychology of Popular Media Culture
Psychonomic Bulletin and Review
Science and Education
Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting (1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006) proposal review
Panel Chair (Panel 17, Social Cognition and Theory of Mind), *Society for Research in Child Development* 2011, 2013 Biennial Meetings

Grant review:

National Institutes of Health (BBBP4 member, 1999)
National Institutes of Health Special Emphasis Panel, 2011, 2012

National Science Foundation (ad hoc reviewer)
1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2013

John Templeton ad hoc reviewer
West Virginia University Senate Grant Program reviewer
National Science and Engineering Research Council
Discovery Grants, 2020
Advisory Board, Developing Belief Network, John Templeton Foundation, 2020-present

Reviewer: APF/APA TOPSS Excellence in High School Student Research Competition

External reviewer: Promotion and tenure cases
(various institutions in the U.S. and
Canada)

Diversity mentor: Cognitive Development Society,
2015, 2017

Publications

- Nissel, J. N., Li, H., Cramer, A., & Woolley, J. D. (2022). How Chinese and American children use consensus to make possibility judgments. Accepted for publication, *Journal of Cognition and Culture*.
- Nissel, J. & Woolley, J. D. (in press). Brave new world: Imaginative fictions offer simulated safety and actual benefits. Invited commentary, *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*.
- Li, H., Yu, H., Woolley, J. D., & Wu, L. (2022). The impact of informant type on children's animal knowledge learning. *Cognitive Development*, 62, 101162, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cogdev.2022.101162>
- Ghossainy, M.E., Al-Shawaf, L., & Woolley, J.D. (2021). Epistemic vigilance in early ontogeny: Children's use of nonverbal behavior to detect deception. *Evolutionary Psychology*, 19, 1-11. DOI: [10.1177/1474704920986860](https://doi.org/10.1177/1474704920986860)
- Bunce, L. & Woolley, J. D. (2021). Fantasy orientation and creativity in childhood: A closer look. *Cognitive Development*, 57. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cogdev.2020.100979>
- Woolley, J. D., Nissel, J. & Gilpin, A. T. (2021). Children's use of testimony to determine reality status. *Child Development*, 92, e317-e328. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cdev.13500>
- Woolley, J. D. & Kelly, K. (2020). "When something like a ladybug lands on you": The origin and development of children's concept of luck. *Developmental Psychology*, 56, 1866-1878. <https://doi.org/10.1037/dev0001104>
- Woolley, J.D. & Gilpin, A.T. (2020). Development of imagination and fantasy. In: Benson, J.B. (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Infant and Early Childhood Development*, 2nd edition. vol. 1, Elsevier, pp. 430–437. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-809324-5.21821-X>
- Woolley, J. D. & Nissel, J. (2020). Development of the fantasy-reality distinction. In A. Abraham (Ed.), *The Cambridge Handbook of the Imagination*. Cambridge University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108580298>

- Woolley, J. W., Bunce, L. & Boerger, E. (2020). Relations between imagination and creativity. In D. Preiss and J. C. Kaufman (Eds), *Creativity and the Wandering Mind, 1st Edition*. Oxford, U.K.: Elsevier.
- Li, H., Liu, T. Woolley, J., & Zhang, P. (2019). Reality status judgments of real and fantastical events in children's prefrontal cortex: An fNIRS study. *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience, 13*:444. doi: 10.3389/fnhum.2019.00444
- Dore, R.A., Woolley, J. D. & Hixon, J.G. (2019). "I believe in cusk": The effect of explicit belief statements on children's reality status judgments and beliefs about consensus. *Journal of Cognition and Development, 20*, 35-55. doi: 10.1080/15248372.2018.1545657
- Woolley, J. D. & Rhoads, A. M. (2019). Children's developing conceptions of age, aging, and birthdays. *Imagination, Cognition, and Personality, 38*, 268-289.
- Woolley, J. D. & Cornelius, C. A. (2017). Wondering how: Children's and adults' explanations for mundane, improbable, and extraordinary events. *Psychonomic Bulletin and Review, 24*(5), 1586-1596.
- Woolley, J. D. & Dunham, J. (2017). Children's beliefs about miracles. *Journal of Cognition and Culture, 17*, 73-93.
- Lopez-Mobilia, G. & Woolley, J. D. (2016). Interactions between knowledge and testimony in children's reality status judgments. *Journal of Cognition and Development, 17*, 486-504.
- Goldstein, T. R. & Woolley, J. D. (2016). Ho! Ho! Who? Parent promotion of belief and live encounters with Santa Claus. *Cognitive Development, 39*, 113-129.
- Woolley, J. D. (2015). Commentary: What do mind readers know and what do we know about mind readers? *British Journal of Developmental Psychology, 32*, 388-390.
- Woolley, J. D. & Brown, M. (2015). Young children's understanding of invisibility and its relation to the appearance-reality distinction. *Cognitive Development, 34*, 63-75.
- Woolley, J. D. & Lillard, A. S. (2015). Children's cognizing the unreal. *Cognitive Development, 34*, 1-2.
- Lillard, A. S. & Woolley, J. D. (2015). Grounded in reality: How children make sense of the unreal. *Cognitive Development, 34*, 111-114.
- Cornelius, C. & Woolley, J. D. (2013). Development of the use of agents as explanations for events. In S. Robson & S. Flannery Quinn (Eds.), *Routledge International Handbook of Young Children's Thinking and Understanding*. Routledge.

- Woolley, J. D. & Cornelius, C. (2013). Beliefs in magical beings and cultural myths. In M. Taylor (Ed.), *Oxford Handbook on The Development of Imagination*. Oxford University Press.
- Woolley, J. D. & Ghossainy, M. (2013). Revisiting the fantasy-reality distinction: Children as naïve skeptics. *Child Development*, *84*, 1491-1495.
- Ma, L. & Woolley, J. D. (2013). Children's sensitivity to speaker gender when learning from others. *Journal of Cognition and Development*, *14*, 100-119.
- Walker, D. F., Doverspike, W., Ahmed, S., Milevsky, A. & Woolley, J. D. (2012). Prayer. In Walker, D. F., & Hathaway, W. L. (Eds.), *Spiritual interventions in child and adolescent psychotherapy*. American Psychological Association.
- Woolley, J.D., Ma. L. & Lopez-Mobilia, G. (2011). Development of the use of conversational cues to assess reality status. *Journal of Cognition and Development*, *12*, 537-555.
- Vaden, V. C. & Woolley, J. D. (2011). Does God make it real? Children's belief in religious stories from the Judeo-Christian tradition. *Child Development*, *82*, 1120-1135.
- Woolley, J. D., Cornelius, C., & Lacy, W. (2011). Developmental changes in the use of supernatural explanations for unusual events. *Journal of Cognition and Culture*, *11*, 311-337.
- Boerger, E. A., Tullos, S. A. & Woolley, J. D. (2009). Return of the Candy Witch: Individual differences in acceptance and stability of beliefs in a novel fantastical being. *British Journal of Developmental Psychology*, *27* (4), 953-970.
- Tullos, A. & Woolley, J. D. (2009). The development of children's ability to use evidence to infer reality status. *Child Development*, *80*, 101-114.
- Woolley, J. D. & Tullos, S. A. (2008). Imagination and fantasy. In M. M. Haith & J. B. Benson (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Infant and Early Childhood Development*, 2nd edition. Oxford, U.K.: Elsevier, 117-127.
- Woolley, J.D. & Cox, V. (2007). Development of beliefs about storybook reality, *Developmental Science*, *10*(5), 681-693.
- Woolley, J. D. (December 23, 2006). Do you believe in surnits? *New York Times*. p. A19.
- Woolley, J. D. (2006). Verbal-behavioral dissociations in development. *Child Development*, *77*, 1539-1553.

- Woolley, J. D. & Van Reet, J. (2006). Effects of context on judgments of the reality status of novel entities. *Child Development*, 77, 1778-1793.
- Woolley, J. D., Browne, C. A. & Boerger, E. A. (2006). Constraints on children's judgments of magical causality. *Journal of Cognition and Development*. 7(2), 253-277.
- Woolley, J. D., Boerger, E. A., & Markman, A. (2004). A visit from the Candy Witch: Children's belief in a novel fantastical entity. *Developmental Science*, 7, 456-468.
- Browne, C. A. & Woolley, J. D. (2004). Preschoolers' magical explanations for violations of physical, social, and mental laws. *Journal of Cognition and Development* 5(2), 239-260.
- Sharon, T. & Woolley, J. D. (2004). Do monsters dream? Children's understanding of the fantasy-reality distinction. *British Journal of Developmental Psychology*, 22, 293-310.
- Woolley, J. D. (2003). The fantasy/reality distinction revisited: The case of imaginary companions. Review of Taylor, M. (1999). Imaginary companions and the children who create them. New York/Oxford: Oxford University Press. *Social Development*, 12, 622-625.
- Woolley, J. D. (2002). Young children's understanding of pretense and other fictional mental states. In Robert W. Mitchell (Ed.), *Pretending in animals and children*. Cambridge University Press.
- Davis, D. L., Woolley, J. D., & Bruell, M. J. (2002). Young children's understanding of pretense as a mental representation. *British Journal of Developmental Psychology*, 20, 25-45.
- Woolley, J. D. & Boerger, E. A. (2002). Development of beliefs about the origins and controllability of dreams. *Developmental Psychology*, 38, 24-31.
- Woolley, J. D. & Phelps, K. E. (2001). The development of children's beliefs about prayer. *Journal of Cognition and Culture*, 1(2), 139-167.
- Browne, C. A. & Woolley, J. D. (2001). Theory of mind in children's naming of drawings. *Journal of Cognition and Development*, 4(2), 389-412.
- Woolley, J. D. (2000). The development of beliefs about mental-physical causality in imagination, magic, and religion. In K. Rosengren, C. Johnson, & P. L. Harris (Eds.), *Imagining the impossible: Magical, scientific, and religious thinking in children*, Cambridge University Press.

- Woolley, J. D., Phelps, K. E., Davis, D. L. & Mandell, D. J. (1999). Where theories of mind meet magic: The development of children's beliefs about wishing. *Child Development, 70*, 571-587.
- Bruell, M. J. & Woolley, J. D. (1998). Young children's understanding of diversity in pretense. *Cognitive Development, 13*, 257-277.
- Woolley, J. D. (1997). Thinking about fantasy: Are children fundamentally different thinkers and believers from adults? *Child Development, 68*, 991-1011.
- Woolley, J. D. (1997). Initiating a dialogue. *Child Development, 68*, 1027-1030.
- Woolley, J. D. & Bruell, M. (1996). Children's awareness of the origins of their mental representations. *Developmental Psychology, 32*, 335-346.
- Woolley, J. D. (1995). Young children's understanding of fictional versus epistemic mental representations: Imagination and belief. *Child Development, 66*, 1011-1021.
- Woolley, J. D. (1995). The fictional mind: Young children's understanding of pretense, imagination and dreams. *Developmental Review, 15*, 172-211.
- Perry, M., Woolley, J. D., & Ifcher, J. (1995). Adults' abilities to detect children's readiness to learn. *International Journal of Behavioral Development, 18(2)*, 365-381.
- Phelps, K. E. & Woolley, J. D. (1994). The form and function of children's magical beliefs. *Developmental Psychology, 30*, 385-394.
- Woolley, J. D. & Phelps, K. E. (1994). Young children's practical reasoning about imagination. *British Journal of Developmental Psychology, 12*, 53-67.
- Woolley, J. D. (1993). The developing mind. Review of E.V. Subbotsky, Foundations of the mind: Children's understanding of reality). *Science, 262*, 926-927.
- Woolley, J. D. & Wellman, H. M. (1993). Origin and truth: Young children's understanding of imaginary mental representations. *Child Development, 64*, 1-17.
- Woolley, J. D. & Wellman, H. M. (1992). Children's conceptions of dreams. *Cognitive Development, 7*, 365-380
- Woolley, J. D. & Wellman, H. M. (1990). To adopt the intentional stance? (A peer commentary), *Psychological Inquiry, 1(3)*, 275-277.
- Woolley, J. D. & Wellman, H. M. (1990). Young children's understanding of realities, non-realities, and appearances. *Child Development, 61*, 946-961.

- Wellman, H. M. & Woolley, J. D. (1990). From simple desires to ordinary beliefs: The early development of everyday psychology. *Cognition*, 35, 245-275.
- Estes, D., Wellman, H. M. & Woolley, J. D. (1989). Children's understanding of mental phenomena. In H. G. Reese (Ed.), *Advances in Child Development and Behavior*, Vol. 21.
- Just, M. A., Carpenter, P. A., & Woolley, J. D. (1982). Paradigms and processes in reading comprehension. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 111(2), 228-238.
- Miczek, K. A., Woolley, J., Schlisserman, S., & Yoshimura, H. (1980). Analysis of amphetamine effects on agonistic and affiliative behavior in squirrel monkeys. *Pharmacology, Biochemistry and Behavior*, 14, Suppl. 1, 103-107.

Manuscripts under revision or review

- Dore, R., Woolley, J. D., Nissel, J., & Hixon, J. G. (2022). Never trust a stranger: Effects of explicit belief statements from strangers on children's reality status beliefs and beliefs about consensus. Under revision, *British Journal of Developmental Psychology*.
- Nissel, J., Li, H., Clegg, J, Xu, J., & Woolley, J. D. (2022). Why wearing a yellow hat is impossible: Chinese and U.S. children's possibility judgments. Submitted to *Psychological Science*.

Peer reviewed conference proceedings

- Coughlin, C., Nissel, J., Kelley, K. A., Clegg, J. M., Li, H., & Woolley, J. D. (2022). Cross-cultural sensitivity to context when reasoning about the impossible. *Proceedings of the 44th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*.

Conference Presentations

- Baca, P., Kelley, K., & Woolley, J.D. (April, 2022). The development of a naïve psychology of superstition. *Cognitive Development Society Biennial Meeting*, Madison, WI.
- Ma, C., Nissel, J., & Woolley, J.D. (April, 2022). The roles of overconfidence, overclaiming, and cognitive reflection in children's beliefs in animal myths. *Cognitive Development Society Biennial Meeting*, Madison, WI.
- Nissel, J., Perkins, C., Largent, A., & Woolley, J.D. (April, 2022). Anecdota: Children's and adults' evaluation of statistical and anecdotal evidence. *Cognitive Development Society Biennial Meeting*, Madison, WI.

- Nissel, J. & Woolley, J.D. (April, 2022). Why wearing a yellow hat is impossible: Chinese and U.S. children's possibility judgments. In A. Payir (Chair), "Developing judgments of possibility: What have we learnt and what have we yet to discover"? Symposium presented at *Cognitive Development Society Biennial Meeting*, Madison, WI.
- Woolley, J.D., Kelley, K., Nissel, J., and Baca, P. (April, 2022). Developing beliefs in God's intervention in real-world affairs. *Cognitive Development Society Biennial Meeting*, Madison, WI.
- Dore, R., Nissel, J., & Woolley, J. D. (April, 2021). Strangers' explicit belief statements influence children's beliefs about consensus but not reality judgments. In N. McLaughlin & Lesage, K. (Chairs), "The power of testimony and culture in children's developing beliefs about the invisible and impossible". Symposium to be presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, virtual meeting.
- Nissel, J. N., Li, H., Cramer, A., & Woolley, J. D. (April, 2021). The effect of consensus testimony on Chinese and US children's beliefs about possibility. In N. McLaughlin & Lesage, K. (Chairs), "The power of testimony and culture in children's developing beliefs about the invisible and impossible". Symposium to be presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, virtual meeting.
- Woolley, J. D. (April, 2021). Credulity and skepticism in children's thinking about fantastical entities. In T. Goldstein (Chair), "Coughing Santa, Tooth Fairy glitter, presents from elves: Children's beliefs and skepticism towards fictional characters. Symposium to be presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, virtual meeting.
- Cramer, A., Nissel, J., & Woolley, J. D. (May, 2020) Culture and testimony: How Chinese and American children use consensus to make possibility judgments. *Association for Psychological Science Annual Convention*. Chicago, IL.
- Boerger, E., Bunce, L., & Woolley, J. D. (October, 2019). Development and validation of a creative thinking task for young children. *Cognitive Development Society 2019 Biennial Meeting*, Louisville, KY.
- Kelley, K., Lamoreaux, M., & Woolley, J. D. (October, 2019). The development of a naïve psychology of superstition. *Cognitive Development Society 2019 Biennial Meeting*, Louisville, KY.
- Woolley, J. D. (March, 2019). Children's beliefs about God, reality, and randomness. Invited talk at the *Society for Research in Child Development Preconference on Religious and Spiritual Development*. Baltimore, MD.

- Woolley, J. D., Kelley, K., & George, S. (March, 2019). Young children's concepts of luck: From nascent belief to emerging skepticism. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*. Baltimore, MD.
- Kelley, K. & Woolley, J. D. ((March, 2019). Perceptions of randomness predict children's use of supernatural explanations. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*. Baltimore, MD.
- Miller, C. E. & Woolley, J. D. (March, 2019). Why did the chicken cross the road? Humor, intention, and fantasy in children. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*. Baltimore, MD.
- Nissel, J. & Woolley, J. D. (March, 2019). Mom says Santa's real, but my best friend says he's pretend: The effect of contradictory testimony from adults and peers on children's reality status judgments. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*. Baltimore, MD.
- Woolley, J. D. (May, 2018). Development of the fantasy-reality distinction. Invited talk in, "My truth or yours: The science of reality monitoring." *Association for Psychological Science*. San Francisco, CA.
- Woolley, J. D. (June, 2018). Development of the fantasy-reality distinction. Invited presentation at the IMC workshop on "Pretend Play and Imagination." *Interacting Minds Centre*, Aarhus University, Denmark.
- Kelley, K. & Woolley, J. D. (October, 2017). Navigating a random world: Locus of control as a predictor of children's superstitious belief. *Cognitive Development Society 2017 Biennial Meeting, Portland, OR*.
- Nissel, J. & Woolley, J. D. (October, 2017). The comparative effects of narrative and factual information on children's charitable giving. *Cognitive Development Society 2017 Biennial Meeting, Portland, OR*.
- Woolley, J. D. (May, 2017). Discussion. In J. Clegg (Chair), "Understanding what is real and what is possible: Examining the impact of cognitive biases and religious experiences on the understanding of possibility across cultures and individuals." *Association for Psychological Science*, Boston, MA.
- Bunce, L., Palmer, S., Lockley, S., Boerger, E., & Woolley, J. D. (April, 2017). Imagining the impossible and the development of creative abilities. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Austin, TX.
- Dore, R. A. & Woolley, J. D. (April, 2017). "I believe in cusk": The effect of explicit belief statements on children's reality status judgments and beliefs about

- consensus. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Austin, TX.
- Jackson, M., Woolley, J. D., & Bunce, L. (April, 2017). The effect of medium on children's ability to learn and judge the reality status of a novel animal. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Austin, TX.
- Li, H., Wang, F., Zhang, P., Woolley, J. D., & Bai, X. (April, 2017). Children's reality judgments of real and fantastical events in video: An fNIRS study. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Austin, TX.
- Minns, S. A., Lopez-Mobilia, G., Smelzer, C. & Woolley, J. D. (April, 2017). Heuristic strategies for judging the credibility of Facebook posts. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Austin, TX.
- Woolley, J. D. & Kelly, K. (April, 2017). The illusion of omniscience: The role of metacognition in children's reality status judgments. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Austin, TX.
- Woolley, J. D. (October, 2016). Discussion. In R. Severson (Chair), "Children's concepts of artificially intelligent agents." *Society for Research in Child Development Special Topic Meeting: Technology and Media in Children's Development*, Irvine, CA.
- Wang, F., Woolley, J. D., Li, H., & Zie, H. (October, 2016). Can I talk to Mickey through my mobile phone? Children's understanding of the functions of mobile phones. Poster presented at the *Society for Research in Child Development Special Topic Meeting: Technology and Media in Children's Development*, Irvine, CA.
- Woolley, J. D., Ghossainy, M. & Cornelius, C. (October, 2015). The roles of magic, explanation, and familiarity in children's understanding of possibility. In O. Friedman (Chair), "How children reason about events at the cusp of possibility. Symposium presented at the 10th *Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society*, Columbus, OH.
- Miller, B. & Woolley, J. D. (October, 2015). The role of authenticity in informal science education. In M. Geerdts (Chair), "Learning outside the lab: Factors that contribute to memory and learning in informal learning environments." Symposium presented at the 10th *Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society*, Columbus, OH.
- Jackson, M. & Woolley, J. D. (October, 2015). The effect of medium on children's ability to learn about and judge the reality status of a novel animal. Poster

presented at the 10th *Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society*, Columbus, OH.

- Minns, S., Lopez-Mobilia, G., & Woolley, J. D. (October, 2015). Like or liar: Adolescents' heuristic strategies for judging the credibility of Facebook posts. Poster presented at the 10th *Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society*, Columbus, OH.
- Woolley, J. D., Rodriguez, I., Andrews, E. & Proctor, A. (March, 2015). Children's explanations for mundane, improbable, and impossible events. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Philadelphia, PA.
- Goldstein, T. & Woolley, J. (March, 2015). Parental promotion and children's understanding of live Santas. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Philadelphia, PA.
- Lopez-Mobilia, G. & Woolley, J. D. (March, 2015). Children's attributions of psychological traits and moral status to a humanoid robot. In R. Severson (Chair), "Causes and Correlates of Anthropomorphism." Symposium presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Philadelphia, PA.
- Miller, B. Gilpin, A. & Woolley, J. D. (March, 2015). Children's use of testimony to determine the reality status of novel creatures. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Philadelphia, PA.
- Woolley, J. D. (March, 2014). Children's learning from television and other fictional media. In T. Goldstein (Chair), "Characterizing characters: Children's social cognitive reasoning about fictional characters." Symposium presented at the 19th *Biennial Conference of the Society for Research in Human Development*, Austin, TX.
- Woolley, J. D. & McInnis, M. A. (October, 2013). Children's understanding of invisibility. In J. Lane (Chair), "Children's belief in the unseen and counterintuitive: Highlighting the roles of mental representation and cultural input." Symposium presented at the 9th *Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society*, Memphis, TN.
- Woolley, J. D. & Dunham, J. (April, 2013). Children's conceptions of miracles. In L. Heiphetz (Chair), "What is real and how do we know? The development of reasoning about the supernatural." Symposium presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Seattle, WA.
- Ghossainy, M. & Woolley, J. D. (April, 2013). Relations among perceived similarity, familiarity, and beliefs about reality. In O. Friedman (Chair), "Preschoolers

transfer information from fiction to reality.” Symposium presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Seattle, WA.

- Gilpin, A. & Woolley, J. D. (April, 2013). Children’s use of testimony to determine reality status. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Seattle, WA.
- Lopez-Mobilia, G. & Woolley, J. D. (April, 2013). The development of general anthropomorphism. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Seattle, WA.
- Lopez-Mobilia, G. & Woolley, J. D. (April, 2013). Interactions between knowledge and expertise in determining reality status. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Seattle, WA.
- Schepp, B. & Woolley, J. D. (April, 2013). The development of reasoning about celebrity contagion in elementary school-aged children. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Seattle, WA.
- Yasskin, B. & Woolley, J. D. (April, 2013). The development of origins explanations among children from diverse religious backgrounds. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Seattle, WA.
- Cornelius, C. A. & Woolley, J. D. (2011). Development of beliefs about chance and luck. Poster presented at the 7th Biennial Meeting of the *Cognitive Development Society*, Philadelphia, PA.
- Ghossainy, M. & Woolley, J. D. (2011). Effects of similarity and familiarity on beliefs about reality. Poster presented at the 7th Biennial Meeting of the *Cognitive Development Society*, Philadelphia, PA.
- Lopez-Mobilia, G. & Woolley, J. D. (2011). Anthropomorphism and morality: Mental state attribution and concern for non-human entities. Poster presented at the 7th Biennial Meeting of the *Cognitive Development Society*, Philadelphia, PA.
- Rhoads, A. & Woolley, J. D. (2011). Birthday parties and age manipulation. Poster presented at the 7th Biennial Meeting of the *Cognitive Development Society*, Philadelphia, PA.
- Cornelius, C. A., Ghossainy, M. & Woolley, J. D. (2011). Effects of culture on developmental change in the use of natural and supernatural explanations. In M. Ghossainy & C. Cornelius (Chairs), “The development of children's natural and supernatural reasoning across cultures.” Symposium presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Montreal, CA.

- McInnis, M. A. & Woolley, J. D. (2011) Children's understanding of invisible phenomena and its relationship to the development of the appearance-reality distinction. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Montreal, CA.
- Rhoads, A. M. & Woolley, J. D. (2011). Children's concepts of birthdays. Poster presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Montreal, CA.
- Woolley, J. D. & Cox, V. (2009). Does God make it real? Children's beliefs in religious stories from the Judeo-Christian religion. In E. Smith (Chair), "Religious thinking: The development and influence of religious concepts on cognition." Symposium held at the biennial meetings of the *Cognitive Development Society*, San Antonio, TX.
- Woolley, J. D. & Ma, L. (2009). Children's use of conversational cues to infer reality status. In D. Skolnick Weisberg (Chair), "The role of testimony and domain knowledge in children's navigation of the reality/fiction distinction." Symposium held at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Denver, CO.
- Tullos, S. A. ,Woolley, J. D. & Ikpeme, I. (2009). Children's use of testimony to determine reality status. Presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Denver, CO.
- Riskind, R. G. & Woolley, J. D. (August, 2008). Children use storybook context to determine novel entity reality status. Annual Meeting of the *American Psychological Association*, Boston, MA.
- Woolley, J. D. (April, 2007). Development of beliefs about storybook reality. In M. Rhemtulla & D. Skolnick Weisberg (Co-Chairs). "Fictional worlds and fictional characters." Symposium held at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Boston, MA.
- Tullos, S. A. & Woolley, J. D. (April, 2007). Real versus pretend: The development of children's ability to evaluate evidence to infer the reality status of a novel entity. Presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Boston, MA.
- Cox, V. & Woolley, J. D. (April, 2007). Does God make it real? Children's belief in religious stories from the Judeo-Christian tradition. Presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Boston, MA.
- Woolley, J. D. (October, 2005). Children's beliefs in a novel fantasy figure. In M. Bloom & J. DeLoache (Co-Chairs), "Hey kid, wanna buy the Brooklyn Bridge? Children's acceptance and rejection of information offered by adults." Symposium

held at the 4th Biennial Meeting of the *Cognitive Development Society*, San Diego, CA.

- Woolley, J. D. (April, 2005). The roles of cognition and culture in children's religious thinking. Presented in E. Gottlieb (Chair), "Development of religious thinking: A cross-cultural perspective." Symposium held at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Atlanta, GA.
- Van Reet, J. & Woolley, J.D. (October, 2003). Effects of context on children's beliefs about novel entities. Presented in D. Sobel (Chair), "The impact of fantasy on cognitive development," Symposium held at the 3rd Biennial Meeting of the *Cognitive Development Society*, Park City, UT.
- Woolley, J. D. (June, 2003). Children's comprehension of storybooks: Reality/fantasy differentiation and identification of obstacles. Presented at the 33rd annual meeting of the *Jean Piaget Society*, Chicago, IL.
- Woolley, J. D. (April, 2003). Factors influencing children's belief in a novel fantastical entity. Presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Tampa, FL.
- Browne, C. A. & Woolley, J. D. (April, 2003). Constraints on children's conceptions of magical causality. Presented in E. Margaret Evans (Chair), "Alternative realities, decoupled worlds? Magic and religion in the child's mind". Symposium held at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Tampa, FL.
- Woolley, J. D. (October, 2001). Effects of context on children's beliefs in novel entities. In R. Richert (Chair), "Evidence of metaphysical thought in childhood." Presented at the 2nd meeting of the *Cognitive Development Society*, Virginia Beach, VA.
- Boerger, E. A. & Woolley, J. D. (October, 2001). Factors influencing children's belief in a novel fantastic entity." Presented at the 2nd meeting of the *Cognitive Development Society*, Virginia Beach, VA.
- Woolley, J. D. (April, 2001). Where reindeer fly and wishes come true: Children's reasoning about fantastical events. In Mull, M. (Chair), "Where theories of mind meet magic". Symposium presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Minneapolis, MN.
- Sharon, T. L. & Woolley, J. D. (April, 2001) Do monsters dream? Children's understanding of the fantasy-reality distinction. Presented at the biennial meetings of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Minneapolis, MN.

- Boerger, E. A. & Woolley, J. D. (October, 1999). "He can't because his head's asleep": Children's beliefs about the role of conscious control in imagination and dreams. Presented at the 1st meeting of the *Cognitive Development Society*, Raleigh-Durham, NC.
- Woolley, J. D. (April, 1999). Theory of mind and social cognition. In K. E. Phelps (Chair), Effects of theory of mind knowledge on social cognition". Symposium presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Albuquerque, NM.
- Phelps, K. E. & Woolley, J. D. (April, 1999). Where mind meets matter: The development of children's beliefs about prayer. Presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Albuquerque, NM.
- Woolley, J. D. (April, 1997). Fictional worlds: Young children's understanding of the fantasy lives of themselves and others. In S. Gelman & T. K. Au (Co-chairs), "How children explain people." Symposium presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Washington, D.C.
- Bruell, M. J. & Woolley, J. D. (April, 1997). It's a car and a horse: Children's understanding of diversity in pretense in J. Woolley & A. Lillard (Co-chairs) "A synthesis of current findings on young children's understanding of pretense". Symposium presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Washington, D.C.
- Woolley, J. D. (August, 1996). Children's beliefs about wishing. In E. Subbotsky (Chair), "Children's understanding of the distinction between subjective and objective realities." Symposium presented at the biennial meetings of the *International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development*, Quebec City, Quebec, Canada.
- Woolley, J. D. (May 1995). Early understanding of imagination and reality. In J. Strange (Chair), "Media, minds and possible worlds." Symposium presented at the *International Communication Association Meetings*, Albuquerque, NM.
- Woolley, J. D. & Phelps, K. E. (March, 1995). Magical thinking: Young children's beliefs about imagining and wishing. In K. Rosengren and C. Johnson (Co-chairs), "Uses of magic and fantasy in childhood." Symposium presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Indianapolis, IN.
- Woolley, J. D. & Bruell, M. J. (March, 1995). Young children's awareness of the origins of their mental representations. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Indianapolis, IN.

Woolley, J. D. & Phelps, K. E. (April 1994). What do young children understand about imagination? In S. Reifel (Chair), "Directions for early childhood play research". Symposium presented at the meetings of the *American Educational Research Association*, New Orleans, LA.

Woolley, J. D. (March, 1993). Children's understanding of fictional versus epistemic mental representations. In J. Woolley (Chair), "Pretense, imagination, and the child's theory of mind". Symposium presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, New Orleans, LA.

Perry, M., Woolley, J. D. Graham, T. Freedman, A. & Danos, A. (April, 1992). The impact of verbal and manipulative instruction on understanding the movement of gears. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Francisco, CA.

Woolley, J. D. & Phelps, K. E. (August, 1992). The effects of perceived cost on children's reasoning about imagination. In C. Golomb (Chair), "The pretense reality distinction in imaginative behavior." Symposium presented at the meetings of the *American Psychological Association*, Washington, D.C.

Woolley, J. D. & Phelps, K. E. (June, 1992). Young children's practical reasoning about imagination. Paper presented at the meetings of the *American Psychological Society*, San Diego, CA.

Woolley, J. D. (July, 1991). Low cost magical beliefs: Are you getting the real thing? In E. Subbotskii and P. Harris (Co-chairs), "Rationality and early reactions to magic". Symposium presented at the biennial meeting of the *International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development*, Minneapolis, MN.

Woolley, J. D. (April, 1991). Origin and truth: Young children's understanding of the relation between mental states and the world. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Seattle, WA.

Woolley, J. D. (April, 1991). Young children's understanding of mind and reality. In M. Chandler (Chair), "A synthesis of competing claims about early theories of mind". Symposium presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Seattle, WA.

Woolley, J. D. (April, 1989). Early understanding of the distinction between reality and appearance. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Kansas City, MO.

Woolley, J. D. & Murphey, D. (May, 1988). Children's conceptions of dreams. Paper presented at *The Conference on Human Development*, Charleston, VA.

- Woolley, J. D. (April, 1987). Children's understanding of mental, real, and potentially ambiguous entities: An investigation of childhood realism. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Baltimore, MD.
- Bruell, M. J. & Woolley, J. D. (July, 1996). It's a car and a horse: Children's understanding of diversity in pretense. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the *American Psychological Society*, San Francisco, CA.
- Bruell, M. J. & Woolley, J. D. (February, 1995). Young children's awareness of the origins of their mental representations. Paper presented at *Current Directions in Theories of Mind Research*, Eugene, OR.
- Phelps, K. E. & Woolley, J. D. (1993). Children's beliefs about magic and use of magic as an explanatory device. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, New Orleans, LA.
- Perry, M., Woolley, J. D., Graham, T., & Freedman A., & Danos, A. (April, 1992). The impact of verbal and manipulative instruction on understanding the movement of gears. Paper presented at the *American Educational Research Association*, San Francisco, CA.
- Wilcox, S. A. & Woolley, J. D. (April, 1989). Children's evaluation of statements of belief as sources of information. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Research in Child Development*, Kansas City, MO.

Invited Colloquia

- University of Texas, Invited Colloquium, Department of Educational Psychology,
September 1991.
- Texas A&M University, Invited Colloquium, Department of Psychology, February 1992.
- Carnegie-Mellon University, Invited Colloquium, Department of Psychology, March
1999.
- University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Department of Psychology Kendon Smith
Lecture, October 2000.
- University of Arkansas, Invited Colloquium, Department of Psychology, November
2003.
- University of Texas at Dallas School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences, Invited
Colloquium, September 2007.

University of Oregon Department of Psychology, Invited Colloquium, May 2008.

University of Texas Honors Colloquium, July, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2009,
2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014.

University of Texas Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, QUEST program. October 2016.

University of Bologna, Bologna, Italy, Invited Lecture, March 2018.

University of Aarhus, Interacting Minds Centre, Aarhus, Denmark, Invited Speaker, June
2018.

Texas State University, Psychology Day Invited Colloquium, to be presented April 2020
(rescheduled due to COVID19).

Keele University (UK). Invited Colloquium, School of Psychology. February 2021.

Research interests

My research addresses two basic aspects of children's cognitive development: (1) their beliefs about the nature of reality, and (2) their understanding of mental states and processes. My studies of children's understanding of various realities and non-realities have probed children's ability to distinguish reality from appearance, the concept of invisibility, their use of natural versus supernatural explanations, and their understanding of the fantasy/reality distinction. Research I have conducted on children's understanding of mind addresses children's understanding of the mental nature and origin of beliefs, desires, dreams, imagination, and pretense, and their understanding of human behavior as a function of these mental states.

Selected Media

Sept, 2022

Appeared on "Mysteries of Science" Podcast, for
The Week Junior Science+Nature, monthly
magazine UK.

December 8, 2021

Is luck real and can you change yours?
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/wellness/2021/12/08>
Washington Post

December 5, 2019

Is believing in Santa good or bad for kids?
<https://www.inquirer.com/opinion/commentary/tel...>

The Inquirer

- May 23, 2016 [The Real Guide to Imaginary Companions: Episode 2 - Science Friday](http://www.sciencefriday.com/.../the-real-guide-to-imaginary-companions-ep...)
www.sciencefriday.com/.../the-real-guide-to-imaginary-companions-ep...
- Oct 29, 2015 [Halloween Can Help Kids Learn What's Real | TIME](http://time.com/4090715/halloween-can-help-kids-learn-whats-real/). time.com/4090715/halloween-can-help-kids-learn-whats-real/
- Oct 27, 2015 [Halloween is not scary to young kids — it's beneficial | The Star ...](http://www.star-telegram.com/opinion/.../article41617722.html)
www.star-telegram.com/opinion/.../article41617722.html
Fort Worth Star-Telegram
- Mar 2, 2015 [Why fantasy slides into reality for preschoolers | Zero to Five](http://www.zerotofive.net/parenting/why-fantasy-slides-into-reality-for-preschoolers/)
www.zerotofive.net/parenting/why-fantasy-slides-into-reality-for-preschoolers/
- Dec 21, 2014 [When Kids Stop Believing in Santa - The Atlantic](http://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2014/12/when-do...in.../383958/)
www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2014/12/when-do...in.../383958/
The Atlantic
- Dec 16, 2014 [www.huffingtonpost.com/jacqueline-woolley/Why the Whole Family Benefits When Kids Believe in Santa](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jacqueline-woolley/Why-the-Whole-Family-Benefits-When-Kids-Believe-in-Santa)
- June 5, 2014 [Slenderman stabbing case: When can kids understand fact vs. fiction ...](http://www.cnn.com/2014/06/03/living/slenderman-stabbing-questions-for-parents/CNN)
www.cnn.com/2014/06/03/living/slenderman-stabbing-questions-for-parents/CNN
- Oct 28, 2013 [Jacqueline Woolley : NPR](http://www.npr.org/tags/241278149/jacqueline-woolley).
www.npr.org/tags/241278149/jacqueline-woolley
NPR
- Dec 6, 2012 [The Santa lie: Is the big Christmas con hurting our kids? - Slate](http://www.slate.com/.../)
[www.slate.com/.../..](http://www.slate.com/.../)
Slate

- Dec 11, 2012 <https://www.psychologytoday.com/.../imagining-the-impossible-ch...>
Psychology Today
- Dec 22, 2009 [Children's Imagination Important for Cognitive Development - WSJ](http://www.wsj.com/.../SB10001424052748703344704574610002...)
www.wsj.com/.../SB10001424052748703344704574610002...
The Wall Street Journal
- Dec 23, 2006 [Do You Believe in Surnits? - The New York Times](http://www.nytimes.com/2006/12/23/opinion/23woolley.html)
www.nytimes.com/2006/12/23/opinion/23woolley.html. The New York Times Op-Ed.

Courses taught

- 1990 - 2007 Fundamentals of Cognitive Development
(Graduate level core course: Psychology 394N)
- 1991 - 2003 Introduction to Child Psychology
(Psychology 304)
- 1991 - 2004 Introduction to Developmental Psychology
(Psychology 333D)
- 1992 Graduate Seminar on Children's understanding of
mind (Psychology 394)
- 1993 - 2005 Cognitive Development (Psychology 333N)
- 1995, 2005, 2010 Graduate Seminar on Development of the concept
of reality (Psychology 394)
- 1997 Graduate Seminar on Cultural and individual
differences in the development of a theory of mind
(Psychology 394)

2000	Graduate Seminar on Children's scientific, magical, and religious explanations (Psychology 394)
2005	Graduate Seminar on Dissociations in cognitive Development (Psychology 394)
2005-2021	Development of the Fantasy-Reality Distinction (Psychology 341K, 333F)
June, 2007	Odyssey Program Course, "Down the Rabbit Hole: The Psychology of The Fantasy-Reality Distinction"
2011-2012	Fundamentals of Developmental Psychology (Graduate level core course: Psychology 394S)
2013	Graduate seminar on transfer from fantasy to reality (Psychology 394)
2017	Graduate seminar on imagination (Psychology 394)
2020	Graduate seminar: Why people believe weird things (Psychology 394)
2021	Developmental Area meeting seminar (Psychology 394)
2021	Why people believe weird things (UT Signature Course) to be taught Fall 2021

Teaching Awards

2003, 2005, 2011 College of Liberal Arts nominee for the William David Blunk Memorial Professorship, University of Texas

2007 Recipient of the President's Associates Teaching Excellence Award, University of Texas

2011 runner up, Annual Award for Distinction in Teaching presented by the Alpha of Texas Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa

2012 Recipient of the College of Liberal Arts
Raymond Dickson Endowed Centennial Teaching
Fellowship, University of Texas

2016 Recipient of the Alcalde Texas 10 Award
(alumni-nominated award for 10 best professors at
UT)

Presentations on Teaching

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|-----------------|---|
| June 4, 2001 | Presentation on use of group work in the classroom
Monterrey University Teaching Institute,
University of Texas |
| January 8, 2002 | Presentation on use of group work in the classroom
Experienced Faculty Conference, University of
Texas |
| May 28, 2002 | Presentation on use of group work in the classroom
Monterrey University Teaching Institute,
University of Texas |

Community Involvement

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 2004-2008 | Judge, Lee Elementary School Science Fair,
Austin, TX |
| 2010 | Lecture presented to Kealing Middle School
Psychology class, Austin, TX |
| 2011-2012 | Faculty Mentor, Ossining High School Science
Research Program, Ossining, NY |
| 2013 | Lecture presented to the Center for Inquiry, Austin,
TX |
| 2016 | Lecture presented to the UT Osher Lifetime
Learning Institute, QUEST program, Austin, TX |

References

Available upon request