

# Xiao Yang

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## EDUCATION

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**Ph.D student, Linguistics** 08/2014 - present

**Department of Linguistics, University of Kansas, KS**

Research interest: The processing of semantics, verb aspect, tone sandhi in Chinese dialects

Advisor: Dr. Robert Fiorentino, Dr. Utako Minai

GPA: 4.00 / 4.00

**M.A., Linguistics** 08/2012 - 08/2014

**Linguistics program, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN**

Thesis title: Relationship between holistic rating of Chinese ESL speakers' monologue responses to question prompts in placement testing and their lexical frequency profiles

Thesis advisor: Dr. Felicia Roberts

GPA: 3.92 / 4.00

**B.A., Teaching Chinese as Foreign Language** 09/2008 - 06/2012

**Shanghai International Studies University, Shanghai, China**

Thesis title: Descriptive expressions in *Luoyang Qielan Ji*: Locatives and comparison structure in 6th Century Early Middle Chinese

Thesis advisor: Dr. Yunzhen An

GPA: 3.79 / 4.00

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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**Teaching Assistant, University of Kansas** 08/2014 - present

*LING106 Introduction to Linguistics*

*under the supervision of Dr. Alison Gabriele and Dr. Harold Torrence*

Responsibilities: Organize weekly discussion sections, develop coursewares, maintain student records, and evaluate students' performance

**Graduate Research Consultant, University of Kansas** 08/2017 - 12/2017

*LING420: Capstone: Research in Language Science*

*under the supervision of Dr. Utako Minai*

Responsibilities: Advice undergraduate students on research project creation, organize workshop on research skills

**Chinese Drill Instructor, University of Kansas**

08/2015 - 05/2016

*CHIN204/208 Chinese Level 2**under the supervision of Mrs. Deborah Peterson and Mrs. Haining Lou*

Responsibilities: Organize weekly Chinese drill sessions, create coursewares and problem sets, and conduct oral proficiency interviews with students

**Teaching Assistant, Purdue University**

08/2013 - 12/2013

*LING521 English Syntax and Syntactic Theory**under the supervision of Dr. Elaine Francis*

Responsibilities: Grade homework and tests, lead three homework discussion sessions, give two 45-min guest lectures, and answer students' questions during office hour and by email

**Graduate Assistant, Purdue University Libraries**

11/2012 - 07/2014

*under the supervision of Dr. Clarence Maybee*

Responsibilities: Develop web and multimedia contents for Purdue Academic Course Transformation project and ENGL106/108 First-Year Composition, manage and analyze data collected from Blackboard discussion forum, and carry out qualitative interview and coding

**PRESENTATIONS AND TALKS**

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- Yang, X. (2018, January). *The role of Question Under Discussion and individual differences in scalar implicature (Yujing he geti chayi zai dengji hanyi zhong de zuoyong)*. Talk at Department of Chinese Language and Literature, Fudan University, Shanghai, China.
- Yang, X., Fiorentino, R., & Minai, U. (2017, April). *Context-dependent meaning computation: The role of Question Under Discussion and individual differences in scalar implicature*. Oral presentation at the Child Language Proseminar. Lawrence, KS.
- Yang, X., Fiorentino, R., & Minai, U. (2017, March). *The role of individual differences in the context-dependent interpretation of 'some'*. Poster presented at the 30th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing. Cambridge, MA.
- Chien, Y-F., Fiorentino, R., Yang, X., & Sereno, J. (2016, December). *Surface phonetic or underlying phonological representations: A mismatch negativity study of Mandarin tone assimilation*. Poster presented at the 5th Joint Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America and Acoustical Society of Japan. Honolulu, HI.
- Covey, L., & Yang, X. (2016, October). *An EEG investigation of the role of prediction and individual differences in word-pair semantic priming*. Joint presentation given at 2016 KU Cognitive Brain Science Brownbag Talk series. Lawrence, KS.
- Yang, X. (2016, March). *An EEG investigation of the role of prediction and individual differences in word-pair semantic priming*. Presentation given at 2016 KU Graduate Research Competition. Lawrence, KS.
- Covey, L., Coughlin, C., Martinez-Garcia, M., Johnson, A., Yang, X., Siew, C., Major, T., & R. (2015, October). *An ERP investigation of the role of prediction and individual differences in semantic priming*. Poster presented at 7th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Neurobiology of Language. Chicago, IL.
- Yang, X. (2013, March). *Chinese ESL learners' perception and acquisition of scalar implicature: A survey*. Presentation given at the 8th Purdue Linguistics Association Annual Student Symposium. West Lafayette, IN.

## ONGOING PROJECTS

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### **The processing of temporal information in discourse**

*In collaboration with Dr. Alison Gabriele, Dr. Robert Fiorentino and Dr. Utako Minai*

### **Investigating individual variation in sensitivity to context cues in scalar implicature**

*In collaboration with Dr. Robert Fiorentino and Dr. Utako Minai*

### **An eye-tracking study on children's processing of scope ambiguity of 'only'**

*In collaboration with Dr. Utako Minai, Lauren Covey, Teresa Girolamo, Ivonne Weyers, and Cynthia S.Q. Siew*

### **An EEG investigation of Mandarin 3rd tone sandhi**

*In collaboration with Dr. Yu-Fu Chien, Dr. Joan Sereno, Dr. Jie Zhang, and Dr. Robert Fiorentino*

### **An EEG investigation of the role of prediction and individual difference in word-pair semantic priming**

*In collaboration with Lauren Covey, Caitlin Coughlin, María Teresa Martínez García, Adrienne Johnson, Xiao Yang, Cynthia S.Q. Siew, Travis Major, and Dr. Robert Fiorentino*

## MEMBERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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President, KU Linguistics Graduate Student Association	2017 - 2018
Webmaster, Purdue Linguistics Association	2013 - 2014
Student Member, Linguistic Society of America	2012 - present

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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Doctoral Student Research Fund <i>Office of Graduate Studies, University of Kansas</i>	February 2018
Student Travel Award <i>2017 CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing</i>	May 2017
Frances Ingemann Linguistics Scholarship <i>Department of Linguistics, University of Kansas</i>	May 2017
Certificate of Excellence <i>Purdue Office of Interdisciplinary Graduate Programs Spring Reception</i>	April 2013
Outstanding Undergraduate Student <i>Shanghai Municipal Education Commission, Shanghai</i>	May 2012
National Scholarship <i>Ministry of Education, People's Republic of China</i>	October 2009
CASIO Undergraduate Scholarship <i>Shanghai International Studies University, Shanghai</i>	October 2009

## LANGUAGE

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Mandarin Chinese

Native

English

Fluent

Spanish

Beginner