Cheng Xiao

PhD Candidate, Linguistics Program, University of South Carolina
cxiao@email.sc.edu
https://chengxiaocx.github.io
[Curriculum Vitae, updated February 2024]

Education

2019-present **Ph.D. in Linguistics**
University of South Carolina, United States.
Dissertation: *The processing of emotional prosody and semantics in Mandarin Chinese words and sentences*
Committee: Jiang Liu, Rutvik Desai (co-chairs), Amit Almor, Svetlana Shinkareva

2013-2016 **M.A. in Linguistics and Applied Linguistics**
Wuhan University, China.
Thesis: *The noun acquisition disorders and rehabilitation of children with autism spectrum disorder in Mandarin Chinese*

2009-2013 **B.A. in Humanities**
2010-2013 **B.Ec. in Finance**
Wuhan University, China.
Project: *The Chinese characters in the eyes of non-native Chinese speakers*

Academic Appointments

2023-present Graduate Research Assistant, Desai Lab, Department of Psychology, University of South Carolina
2022-2023 Graduate Teaching Assistant (***Instructor of Record***), Linguistics Program, University of South Carolina
2021, 2022 Graduate Research Assistant (summer), Linguistics Program, University of South Carolina
2019-2022 Graduate Teaching Assistant (***Instructor of Record***), Chinese Program, Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, University of South Carolina

Grants

2023-2025 **National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant** (Ling-DDRIG), BCS-2234914 ("*Doctoral Dissertation Research: The semantic effect on the processing of emotional prosody in a tone language: A neurolinguistic study*", co-PI; PI: Jiang Liu; co-PI: Rutvik Desai), National Science Foundation, USD 17,780.
2022-2023 **University of South Carolina SPARC Graduate Research Grant**, Proposal # 120700-22-59283 ("*Bridging meaning and sound: The effects of semantics on emotional prosody processing in Mandarin Chinese words and sentences*", PI; mentors: Jiang Liu, Rutvik Desai), University of South Carolina, USD 4,938.
2020-2021 Graduate Teaching Resource Development Grant (for course enrichment of CHIN121: Elementary Mandarin Chinese), University of South Carolina, USD 400.
2020-2021 Graduate Teaching Resource Development Grant (for course enrichment of CHIN321: Advance Mandarin Chinese), University of South Carolina, USD 400.

Publications

Xiao, C., & Liu, J. (*under review*). Semantic effects on the perception of emotional prosody in native and non-native speakers.

Xiao, C., & Liu, J. (*in revision*). The perception of emotional prosody in Mandarin Chinese words and sentences.

Wang, B. X., Chen, S., Zhou, F., Liu, J., **Xiao, C.**, Chan, A., & Tang, T. (2024). English Prosodic Focus Marking by Cantonese Trilingual Children with and without Autism Spectrum Disorder. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*, 1-20. https://doi.org/10.1044/2023_JSLHR-23-00508

Liu, J., & **Xiao, C.** (2021). Tone category learning should serve tone word learning: an experiment of integrating pronunciation teaching in L2 Chinese curriculum. In Edited Volume *The acquisition of Chinese as a second language pronunciation: Segments and prosody*. Edited by Yang, Chunsheng: Springer. http://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-15-3809-4_6

Xiao, C. (2017). The language acquisition strategy for children with ASD. *Journal of Curriculum and Instruction*, 10, 35-37. (in Chinese)

Other Publications

Wang, B. X., Chen, S., Zhou, F., Liu, J., **Xiao, C.,** & Chan, A. (2023). Declarative or declarative question? —On the acoustics of English prosody of Hong Kong trilingual children with autism spectrum disorder. *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America, 153*(3_supplement), A289-A289. https://doi.org/10.1121/10.0018879

Luo, H., Zhao, S., Luo, J., Tan, Xin., Ruan, G., Chen, Y., …, **Xiao, C.,** …, & Zhu, Y. (2018). *Comprehensive Dictionary of Chinese Poetry Rhythms*. Zhonghua Book Company. ISBN 978-7101129779. (in Chinese)

Tang, C., Luo, X., Zhan, Y., Li, H., Mo. Y., Zhang, Wen., Sun, D., Zhang, Xue., Liu, Y., **Xiao, C.,** Yuan, Yu., & Xin, Wen. (2017). *Chinese Characters and Calligraphy* (Guangdong province calligraphy textbook series for primary school, Book 3). Guangdong Education Publishing House. ISBN 978-7554815625. (in Chinese)

Tang, C., Luo, X., Zhan, Y., Li, H., Mo. Y., Zhang, Wen., Sun, D., Zhang, Xue., Liu, Y., **Xiao, C.,** Yuan, Yu., & Xin, Wen. (2017). *Chinese Characters and Calligraphy* (Guangdong province calligraphy textbook series for primary school, Book 4). Guangdong Education Publishing House. ISBN 978-7554815632. (in Chinese).

Invited Talks

2024   The perception of emotional prosody in L2 Chinese learners, special session on second language acquisition at *the Linguistics Conference at University of Georgia* (LCUGA 2024), Athens, GA, February 17.

Presentations

2023   Semantic effects on the perception of emotional prosody in Mandarin Chinese: facilitation for L1 speakers versus interference for L2 learners, *the 48th Boston University Conference on Language Development* (BUCLD 48), Boston, MA, November 4.

2023   The emotional prosody perception of native speakers and L2 learners: an examination of semantic congruence effect, *Florida Psycholinguistics Meeting 2023,* Gainesville, FL, Oct 21.

2023   'What you say' vs. 'How you say it': The semantic effect on the perception of emotional prosody in Mandarin Chinese words and sentence, *Discover USC 2023 at the University of South Carolina*, Columbia, SC, April 21.

2023   The semantic effect on the perception of emotional prosody in Mandarin Chinese, *2023 GSLING Student Research Symposium at the University of South Carolina*, Columbia, SC, April 8.

2023   The semantic effect on the perception of emotional prosody in Mandarin Chinese words and sentences, *Conference of the Institute for Mind and Brain at the University of South Carolina 2023,* Columbia, SC, March 17.

2023   Bridging sound and meaning: The semantic effect on the perception of emotional prosody in Mandarin Chinese, *36th Annual Human Sentence Processing Conference* (HSP 36), Pittsburgh, PA, March 10.

2022   The perception of emotional prosody in Mandarin Chinese words and sentences, *2022 GSLING Student Research Symposium at the University of South Carolina*, Columbia, SC, March 18.

2022   The perception of emotional prosody in Mandarin Chinese, *96th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America* (LSA 96), Washington, DC, January 8.

2021   The effect of language experience on the perception of emotional prosody in Mandarin Chinese, *1st International Conference on Tone and Intonation*, Sonderborg, Denmark, December 8.

2018   The mini-corpus analysis of the language of the autistic children, *4th Corpus Linguistics Conference in China*, Wuhan, China, June 2.

2018   Inquiry into the language acquisition of the autistic children, *1st Neurolinguistics Conference in China*, Xuzhou, China, July 1.

Teaching Experience

Instructor of Record, Linguistics Program, University of South Carolina

Spring 2023	LING 301/ENGL 389: The English Language
Fall 2022	LING 101: Introduction to Language

Instructor of Record, Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, University of South Carolina

Spring 2020	CHIN 322: Advance Mandarin Chinese II
Fall 2019	CHIN 321: Advance Mandarin Chinese I
Spring 2022	CHIN 222: Intermediate Mandarin Chinese II
Fall 2022	CHIN 221: Intermediate Mandarin Chinese I
Spring 2021	CHIN 122: Basic Proficiency Mandarin Chinese
Fall 2020	CHIN 121: Elementary Mandarin Chines

Guest Lecturer, Linguistics Program, University of South Carolina

Spring 2023	LING 300: Introduction to Language Sciences

Tutor, International Accelerator Program, University of South Carolina

Fall 2019–Spring 2020	English as a second language (ESL) Tutor

Awards and Fellowships

01/2024   Graduate Student Conference Travel Award, University of South Carolina Linguistics Program, USD 250.

10/2023   Graduate Student Conference Travel Award, University of South Carolina Linguistics Program, USD 250.

09/2023   Graduate Student Conference Travel Award, University of South Carolina Linguistics Program, USD 400.

09/2023   Graduate Student Conference Travel Award, University of South Carolina, USD 500.

07/2023	Paula Menyuk Travel Award for the 48th Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 48), USD 385.
05/2023	Discover USC Graduate Student Poster Award Winner, University of South Carolina.
02/2023	Society for Human Sentence Processing Student Travel Award (HSP 36), USD 400.
02/2023	Graduate Student Conference Travel Award, University of South Carolina Linguistics Program, USD 500.
01/2022	Graduate Student Conference Travel Award, University of South Carolina Linguistics Program, USD 400.
05/2021	Graduate Student Summer Research Award, University of South Carolina Linguistics Program, USD 600.
2013-2016	Outstanding Graduate Student Fellowship, Wuhan University, tuition & living expenses.
2011	Undergraduate Student Best Paper Award Winner, College of Chinese Language and Literature, Wuhan University.
2009-2013	Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award, Wuhan University, RMB 3,200.

Service

2023-present	Serve as a graduate fellowship peer mentor for the National Fellowship office at the University of South Carolina.
2023	Lead a professional development workshop on 'Creating Research Posters 101' for GSLING Student Research Symposium at the University of South Carolina.
2020-2021	Design the Chinese prosodic-enhanced course module for the Chinese Program and Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) at the University of South Carolina.
2016-2017	Compile and edit calligraphy textbooks for primary school students, all authorized by Guangdong Province and sold more than 20,000 copies annually in China.

Research Skills

Tools	AFNI, Audacity, E-Prime, FSL, Praat, Python, Qualtrics, R, Unix Shell
Methods	Behavioral measures, functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI), high-definition transcranial direct current simulation (HD-tDCS)
Languages	English, Mandarin Chinese (native), Xiang Chinese

Memberships

Society for Human Sentence Processing
Linguistic Society of America