

## Cheng Xiao

PhD Candidate

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Linguistics Program

University of South Carolina

[Curriculum Vitae, updated September 17, 2023]

### 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 Science**  
2010-2013 **B.Ec. in Finance** (double major)  
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, Linguistics Program, University of South Carolina
- 2019-2022 Graduate Teaching Assistant (Instructor of Record), Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, University of South Carolina

### Grants

- 2023-2025 **National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (Ling-DDRI)**, 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 emotional prosody on semantic 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. (in revision). The perception of emotional prosody in Mandarin Chinese words and sentences. *Second Language Research*.
- 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.
- Xiao, C.** (2017). The language acquisition strategy for children with ASD. *Journal of Curriculum and Instruction*, 10, 35-37. (In Chinese)

## Presentations

- 2023 Semantic effects on the perception of emotional prosody in Mandarin Chinese: facilitation for L1 speakers versus interference for L2 learners, *the 48<sup>th</sup> Boston University Conference on Language Development* (BUCLD 48), Boston, MA, November 4.
- 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, *2023 Conference of the Institute for Mind and Brain at the University of South Carolina*, Columbia, SC, March 17.
- 2023 Bridging sound and meaning: The semantic effect on the perception of emotional prosody in Mandarin Chinese, *36<sup>th</sup> Annual Human Sentence Processing Conference* (HSP), 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, *96<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America* (LSA), Washington, DC, January 8.
- 2021 The effect of language experience on the perception of emotional prosody in Mandarin Chinese, *1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Tone and Intonation*, Sonderborg, Denmark, December 8.
- 2018 The mini-corpus analysis of the language of the autistic children, *4<sup>th</sup> Corpus Linguistics Conference in China*, Wuhan, China, June 2.
- 2018 Inquiry into the language acquisition of the autistic children, *1<sup>st</sup> 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 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 Chinese
Spring 2020	CHIN 322: Advance Mandarin Chinese II
Fall 2019	CHIN 321: Advance Mandarin Chinese I

**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 Fellowship

2023 Paula Menyuk Travel Award for the 48<sup>th</sup> Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 48), USD 385.  
 2023 Discover USC Graduate Student Poster Award Winner, University of South Carolina.  
 2023 Society for Human Sentence Processing Student Travel Award, USD 400.  
 2023 Student Conference Travel Award, University of South Carolina Linguistics Program, USD 500.  
 2022 Student Conference Travel Award, University of South Carolina Linguistics Program, USD 400.  
 2021 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, Wuhan University College of Chinese Language and Literature.  
 2009-2013 Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award, Wuhan University, RMB 3,200.

### Service

2023-2024 Serve as a graduate fellowship peer mentor for the National Fellowship office 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 two calligraphy textbooks authorized by Guangdong Province, China.  
 [1] Tang, C., Luo, X., Zhan, Y., Li, H., **Xiao, C.**, et al. (2017). *Chinese Characters and Calligraphy* (part 1 for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade). Guangdong Education Publishing House. ISBN 978-7-5548-1562-5. (In Chinese)  
 [2] Tang, C., Tang, C., Luo, X., Zhan, Y., Li, H., **Xiao, C.**, et al. (2017). *Chinese Characters and Calligraphy* (part 2 for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade). Guangdong Education Publishing House. ISBN 978-7-5548-1563-2. (In Chinese).

### Memberships

2019-present Linguistic Society of America  
 2022-present Society for Human Sentence Processing