

Cheng Xiao

PhD Candidate, Linguistics Program

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[Curriculum Vitae, updated Nov 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-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.** (*in preparation*). 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.
- 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)

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 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 Fellowships

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 48 th 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, 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.
2023	Lead a professional development workshop titled ‘Creating Research Poster 101’ on 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 two calligraphy textbooks authorized by Guangdong Province, China. [1] Tang, C., Luo, X., Zhan, Y., Li, H., Xiao, C. , et al. (2017). <i>Chinese Characters and Calligraphy</i> (part 1 for 2 nd 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). <i>Chinese Characters and Calligraphy</i> (part 2 for 2 nd grade). Guangdong Education Publishing House. ISBN 978-7-5548-1563-2. (In Chinese).

Memberships

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