

XIN (IRIS) GUAN

M.A. Candidate | Teachers College, Columbia University

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Education

Teachers College, Columbia University, New York City, USA

M.A. in Communication and Education (Educational Technology)

Sept. 2023 – May 2025

- Relevant Coursework: Learning Science, Cognition & Learning, Educational Data Mining, Educational Game & VR Design, Computational Linguistics

Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University (XJTLU), Suzhou, China

B.A. in English and Communication Studies

Sept. 2019 – Jun. 2023

- Cumulative GPA: 3.7/4
- Relevant Coursework: Applied Linguistics, Corpus Linguistics, Qualitative & Quantitative Research Methods, Social Network Analysis, Media Studies

Research Interests

- Artificial Intelligence in Education
- Learning Analytics and Educational Data Mining
- Educational Technology and Learning Sciences
- Data Literacy & Media Literacy Education
- Educational Game Design

Research Publications

- Guan, X.**, Russo, R., & Blikstein, P. (2025, June). *Authorship networks in learning sciences research on disinformation, data science, and social media*. Poster presented at the International Society of the Learning Sciences (ISLS) Annual Meeting, Helsinki, Finland.
- Guan, X.**, Kitis, E.D. (2025, forthcoming). *The Media Representation of Females in the Russia-Ukraine Conflict: A Corpus-based Multimodal Analysis*. Social Semiotics.
- Zou, B., **Guan, X.**, Shao, Y., & Chen, P. (2023). *Supporting Speaking Practice by Social Network-Based Interaction in Artificial Intelligence (AI)-Assisted Language Learning*. Sustainability, 15(4), 2872. Retrieved from <http://dx.doi.org/10.3390/su15042872>

Research Experience

Research Assistant

Sept. 2024 – Present

Transformative Learning Technologies Lab (TLTLab), Teachers College, Columbia University

- Conducting research on Curiously, an AI-powered learning companion based on Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) techniques.
- Performing literature reviews to develop a micro-level AI literacy framework for educators and students.

Research Intern

Feb. 2024 – Dec. 2024

Center for Technology and School Change (CTSC), Teachers College, Columbia University

- Conducting qualitative data analysis for the National Science Foundation (NSF)-funded *Systemic Transformation of Inquiry Learning Environments for STEM (STILE)* project.
- Evaluating curriculum design for professional development in STEM education.

Research Assistant

Feb. 2024 – May 2024

MASCLab, Teachers College, Columbia University

- Conducted playtests and UX research for *Lamboozled*, a digital game designed to teach media literacy.
- Led data collection and analysis from teenagers and senior citizens to refine the game's usability and engagement.
- Utilized Figma for UX design optimization and iterative prototype development.

Research Assistant

Nov. 2023 – Present

Language & Technology Research Group, Teachers College, Columbia University

- Investigating pre-service language teachers' attitudes toward Generative AI in educational settings.
- Developing survey instruments and preparing Institutional Review Board (IRB) submissions.
- Organized academic events, including AIRiAL 2024 Conference and TechDay, to foster interdisciplinary discussions.

Research Assistant*June 2022 – Nov. 2023***Department of Applied Linguistics, XJTLU**

- Conducted a corpus-based multimodal analysis on gender representation in media coverage of the Russia-Ukraine conflict.
- Built and analyzed a multimodal corpus of 400+ news articles and 300+ images using tools like AntConc and The Prime Machine.
- Received Best Performance Award for Final Year Project (FYP).

Awards and Honors

- **Best Performance in Final Year Project (Dissertation), XJTLU** *June 2023*
- **Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (Research Stipend), XJTLU** *Sept. 2022*
- **Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University Academic Achievement Award (Top 10%)** *Aug. 2020*

Projects**Authorship Network Analysis in Learning Sciences Scholarship***2024 – Present*

- Investigating co-authorship trends in ISLS conference proceedings (2022–2024) using social network analysis (SNA).
- Performing data visualization and network modeling with Python and Gephi.
- Drafting findings for poster presentation for ISLS25.

The Role of Social Network-Based Interaction in AI-Assisted Language Learning*2022 – 2023*

- Conducted experimental research with 70 participants, analyzing AI-driven language learning interactions.
- Employed SPSS and NVivo for quantitative and qualitative analysis of learning outcomes.
- Co-authored a peer-reviewed article, cited over 60 times since publication.

Professional & Teaching Experience**Course Assistant, Teachers College, Columbia University***Sept. 2024 – Dec. 2024***Cognition & Learning (HUDK 4029)**

- Assisted in course instruction, grading, and student progress tracking via Canvas LMS.
- Facilitated discussions on cognitive science principles in education.

Assistant Teacher, Nory STEM Summer Camp, New York*July 2024 – August 2024*

- Designed and facilitated STEM learning activities for children aged 4–9, including robotics and woodworking.
- Managed interactive, hands-on learning modules to enhance student engagement.

Instructional Designer, Brooklyn Seltzer Museum, New York*Nov. 2023 – May 2024*

- Developed an interactive website for the museum's scavenger hunt program using H5P.
- Conducted UX research and iterative playtesting to enhance the educational experience.

Language Tutor, Greenway Global (Online)*Jan. 2022 – Feb. 2022*

- Designed engaging English language materials for elementary students.
- Conducted online language tutoring focused on speaking fluency and comprehension.

Technical and Languages Skills

- **Programming & Data Analysis:** Python, R, SPSS, Gephi
- **UX/UI Design & Web Development:** Figma, H5P, HTML, JavaScript
- **Languages:** Chinese (Native), English (Professional Working Proficiency)