KE LIN

ke.lin@northwestern.edu|kl863@georgetown.edu ⋄ kelinguistics.github.io

Department of Linguistics, Northwestern University

2016 Sheridan Rd, Evanston, IL 60208

RESEARCH INTERESTS

sociolinguistic variation, speech perception, eye-tracking, bi-/multilingualism, experimental methods, psycholinguisics, Slavic linguistics

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Linguistics, Northwestern University   *Oct 2025–Present*

- NSF project: *Enhancing research on speech and deep learning through holistic acoustic analysis*
  PIs: Dr. Matt Goldrick, Dr. Ann Bradlow

- NSF project: *Talker-specific, language-specific, and language-general characteristics of first-language and second-language speech*
  PI: Dr. Ann Bradlow

EDUCATION

Degree seeking:

Georgetown University   *Oct 2025*

Ph.D. in Linguistics

Dissertation Committee: Dr. Elizabeth Zsiga, Dr. Lourdes Ortega, Dr. Lacey Wade, Dr. Sarah Phillips

Dissertation: Voice onset time in the bilingual mind: The role of speaker's native language status on sequential bilingual listeners' phonetic perception

The Ohio State University   *2017 - 2020*

M.A. in Slavic Linguistics

Advisors: Dr. Don Winford, Dr. Morgan Liu, and Dr. Angela Brintlinger

Thesis: Perceptions and social implications of non-native accents in Russia

University of Pittsburgh   *2013 – 2017*

B.A. in Russian

B.A. in Linguistics

Certificate in Russian and Eastern European Studies

Non-Degree seeking:

Crete Linguistics Summer School *Crete, Greece*   *July 2022*

Courses: Bilingualism over the Lifespan; Intro to Neurolinguistics; Language, Gender, and Sexuality; Computational Phonology

Herzen State Pedagogical University *St. Petersburgh, Russia*   *July 2019*

Russian as a Foreign Language: Theory and Methods of Teaching for Non-native Teachers

Tallinn University *Tallinn, Estonia*   *July 2018*

Tallinn Summer School – Advanced Russian

Summer Langauge Institute, University of Pittsburgh *Pittsburgh, PA*   *June – July 2015*

Advanced Intensive Russian

AWARDS AND GRANTS

GradGov-GSAS Research Project Award, Georgetown University *Spring 2025*
425 USD

Linguistics Department Conference Travel Grant, Georgetown University *Fall 2024*
1250 USD

GSAS Travel Grant, Georgetown University *Fall 2024*
400 USD

Linguistics Department Conference Travel Grant, Georgetown University *Spring 2024*
1000 USD

GSAS Travel Grant, Georgetown University *Fall 2023*
400 USD

GSAS Travel Grant, Georgetown University *Spring 2023*
300 USD

Linguistics Department Conference Travel Grant, Georgetown University *Spring 2023*
500 USD

Second place in Three Minute Thesis (3MT), Georgetown University *Spring 2023*
150 USD

CEDL Travel Grant, Linguistics Society of America *Jan 2023*
Travel grant awarded to students' participation in annual LSA conference.

Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship, U.S. Department of Education *2019 – 2020*
A year-long scholarship and stipend awarded through The Ohio State University for the study of the
Uzbek language.

Summer Teacher Training Fellowship, American Councils *Jul 2019*
Full scholarship awarded to 12 U.S.-based Russian language teachers for one month of intensive pedagogical
training at the Herzen State Pedagogical University in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Merit Award, Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association *Spring 2016*
Awarded for service in promoting foreign language studying and cultural awareness in the Greater
Pittsburgh community.

TEACHING AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Georgetown University *Fall 2020 – Fall 2024*

- Developing perception experiments for pitch variation in Štokavian dialects (Supervisor: Dr. Elizabeth Zsiga; Fall 2024)

- Researched and conducted shortcut language proficiency exams at AELRC (Supervisor: Dr. Meg Montee; Spring 2023 - Spring 2024)

- Organized Georgetown University Round Table/SyntaxFest 2023 (Supervisor: Dr. Amir Zeldes; Spring 2023)

- Managed social media and coordinated events to support lingusitics students in both academic and professional tracks (Supervisor: Dr. Alex Johnston; Fall 2022)

- Managed the Linguistics Lab (Spring 2022; Fall 2024)

- Conducted experiments and managed data for computer-mediated speech (Supervisor: Dr. Jennifer Nycz; Fall 2020)

Teaching Assistant, Georgetown University   *Spring 2021 – Spring 2025*

- TA for LING 001: Intro to Linguistics (Spring 2025)

- TA for LING 402: Forensic Linguistics (Spring 2022)

- TA for LING 001: Intro to Linguistics (Fall 2021)

- TA for LING 284: Language and Society (Spring 2021)

Student Drill Instructor, Georgetown University   *Fall 2021*

- Recitation instructor for CHIN 111-05 Intensive Second Lev Chinese I

Instructor, The Ohio State University   *Fall 2017 – Spring 2019*

- RUSS 1101 (Fall 2017 - Fall 2019)

- RUSS 1102 (Spring 2019)

MANUSCRIPT

Lin, K. 2025. *Voice onset time in the bilingual mind: The role of speaker's native language status on sequential bilingual listeners' phonetic perception.* Doctoral dissertation, Georgetown University. (in preparation)

PUBLICATIONS

Lin, K. 2025. Perceived L1 Status on VOT convergence: Evidence for Enhanced Convergence towards the Non-native Speaker. *Penn Working Papers in Linguistics 31.1:* Proceedings of PLC 48.
[Link]

Lin, K. 2023. Can L2 Speakers Perceive Sociopragmatic Nuances at the Sound Level? Exploring Chinese Listeners' Perceptions of (ING). *Proceedings of the International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*, Prague, 2023.
[Link]

Littell, P., Mortensen, D. R., **Lin, K.**, Kairis, K., Turner, C., & Levin, L. (2017). Uriel and lang2vec: Representing languages as typological, geographical, and phylogenetic vectors. *Proceedings of the 15th Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics*: Volume 2, Short Papers (pp. 8-14).
[Link]

PRESENTATIONS

Lin, K. *Same syllable, different story: Talker guise modulates voicing perception in bilinguals.* Paper to be presented at the 53rd New Ways of Analyzing Variation (NWAV53), Ann Arbor, Nov.5–7.

Lin, K. & Phillips, S. 2025. *Bilinguals differ in weighing social and acoustic cues during L2 speech processing: evidence from eye-trackings.* Paper to be presented at the 53rd New Ways of Analyzing Variation (NWAV53), Ann Arbor, Nov.5–7.

Lin, K. & Phillips, S. 2024. *Eye-tracking social influences on stop voicing perception in L2 listeners.* Poster presented at the 52nd New Ways of Analyzing Variation (NWAV52), Miami, Nov.9.

Lin, K. & Wade, L. 2024. *Cross-Modal cue-weighting: talker information on bilinguals' VOT sensitivity and voicing contrast perception.* Paper presented at the 52nd New Ways of Analyzing Variation (NWAV52), Miami, Nov.8.

Lin, K. 2024. *VOT in the bilingual mind: the role of talker information in L2 listeners' voicing contrast perception.* Poster presented at the 12th International Conference on Language Variation in Europe (ICLaVE12), Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, Jul. 10.

Lin, K. 2024. *Ethnographic linguistic landscape analysis of Uyghur restaurants in the DMV.* Paper presented at the 15th Linguistic Landscape (LL15) workshop, Wellington, New Zealand, Jun. 21.

Lin, K. 2024. *Cross-modal cue-weighting: social influence on bilinguals' VOT sensitivity and voicing contrast perception.* Poster presented at MASC-SLL2024, John Hopkins University, Maryland, May. 3.

Lin, K. 2024. *Perceived L1 Status on VOT convergence: Evidence for Enhanced Convergence towards the Non-native Speaker.* Paper presented at The 48th Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC48), University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Mar. 16.

Lin, K. 2024. *Methods in assessing VOT convergence patterns in L2 English speech.* Poster to be presented at 2024 LSA Annual Meeting, New York City, Jan. 5.

Lin, K. 2023. *You are not a native speaker, but I want to sound like you: Unveiling alternative VOT convergence patterns in L2 English speech.* Paper to be presented at the 51st New Ways of Analyzing Language (NWAV51), Queen's College, New York City, Oct. 14.

Lin, K. 2023. *Can L2 Speakers Perceive Sociopragmatic Nuances at the Sound Level? Exploring Chinese Listeners' Perceptions of (ING).* Paper presented at the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences (ICPhS 2023), Prague, Aug. 8-11.

Lin, K. 2023. *Variation across audiences: VOT Convergence for Mandarin L2 speakers of English.* Poster presented at the 5th Variation in Language Acquisition (ViLA5), Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussels, Jun. 1-2.

Lin, K., Evered, C. 2023. *Variation across audiences: a study investigating VOT convergence for Mandarin L2 speakers of English.* Paper presentation at WiGL17, University of Madison-Wisconsin, Wisconsin, Mar. 24-25.

Lin, K. 2022. *Variation across styles and audiences: a pilot study investigating VOT convergence for Mandarin L2 speakers of English.* Poster presented at the 4th CreteLing Conference, Univeristy of Crete, Rethimno, Jul. 27.

Lin, K. 2019. *Демонстрация и обсужедение коммуникативной методики при введении нового лексического и грамматического материала.* Talk given at The International Conference on Problems of Teaching Russian Abroad, Herzen University, St. Petersburg, Jul. 12.

Lin, K. 2019. *Russian Equivalents of English Verb + for predicates: Semantic and Pragmatic Factors in their Collocability.* Paper presented at Midwest Slavic Conference 2019, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Apr. 5-7.

INVITED GUEST LECTURES

Spring 2025	**"PCIBex for Linguists: A Practical Tutorial on Building Experiments"** Variation Lab, Georgetown University, Apr. 1
Spring 2025	**"Capturing Speech: Methods in Sociophonetic Data Collection."** Course: Sociolinguistic Field Methods, Georgetown University Instructor: Dr. Jungyoon Koh, Feb. 10
Spring 2022	**"Power and Solidarity in Police-Civilian Interactions."** Course: Forensic Linguistics, Georgetown University Instructor: Dr. Natalie Schilling, Mar. 2

Spring 2021   **"Variation in Politeness of Requests across English, Mandarin, and English."**
Course: Language and Society, Georgetown University
Instructor: Dr. Marissa Fond, Feb. 22

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE TO THE FIELD

Professional Membership
The Linguistics Society of America *Dec 2022 – Present*
The International Phonetics Association *Apr 2023 – Present*

New Ways of Analyzing Language (NWAV 53) *Oct 2025*
Invited Reviewer

Language Science Fair, Planet Word Museum *May 2025*
Designed and presented a public-facing activity on top-down speech processing

Graduate student mentoring (external) *Jan - Jun 2025*
Student: Linxuan Xu (Masters Student at Johns Hopkins University)
Project: "Individual Differences in Bilingual Speech Perception"
Conducting and analyzing sociolinguistic interviews

Undergraduate mentoring *Jan - Jun 2025*
Students: Catrian Kellaghan, Patrick Mahoney
Project: "Individual Differences in Bilingual Speech Perception"
Experimental data collection and assessment of English Elicited Imitation (EIT) task performance

Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC49) *Apr 2025*
Reviewer

GURT/Education Abroad Language, Learners, and Communities *Mar 2024*
Student volunteer

East Coast Organization of Language Testers (ECOLT) *Oct 2023*
Student volunteer

New Ways of Analyzing Language (NWAV 51) *Oct 2023*
Reviewer
Chair of a session on "Perceptual Phonetics"

KOPIKON: A Conlang Conference, Georgetown University *Sept 2023*
Student volunteer

GURT/SyntaxFest2023, Georgetown University *Spring, 2023*
Student organizer

Variation Lab, Georgetown University *Fall 2022 – Present*
President of this Reading and Research Group.

Undergraduate mentoring, Georgetown University   *Fall 2022 - Spring 2023*
Chloe Evered, Department of Linguistics, mentorship resulted in presentation at WiGL17

Graduate Linguistics Student Association, Georgetown University   *Fall 2021 – Fall 2023*
Vice President of Engagement; organized professional development workshops and social events for graduate students; managed finances

GradGov Senate, Georgetown University   *Fall 2020 – Spring 2021*
Represented Graduate Linguistics Student Association in discussion on student advocacy and fundng distributions

Language and Culture Workshop with US Army, The Ohio State University   *Apr, Sep 2019*
Conducted culture workshops and interpreting training

Russian Olympiada, The Ohio State University   *Feb 2018, 2019*
Judge; administered and evaluated tests for high school participants

RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Linguist Contractor, National Institute of Standards and Technology   *Jun 2022 – Present*

- Annotate ultra fine-grained entities, events, and relations for the RUFEERS (Recognizing Ultra Fine-grained Entities, Events, and Relations) project, creating structured datasets to train and evaluate machine learning systems in understanding the 5 Ws of events.

- Perform high-accuracy entity annotation, classification, and coreference linking for the RUFUS (Recognizing Ultra Fine-grained Entities) project, developing gold-standard datasets for fine-grained entity recognition and evaluation.

Undergraduate Research Assistant, University of Pittsburgh   *Jan – May 2017*

- Contributed to experimental design for a study on bilingual processing and its implication on nonlinguistic cognitive skills.

- Administered eye-tracking experiments to participants, ensuring consistent application of protocols and accurate data collection (Supervisor: Dr. Melinda Fricke)

Part-time Research Staff, LTI at Carnegie Mellon University   *Jul – Aug 2016*

- Annotated morphosyntactic information in news-wired Uyghur texts for enhancement of Named Entity Recognition models.

- Compiled and analyzed other lower resource language data.

Linguistics Intern, LTI at Carnegie Mellon University   *Jan – Jul 2016*

- Developed and tested methods to optimize information acquisition for low-resource languages, enhancing efficiency for both human annotators and machine learning systems.

- Contributed to the LORELEI DARPA project by employing computational linguistic techniques to analyze language typologies, transcriptions, and translations, supporting low-resource language data processing.

- Conducted interviews with a native Indonesian informant, transcribing and translating target words to create accurate linguistic datasets.

- Investigated languages lacking geographical and historical documentation, compiling comprehensive, computer-readable datasets to bridge information gaps and support linguistic research.

LANGUAGES AND SKILLS

Languages

Native	Mandarin, English
Advanced	Russian
Basic	French, Uzbek
Reading	Latin, Old Church Slavonic
Research	Arabic, Czech, Serbian, Hausa, Turkish, Uyghur

Technical skills

Markup	LaTeX
Programming	R, Python
Software	ELAN, Praat, Audacity, Montreal Forced Aligner, PsychoPy, PCIbex, OpenFace

REFERENCES

Elizabeth Zsiga
Professor of Linguistics
Georgetown University

elizabeth.zsiga@georgetown.edu
Phone: +1 (202) 687-6098

Lourdes Ortega
Professor of Linguistics
Georgetown University

lourdes.ortega@georgetown.edu
Phone: +1 808-225-9472

Lacey Wade
Assistant Professor of Linguistics
Kansas University

laceywade@ku.edu

Sarah Phillips
Assistant Professor of Linguistics, Cognitive Science, and SLAT
University of Arizona

sarahfphillips@arizona.edu
Phone: +1 704-451-3875