

Marianna Zhang

she/her

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Psychology , <i>Stanford University</i>	expected Jun 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dissertation: Promoting children's structural reasoning about social categories. Committee: Ellen M. Markman, Steven O. Roberts, Tobias Gerstenberg 	
B.A., Psychology with Honors & Minor in Philosophy, <i>The University of Chicago</i>	2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Honors thesis: Perspective-taking in mental imagery of the actions of others. (thesis) Advisers: Daniel Casasanto & Susan Goldin-Meadow Tutorials in Metaphor and Philosophy of Cognitive Science, St. Catherine's College, Oxford 	
	Autumn 2017

RESEARCH TRAINING

Diverse Intelligences Summer Institute (DISI)	Jul 2019
Organized by <i>University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)</i> at <i>University of St Andrews</i>	
Concepts in Action: Representation, Learning, and Application (CARLA) Summer School	Aug 2018
Institute of Cognitive Science, <i>University of Osnabrück</i>	
Experience and Cognition Lab (PI: Dr. Daniel Casasanto), <i>The University of Chicago</i>	2014–2018
Laboratory for Developmental Studies (PI: Dr. Susan Carey), <i>Harvard University</i>	Summer 2016
Cognition and Development Lab (PI: Dr. Frank Keil), <i>Yale University</i>	Summer 2015

AWARDS & HONORS

Graduate Dissertation Fellowship , Clayman Institute for Gender Research, <i>Stanford University</i>	2023–2024
Diversity Travel Award, <i>Society for Philosophy & Psychology (SPP)</i>	2023
James W. Lyons Award for Service , Dean of Students Office, <i>Stanford University</i>	2023
Graduate Feminist Award , Vice Provost for Graduate Education/Women's Community Center, <i>Stanford Univ.</i>	2022
Graduate Research Opportunity , School of Humanities and Sciences, <i>Stanford University</i> (\$3000)	2022
Summer Collaborative Research Fellowship , Stanford Impact Labs, <i>Stanford University</i> (\$4000)	2022
Graduate Poster Award Runner-Up, <i>Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)</i>	2022
Research Data Grant , Institute for Research in the Social Sciences, <i>Stanford University</i> (\$1500)	2021
Diversity Travel Award , <i>Cognitive Development Society (CDS)</i>	2019
Norman H. Anderson Research Award , Department of Psychology, <i>Stanford University</i> (\$2000)	2019, 2023
Regina Casper Stanford Graduate Fellowship in Science & Engineering , <i>Stanford University</i>	2018–2021
Dean's Distinguished University Fellowship, <i>Ohio State University</i> (3 years, declined)	2018
Norwegian Summer Institute on Language and Mind, <i>University of Oslo</i> (declined)	2018
Phi Beta Kappa	2018
Graduate Research Fellowship, Honorable Mention , <i>National Science Foundation</i>	2018
Earl R. Franklin Research Fellowship , Department of Psychology, <i>The University of Chicago</i> (\$3000)	2017
Student Leadership Recognition and Access Award , Student Government, <i>The University of Chicago</i>	2016
Dean's List, <i>The University of Chicago</i> (ineligible 2017)	2015, 2016, 2018
University Merit Scholarship , <i>The University of Chicago</i>	2014

PUBLICATIONS

*co-first author

- Zhang, M. Y.** & Markman, E. M. (in prep). Let's talk structure: the positive outcomes of structural thinking.
- Zhang, M. Y.***, Sullivan, J. N.*, Markman, E. M. & Roberts, S. O. (revise & resubmit). Children's structural thinking about social inequalities. *Child Development Perspectives*.
- Zhang, M. Y.**, Liu, L., Markman, E. M. (2023). Let's talk structure: the positive outcomes of structural thinking. In *Proceedings of the 45th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 1564–1571). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society. ([paper](#))

- Chestnut, E. K., **Zhang, M. Y.**, & Markman, E. M. (2021). “Just as good”: Learning gender stereotypes from attempts to counteract them. *Developmental Psychology*, 57(1), 114–125. ([paper](#), [data](#))
- Johnson, S. G. B., **Zhang, M.**, & Keil, F. C. (2016). Decision-making and biases in causal-explanatory reasoning. In *Proceedings of the 38th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 1967–1972). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society. ([paper](#))

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

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- Asaba, M., **Zhang, M. Y.**, Leonard, J. A. Children’s representations of others’ gender biases.
Poster at Cognitive Science Society, virtual. 2023
Poster at Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) Biennial Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT. 2023
- Zhang, M. Y.**, Popat, A. K., Santos, M., Mottl, P. R., Bian, L., Markman, E. M. Language frequently used in best-selling storybooks can thwart their intent to inspire girls.
Poster at Cognitive Development Society, Madison, WI. ([poster](#)) 2022
- Zhang, M. Y.** & Markman, E. M. Let’s talk structure: the positive consequences of structural thinking.
Invited talk at Conceptual Development & Social Cognition Lab, New York University. 2023
Poster at Cognitive Science Society, virtual. ([poster](#), [paper](#)) 2023
Talk at Society for Philosophy & Psychology, Pittsburgh, PA. 2023
Invited talk at Developmental Colloquium, University of California-Santa Cruz. 2022
Poster at the Society for Personality & Social Psychology conference, San Francisco, CA. ([poster](#)) 2022
(received Graduate Poster Award, Runner-Up)
- Talk at Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development (BCCCD), virtual. 2022
Talk at Harvard Women in Psychology Trends in Psychology conference, virtual. 2021
Invited talk at Leonard Learning Lab, Yale University. 2021
Poster at Cognitive Science Society, virtual. ([abstract](#), [poster](#)) 2021
Talk at Stanford University Department of Psychology Developmental Area Brownbag. ([talk](#)) 2021
Invited talk at Causality in Cognition lab meeting, Stanford University. 2020
- Zhang, M. Y.** & Markman, E. M. Essentially blocked: the role of structural factors in blocking essentialism.
Poster at Cognitive Development Society Conference, Louisville, KY. ([poster](#)) 2019
Talk at Stanford University Department of Psychology Developmental Area Brownbag. 2019
- Gijssels, T., **Zhang, M. Y.**, Lucero, C., Berman, M. G., & Casasanto, D. Understanding language about other people’s actions.
Poster at the 41st Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Montreal, QC. ([abstract](#)) 2019
- Zhang, M. Y.**, Gijssels, T., & Casasanto, D. Perspective-taking in mental imagery of the actions of others.
Poster at the University of Chicago Psychology Honors Day Symposium, Chicago, IL. ([poster](#)) 2018
- Zhang, M.**, Haward, P., & Carey, S. Sources of information in the acquisition of principled properties.
Poster at Harvard University Laboratory for Developmental Studies Summer Internship Poster Day, Cambridge, MA. ([poster](#)) 2016

TEACHING

*online

Stanford University

- Graduate Teaching Consultant**, Center for Teaching & Learning 2020–2023
- Graduate Teaching Consultant Coordinator**, Center for Teaching & Learning 2021–2023
- Provide individualized teaching feedback to graduate students across the university.
 - Train and manage a team of more than a dozen graduate teaching consultants.
 - Evaluate graduate student needs using focus groups and surveys, contributed to a funding proposal for a graduate teaching certificate program, launched a university-wide teaching helpline for teaching-related questions.
 - Design & lead workshops, on e.g. student engagement, group work, leading discussions, inclusive pedagogy:
- Modell, A. & **Zhang, M. Y.** TA Orientation Any Time: A Self-Paced, Asynchronous Canvas Course.
Poster at Academic Technology Expo (ATXpo), Saint Mary’s College. 2023

- Zhang, M. Y.** & various co-facilitators. Leading discussions in the humanities & social sciences.
 Invited workshop for TA Orientation, Stanford University. Winter 2021*, Autumn 2021*, Autumn 2022
 Asynchronous course module for TA Orientation Anytime, Stanford University. 2023
- Zhang, M. Y.** Engaging students in the classroom.
 Invited workshop for Psychology TA Orientation, Psychology, Stanford University. 2022, 2023
- Zhang, M. Y.** & Guzman, K. Making groups work in class.
 Invited workshop for Teach the Teachers, School of Earth, Stanford University (cancelled). 2022
- Zhang, M. Y.** & Williams, L. Student engagement online.
 Invited workshop for TA Seminar, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Stanford University. 2020*

Teaching Assistant

- [Psych-Summer Research Program](#) Summer 2023
[Advanced Research](#) (Honors Program, Psych 198) Autumn 2022
 Introduction to Developmental Psychology (Psych 60) Spring 2021*, Summer 2021*
 • Led a lecture on language and thought.
 • Graded project-based assessments, and helped craft lecture and assignment design.
- [Introduction to Psychology](#) (Psych 1) Autumn 2019, Winter 2020, Spring 2020*
 • Led 2 sections of 12-18 students each quarter.
 • Developed new lesson plans & an online teaching guide for sections during COVID-19.
 • Provided learning-oriented feedback on written assignments and exams, as well as teaching feedback to fellow TAs.

MENTORING & OUTREACH

Research Mentor (12 to date)

- Organize weekly meetings on skills and professional development for undergraduate research assistants.
- Emily Rinehart (BA, Stanford) 2023–present
[Psych-Summer Research Program](#)
- Sachin Allums (BA, Stanford) 2022–present
- Linda Liu (BA, Stanford) 2022–present
[Psych-Summer Research Program](#)
- Kamilah Cole (BA, UC Berkeley) 2022
[CSLI Summer Internship](#)
- Amy Miyahara (BA, Stanford → lab manager in Psychology, Notre Dame) 2021–2023
[Psych-Summer Research Program](#), Psychology Honors Thesis (received [Stanford Undergraduate Research Major Grant](#))
- Natalie Sarmiento (BA, Stanford → lab manager in Psychology, UW-Madison) 2021–2022
- Alex Riklin (BA, Stanford) 2021–2022
- Mercedes Muñoz (BA, Boston University → PhD student in Psychology, Duke) 2020–2021
[CSLI Summer Internship](#)
- Melissa Santos (BA, Stanford University → lab manager in Psychology, Yale) 2019–2021
 Psychology Honors Thesis (received [Stanford Undergraduate Research Major Grant](#))
- Aarthi Popat (BA, Stanford → lab manager in Psychology, UCSD) 2019–2021
[Psych-Summer Research Program](#), Psychology Honors Thesis (received [Stanford Undergraduate Research Major Grant](#))
- Alanna Sun (BA, Stanford) 2019–2020
- Kristine Cho (BA, Pomona → PhD student in Marketing, UC Berkeley) 2019–2020
[CSLI Summer Internship](#)

Mentor for psychology PhD applicants

- [Project SHORT](#) (2021–present), [Application Statement Feedback Program \(ASFP\)](#) (2021–present),
 Stanford Psychology [Paths to PhD](#) (2019–present), Women's Community Center [Women in STEM Mentoring](#) (2018–2020)

Science outreach and education for middle schoolers from underprivileged/underrepresented backgrounds

- [Stanford Science Penpals](#) (2018–2020), [The Think Tank](#) educator & events manager (2015–2017; [media coverage](#))

ACADEMIC SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

Ad hoc reviewer

Psychological Science (co-reviewer), Cognitive Science Society (CogSci) conference, Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development (BCCCD)

Stanford University

Internship Coordinator, [Center for the Study of Language and Information \(CSLI\) Summer Internship](#) 2020, 2022

Internship Coordinator, Psych-Summer Research Program, Department of Psychology 2023

- Designed mentorship contracts, mentor training, orientation, weekly workshops, and other events for interns.

Diversity Committee, Department of Psychology 2019–2020

- Conducted the first systematic documentation of admission practices across the department, as part of an initiative assessing diversity in graduate admissions in the department.
- Twice co-organized an annual public event, [Paths to PhD](#), to communicate information about psychology graduate school and the application process to those from underrepresented backgrounds.
- Helped design a department climate survey and transparency document to hold the committee's work accountable to stakeholders.
- Created and maintains professional development resources, e.g. alumni & funding databases, for graduate students.

Cognitive/Developmental Faculty Search Committee, Department of Psychology 2021–2022

Developmental area graduate admissions reviewer & interview weekend organizer, 2019–2020, 2022–2023

Department of Psychology

Co-organizer for developmental brownbag seminar & journal club, Department of Psychology 2019–2020

Volunteer, Stanford Food Pantry 2019–present

The University of Chicago

Student Advisory Board, Cognitive Science Program 2017–2018

- Organized a group of undergraduates from psychology, philosophy, and linguistics to work with a faculty member on creating a cognitive science undergraduate major, which launched during the 2022-23 school year.

Faculty Liaison & Peer Mentor, [Psi Chi \(UC Psych\)](#) 2016–2018

- Organized and advertised quarterly public psychology talks by faculty speakers.
- Mentored undergraduates about the psychology major and department, research, and professional development.

Hunter College High School, The University of Chicago, Stanford University, [Partnership for Academic Competition Excellence](#)

Quizbowl leadership positions 2008–present

- Leading diversity & inclusion initiatives at institutional & national levels in quizbowl, an academic competition community. Instituted a code of conduct for a national tournament. Wrote profiles of quizbowlers from underrepresented backgrounds. Reviewed applications for a college scholarship for low-income quizbowlers.
- Managed 5-figure budgets and instituted financial aid & recruitment programs (emphasizing outreach to gender and racial minorities and first-gen/low-income students) for various clubs.
- Managed press releases, social media, and public communication as director of communications for a 501(3)(c) non-profit.