

Marianna Zhang

she/her

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EDUCATION

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

RESEARCH TRAINING

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

AWARDS & HONORS

Graduate Poster Award Runner-Up, Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)	2022
Research Data Grant, Institute for Research in the Social Sciences, Stanford University (\$1500)	2021
Diversity Travel Award , Cognitive Development Society (CDS)	2019
Norman H. Anderson Research Award , Psychology, Stanford University (\$2000)	2019
Regina Casper Stanford Graduate Fellowship in Science & Engineering , Stanford University	2018–2021
Dean's Distinguished University Fellowship, Ohio State University (3 years, declined)	2018
Phi Beta Kappa , The University of Chicago	2018
Graduate Research Fellowship, Honorable Mention , National Science Foundation	2018
Earl R. Franklin Research Fellowship , Psychology, The University of Chicago (\$3000)	2017
Student Leadership Recognition and Access Award , Student Government, The University of Chicago	2016
Dean's List, The University of Chicago (ineligible 2017)	2015, 2016, 2018
University Merit Scholarship , The University of Chicago	2014

PUBLICATIONS

Chestnut, E. K., Zhang, M. Y. , & Markman, E. M. (2021). "Just as good": Learning gender stereotypes from attempts to counteract them. <i>Developmental Psychology</i> , 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 <i>Proceedings of the 38th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society</i> (pp. 1967–1972). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society. (paper)

PRESENTATIONS

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 to be presented at Cognitive Development Society, Madison, WI.	2022
Zhang, M. Y. & Markman, E. M. Let's talk structure: the positive consequences of structural representations. Poster presented at the Society for Personality & Social Psychology conference, San Francisco, CA. (received Graduate Poster Award, Runner-Up)	2022

- Talk presented at Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development (BCCCD), virtual. 2022
- Talk presented at Harvard Women in Psychology Trends in Psychology conference, virtual. 2021
- Invited talk presented at Leonard Learning Lab lab meeting, Yale University. ([slides](#)) 2021
- Poster presented at the 43rd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, virtual. ([abstract](#), [poster](#)) 2021
- Talk presented at Stanford University Department of Psychology Developmental Area Brownbag. ([talk](#)) 2021
- Zhang, M. Y.** & Markman, E. M. Essentially blocked: the role of structural factors in blocking essentialism. 2019
- Poster presented at Cognitive Development Society Conference, Louisville, KY. ([poster](#)) 2019
- Talk presented 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. 2019
- Poster presented 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. 2018
- Poster presented 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. 2016
- Poster presented at the Harvard University Laboratory for Developmental Studies Summer Internship Poster Day, Cambridge, MA. ([poster](#))

TEACHING

Stanford University

Graduate Teaching Consultant, Center for Teaching & Learning 2020–present

Graduate Teaching Consultant Coordinator, Center for Teaching & Learning 2021–present

- Provide individualized teaching feedback to graduate students across the university.
- Design & teach workshops on e.g. student engagement, group work, leading discussions, inclusive pedagogy.
- 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.

Teaching Assistant

*online course

Introduction to Developmental Psychology (Psych 60)

Spring 2021*, Summer 2021*

- Led a student activity 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*

- Student ratings of teaching effectiveness: 4.5/5 (autumn 2019), 4.73/5 (winter 2020), 4.78/5 (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.
- Invited back in a two-quarter teaching program for a third quarter of teaching.

MENTORING & OUTREACH

Stanford University

Research Mentor

- Organize & lead weekly meetings on skills and professional development for research assistants.

Natalie Sarmiento (Undergraduate, Stanford University)

2021–present

Amy Miyahara (Undergraduate, Stanford University)

2021–present

[Psych-Summer Research Program](#) 2021

Alex Riklin (Undergraduate, Stanford University)

2021–2022

Mercedes Muñoz (Undergraduate, Boston University; now PhD student in Psychology, Duke)

2020–2021

[CSLI Summer Internship](#) 2020 (co-mentor with Nicky Sullivan): How does language affect children's developing representations of race?

Melissa Santos (Undergraduate, Stanford University; now lab manager in Psychology, Yale)

2019–2021

- Psychology Honors Thesis: “Just as good as boys”, “not like other girls”, “better than anyone ever”: How Storybook Language Influences Girls’ Career-Related Activity Choices (received [Stanford Undergraduate Research Major Grant](#))
- Aarthi Popat (Undergraduate, Stanford University; now lab manager in Psychology, UCSD) 2019–2021
[Psych-Summer Research Program](#) 2019
- Psychology Honors Thesis: “Just as Good”: The Extrapolation of Individual Directional Statements to Group Stereotypes (received [Stanford Undergraduate Research Major Grant](#))
- Alanna Sun (Undergraduate, Stanford University) 2019–2020
- Kristine Cho (Undergraduate, Pomona College; now PhD student in Marketing, UC Berkeley) 2019–2020
[CSLI Summer Internship](#) 2019: Recategorization and Behavioral Change
- Mentor for Pre-Graduate School Applicants**, [Project SHORT](#) 2021–present
- Personal Statement Editor**, [Application Statement Feedback Program \(ASFP\)](#) 2021
- Mentor**, [Women in STEM Mentoring Program](#), Women’s Community Center 2018–present
- Penpal**, [Stanford Science Penpals](#) 2018–2020
- Exchanged letters with low-income middle schoolers about life as a scientist.
- The University of Chicago*
- Events Manager**, [The Think Tank](#) 2015–2017
- Taught about neuroscience and neuroplasticity & organized outreach events at the university, at neighborhood schools serving URM students, and at science festivals to promote diversity in STEM. ([media coverage](#))

ACADEMIC SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

Stanford University

- Cognitive/Developmental Faculty Search Committee**, Department of Psychology 2021–2022
- Admissions Reviewer & Interim Coordinator** 2019, 2020
 2020, 2022
- [Center for the Study of Language and Information \(CSLI\) Summer Internship](#)
- Helped design mentorship contracts, mentor training, orientation, and program activities for mentors and 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 a 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.
- Graduate Admissions Reviewer & Prospectives’ Weekend Organizer** for developmental area 2019–2020, 2022
 Department of Psychology
- Co-organizer, developmental brownbag seminar & journal club** 2019–2020
 Department of Psychology
- [Volunteer](#), Stanford Food Pantry 2019–present
- Second Harvest of Silicon Valley x Stanford Residential & Dining Enterprises (RD&E)

The University of Chicago

- Chair, 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 a cognitive science major.
- 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.
- Quizbowl leadership (various positions) 2008–present

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

- Leading diversity & inclusion initiatives at university, institutional, & national levels in 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. Currently creating a directory of quizbowlers from underrepresented backgrounds to spotlight their visibility, particularly for editing and leadership positions.
- Managed 5-figure budgets, financial policies (e.g. instituting club financial aid programs), and recruitment (emphasizing outreach to gender and racial minorities and first-gen/low-income students) for various clubs.
- Drafted press releases & managed social media and public communications as director of communications for a 501(3)(c) non-profit.