

Matthew, Ganquan Shi

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LAST UPDATE: DECEMBER 18, 2025.

Research Interests

- Broad* Semantics, Syntax, Pragmatics, and their interfaces; Psycholinguistics
- Narrow* *Wh*-indefinites, Epistemic indefinites, Question, Disjunction, Argument dislocation, Sinitic languages (Mandarin, Wu, & Cantonese, and more)

Education

- 2024-29 **The University of Maryland, College Park (UMD)** *College Park, MD*
(expected) *Ph.D. Student in Linguistics*
Advisors: Alexander Williams and Aron Hirsch
- 2017-22 **The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK)** *Hong Kong*
Major in Linguistics (Minor in Japanese Language), Bachelor of Arts (1st Hons.)

Publications & Proceedings

NB: *first author; {co-first authors}

- 2024 **Shi, G.*** & Pan, H. (2024). Focus, QUD, and existential *wh*-indefinites in Mandarin. In T. S. Kim (Ed.), *Proceedings of the 25th Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar (SICOGG 25)* (pp. 227-244). [[full-text available](#)]
- 2023 **Shi, M. G.** (2023). Where is the retained object in indirect passives, and what is its Case? Evidence from object fronting phenomena in Wu Chinese. In T. S. Kim & J. Kang (Eds.), *Proceedings of The 24th Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar (SICOGG 24)* (pp. 141-165). [[full-text available](#)]

Presentations

NB: *first author; {co-first authors}

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2025 **Shi, M. G.***, & Pan H. (Dec 2025). Ungrammatical or infelicitous? Licensing condition for Mandarin *wh*-indefinites. Talk to be given at The 4th International Conference on Formal Approaches to Meaning in Chinese (ICFAMC 4). CUHK, Hong Kong. [[slides available](#)]
- 2025 **Shi, M. G.** (Oct 2025). Restricting ignorance. Poster given at The 56th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistics Society (NELS 56). NYU, New York. [[poster available](#)]
- 2025 **Shi, M. G.** (Oct 2024). Restricting ignorance. Poster given at The 11th Mid-Atlantic Colloquium of Studies in Meaning (MACSIM 11). JHU, Baltimore, MD (NON-PEER-REVIEWED)

- 2025 {Zumchak, W., Tang, C., **Shi, M. G.**, Laun, A., Chakraborty, A., & Lau, E. (Sept 2025). The role of contextual information in auditory perception: Investigating N400 effects under speech degradation. Poster given as part of the Sandbox Series at The 17th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Neurobiology of Language (SNL 2025). Gallaudet University, Washington DC.
- 2024 **Shi, M. G.***, Wu, H., Lam, G. Y., Kang, X., Wong, P. C. M., & Geng, X. (Oct 2024). The role of language comprehension ability on anxiety in autistic and typically-developing children. Poster given at The 16th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Neurobiology of Language (SNL 2024). Brisbane, Australia.
- 2023 **Shi, G.***, Yang, C. L., & Pan, H. (Dec 2023). Reflexive reference resolution in Mandarin: An eye-tracking study. Poster given at Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP) Asia 2023. CUHK, Hong Kong. [[poster available](#)]
- 2023 **Shi, G.*** & Pan, H. (Aug 2023). Focus, QUD, and existential *wh*-indefinites in Mandarin. Poster given at The 25th Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar (SICOGG 25). Dongguk University, Seoul: South Korea. [[poster available](#)]
- 2022 **Shi, G.** (Aug 2022). Where is the retained object in indirect passives, and what is its Case? Evidence from object fronting phenomena in Wu Chinese. Talk given at The 24th Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar (SICOGG 24). Sogang University, Seoul: South Korea (Online).

OTHER SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- 2024 **Shi, M. G.**, (Nov 2024). Where does ignorance come from? Talk given at UMD Meaning Meeting. University of Maryland, College Park.

Teaching Experience

- 2025(F) **LING 200 Introduction to Linguistics**, University of Maryland

Duty: Lead weekly discussion section, design and prepare course materials, grade and provide detailed feedback on individual coursework, and hold office hours.

Instructor: Dr. Margaret Antonisse

Awards & Scholarships

- 2025 General Institute Fellowship for LSA Summer Institute (University of Oregon), LSA
- 2024– Dean's Fellowship, Department of Linguistics, UMD
- 2024– Graduate Assistantship, Department of Linguistics, UMD
- 2019-22 Dean's List Awards (2019/20-2021/22), Faculty of Arts, CUHK
- 2021 S.H. Ho College Annual Scholarships for Outstanding Academic Performance, CUHK
- 2017 Full-tuition Admission Scholarships (Mainland China), CUHK

Selected Non-Degree Education

- 2025 The LSA Summer Institute
University of Oregon (7 Jul - 9 Aug)
- 2022-24 The 4-9th NYI Global Institute of Cultural, Cognitive, and Linguistic Studies (V-NYI)
Held online

Services

- 2025- S(yntax)-Lab
Co-organizer *UMD, MD*

- 2025- Dean's Graduate Advisory Board, College of Arts & Humanities
Representative, Linguistics *UMD, MD*
- 2025 The 8th Forum on Cantonese Linguistics (FoCaL-8) (25 Jun)
Organizing Committee *HKU, Hong Kong*
- 2025 Mayfest 2025 - Constraints on Meaning (16-17 May)
Organizing Committee *UMD, MD*
- 2023 The 2nd International Symposium on Formal Approaches to Meaning in Chinese (ISFAMC) (20-23 Jun)
Coordinator *CUHK, Hong Kong*
- 2022-24 S.H. Ho College, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Resident Tutor *Hong Kong*

■ Employment

- 08/2024- Department of Linguistics, UMD *College Park, MD*
Graduate Assistant
- 01-07/2024 Brain and Mind Institute (BMI), CUHK *Hong Kong*
Research Assistant (PI: Xiujuan Geng)
- 2022-23 Laboratory of Theoretical Psycholinguistics (LTP), CUHK *Hong Kong*
Research Assistant (PI: Haihua Pan)

■ Skills

- Language **Native:** Mandarin & Linhai Wu; **Fluent:** English & Cantonese; **Intermediate:** Japanese.
- Software R, L^AT_EX.
- Experiment techniques Experiment Builder & Data Viewer (*SR Research*), EyeLink 1000 Plus (*SR Research*); EEG (*EGI*), E-Prime 2; Qualtrics; Praat.

■ Professional Affiliation

- 2024- Linguistic Society of America (LSA)
- 2023- Generative Linguistics in the Old World (GLOW)