Weijie Xu

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Education

2021-2026   **University of California, Irvine**
Ph.D., Language Science
Advisor: Richard Futrell

2019-2021   **The University of Chicago**
M.A., Computational Social Science
Thesis: *Is there a predictability hierarchy in reference resolution?*
Advisor: Ming Xiang

2015-2019   **Shanghai International Studies University**
B.A., Spanish Language and Literature

Additional Training

2022   The North American Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information (NASSLLI), USC

2022   The 6th Summer School on Statistical Methods for Linguistics and Psychology, Univ of Potsdam

Publications

submitted   **Weijie Xu** & Ming Xiang. Priming without adaptation: In search of adapted expectation bias in syntactic comprehension.

2026   **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. Strategic resource allocation in memory encoding: An efficiency principle shaping language processing. *Journal of Memory and Language*, *146*, 104706.

2025   **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. Informativity enhances memory robustness against interference in sentence comprehension. *Journal of Memory and Language*, *142*, 104603.

2025   Charles Torres, **Weijie Xu**, Yanting Li & Richard Futrell. Creolization versus code-switching: An agent-based cognitive model for bilingual strategies in language contact. In *Proceedings of the Workshop on Cognitive Modeling and Computational Linguistics*.

2024   **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. A hierarchical Bayesian model for syntactic priming. In *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 46.

2024   **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. Syntactic dependency length shaped by strategic memory allocation. In *Proceedings of the 6th Workshop on Research in Computational Linguistic Typology and Multilingual NLP*.

2023   **Weijie Xu**, Jason Chon, Tianran Liu & Richard Futrell. The linearity of the effect of surprisal on reading times across languages. In *Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: EMNLP 2023*.

2022   Ming Xiang, Christopher Kennedy, **Weijie Xu** & Timothy Leffel. Pragmatic reasoning and semantic convention: A case study on gradable adjectives. *Semantics and Pragmatics*, 15, 9-1.

2021   **Weijie Xu** & Ming Xiang. Is there a predictability hierarchy in reference resolution? In *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 43.

Conference Presentations

2025   Jiaxuan Li, **Weijie Xu**, Judith Kroll & Xin Xie. Adapting to foreign-accented speech: ERP evidence of interactions between phonetic and semantic processes. Poster at *Society for the Neurobiology of Language (SNL) 17th Annual Meeting*, Washington DC.

2025   Charles Torres, **Weijie Xu**, Yanting Li & Richard Futrell. Creolization versus code-switching: An agent-based cognitive model for bilingual strategies in language contact. Oral presentation at *the 14th Workshop on Cognitive Modeling and Computational Linguistics (CMCL)*, Albuquerque, May 3.

2025   **Weijie Xu**, Hailin Hao & Richard Futrell. Strategic memory allocation in the dependency locality effect in comprehension. Poster at *the 38th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP)*, College Park, Mar 27-29.

2025   Hailin Hao, **Weijie Xu**, Richard Futrell & Michael Hahn. Information locality in the processing of English object relative clauses. Talk at *the 38th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP)*, College Park, Mar 27-29.

2024   **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. A hierarchical Bayesian model for syntactic priming. Poster at *the 46th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci)*, Rotterdam, July 26-29.

2024   **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. Dependency length shaped by strategic memory allocation: A corpus study in 11 languages. Poster at *the 37th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP)*, Ann Arbor, May 16-18.

2024   **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. A hierarchical Bayesian model for syntactic priming. Poster at *the 37th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP)*, Ann Arbor, May 16-18.

2024   **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. Syntactic dependency length shaped by strategic memory allocation. Oral presentation at *the 6th Workshop on Research in Computational Linguistics Typology and Multilingual NLP (SIGTYP)*, Malta, March 21.

2024   **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. Dependency locality shaped by resource rationality: Evidence from English and Spanish. Oral presentation at *California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP)*, Palo Alto, Jan 13-14.

2024   **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. A hierarchical Bayesian model for syntactic priming. Poster at *California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP)*, Palo Alto, Jan 13-14.

2023   **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. Dependency locality optimized for computational rationality. Poster at *the Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing Asia (AMLaP Asia)*, Hong Kong, Dec 1-3.

2022   **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. Informativity enhances memory precision in the agreement attraction effect. Poster at *the 28th Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP)*, York, Sept 7-9.

2022   **Weijie Xu**, Jiaxuan Li, Ming Xiang & Richard Futrell. Syntactic adaptation to short-term cue-based distributional regularities. Poster at *the 44th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci)*, Toronto, July 27-30.

2022   **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. Informativity affects memory precision in the agreement attraction effect. Poster at *the 35th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP)*, Santa Cruz, March 24-26.

2022   **Weijie Xu**, Jiaxuan Li & Ming Xiang. Syntactic adaptation to short-term cue-based distributional regularities. Poster at *the 35th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP)*, Santa Cruz, March 24-26.

2021   **Weijie Xu** & Ming Xiang. Is there a predictability hierarchy in reference resolution? Poster at *the 43rd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci)*, Vienna, July 26-29.

2021   **Weijie Xu** & Ming Xiang. Processing referring expressions: Accessibility is not predictability. Poster at *the 34th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing*, Philadelphia, March 4-6.

2021   Ming Xiang & **Weijie Xu**. Reanalysis difficulty modulates cumulative structural priming effects in sentence comprehension. Poster at *the 34th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing*, Philadelphia, March 4-6.

2021   Ming Xiang, Christine Gu, Yixue Quan, **Weijie Xu** & Suiping Wang. Probability matching vs. regularization in contact-induced syntactic change. Poster at *the 34th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing*, Philadelphia, March 4-6.

Scholarships and Awards

2025   Outstanding Scholarship Award ($500), UC Irvine School of Social Sciences

2021   The University Merit-Based Scholarship (3 quarters), UC Irvine

2020   The University Merit-Based Scholarship ($40,200), The University of Chicago

2019   Phoenix Research Award ($20,000), The University of Chicago

Teaching

Instructor of Record at UC Irvine

| Lsci 2 | Discovering Language | Summer 2025 |

Teaching Assistant at UC Irvine

Lsci 3	Introduction to Linguistics	Winter 2022, Fall 2022, Winter 2023, Winter 2025, Fall 2025
Lsci 20	Introduction to Syntax	Spring 2024
Lsci 155	Psychology of Language	Winter 2024

Psych 9a	Psychology Fundamentals	Spring 2025
Psych 129	Evolutionary Psychology	Fall 2024
SocSci 70c	Comparing Cultures	Spring 2022

Mentor at UC Irvine

| Lsci 159 | Experimental Method | Spring 2025 |

Pedagogical Training

The Course Design Essentials (CDE) Program, UC Irvine, 2024
Mentoring Excellence Certificate Program, UC Irvine, 2024

Service and Experience

Journal and Conference Reviewer

Journal	Journal of Memory and Language
	Language, Cognition & Neuroscience
	Open Mind
	Journal of Linguistics

| Conference | Annual Meeting of Cognitive Science Society (CogSci) 2025 |
| | California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP) 6, 7 |

Research & Work Experience

| 2020.1 - 2021.6 | Language Processing Lab, The University of Chicago |
| | *Research Assistant*, with Prof. Ming Xiang |

| 2018.5 - 2018.10 | Dyson Technology (Shanghai) Limited |
| | *Consumer Insight Research Intern* |

Skills

Language	Mandarin Chinese (native)
	Gan Chinese (native)
	English (proficient)
	Spanish (intermediate)

| **Technical** | Programming skills (Python, R, SQL); basic web design (HTML); web scraping (Beautiful-Soup); large scale computing (Spark, PyWren, Amazon Web Services); experiment toolkits (PCIbex, Amazon MTurk, Prolific) |