

Xiaomeng “Miranda” Zhu

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research centers on the following two questions:

- (i) How is meaning acquired and represented in large (multimodal) language models?
- (ii) How can we develop and evaluate natural language processing systems using linguistic insights?

EDUCATION

• Yale University	<i>PhD Student in Computational Linguistics</i>	<i>August 2023 - Expected 2029</i>
◦ Advisors: Robert Frank and R. Thomas McCoy		New Haven, CT
• Wellesley College	<i>BA in Computer Science; Cognitive and Linguistic Sciences</i>	<i>September 2019 - May 2023</i>
◦ GPA: 3.96/4.00; <i>summa cum laude</i>		Wellesley, MA
Other Training		
Linguistics Society of America Summer Institute 2025		Eugene, OR

PUBLICATIONS

1. X. Zhu, R.T. McCoy, R. Frank. 2025. The Structural Sources of Verb Meaning Revisited: Large Language Models Display Syntactic Bootstrapping. *arXiv preprint*.
2. X. Zhu*, Z. Zhou*, S. Charlow, R. Frank. 2025. [Meaning Beyond Truth Conditions: Evaluating Discourse Level Understanding via Anaphora Accessibility](#). *ACL 2025*.
3. Y. Wang, X. Zhu*, W. Lyu*, S. Hassanpour, S. Vosoughi. 2025. [IMPSCORE: A Learnable Metric For Quantifying The Implicitness Level of Language](#). *ICLR 2025*.
4. X. Zhu and R. Frank. 2024. [LIEDER: Linguistically-Informed Evaluation for Discourse Entity Recognition](#). *ACL 2024*.
5. X. Zhu. 2023. [The Modified Mother Tongue: Examining Chinese Vowel Quality Shift in Chinese-Dominant Chinese-English Code-Switching Environments](#). *Honors Thesis, Wellesley College*.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1. X. Zhu*, Z. Zhou*, S. Charlow, R. Frank. Do LLMs Understand Anaphoric Accessibility? *Poster presented at the 8th Annual Meeting of Society for Computation in Linguistics (SCiL 2025)*. Eugene, OR, USA.
2. X. Zhu. A Dynamic Neural Field Model for Production Mode and Phonological Neighborhood Density Effects. *Symposium talk at Linguistic Society of America (LSA) 2025 Annual Meeting*. Philadelphia, PA, USA.
3. K. Liu*, X. Zhu*, and C. Anderson. [XiaoshuoNLP: An NLP Pipeline for Processing Chinese Literary Texts](#). *Poster presented at the New Directions in Analyzing Text as Data (TADA) 2023*. Amherst, MA, USA.

RESEARCH AFFILIATIONS

Yale CLAY Lab	2023 - present
Yale Phonetics Lab	2023 - present
Wellesley College EASEL Lab	2022 - 2023
MIT Experimental Syntax and Semantics Lab	2021 - 2022
Wellesley College Sociolinguistics Lab	2022
MIT Media Lab	2020

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Society of Computation in Linguistics Student Travel Award (\$500)	2025
Wu Tsai Institute Graduate Fellow, <i>Yale University</i>	2023 - present
Sigma Xi, <i>Wellesley College</i>	2023
Phi Beta Kappa, <i>Wellesley College</i>	2023

TEACHING

Teaching Fellow for Topics in Computational Linguistics: Subregular Linguistics , <i>Yale University</i>	Fall 2025
Tutor for Foundations of Computer Systems , <i>Wellesley College</i>	2022
Tutor for Front-End Web Development , <i>Wellesley College</i>	2020

SERVICE

Yale Linguistics Department Colloquium Series

Co-organizer

2024-2025

LANGUAGES AND SKILLS

Natural Languages: Mandarin Chinese (native), English (near-native), Spanish (intermediate)

Programming Languages: Python, Java, R, JavaScript, Racket

Frameworks: PyTorch, TensorFlow, spaCy