

Mingyang Bian

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3401-C Walnut Street, Suite 300, Philadelphia, PA 19104, United States of America

RESEARCH AREAS

Semantics and pragmatics (formal, experimental, and diachronic); Mandarin and Classical Chinese.

EDUCATION

- **Doctor of Philosophy in Linguistics, University of Pennsylvania** 2023 - Present
Philadelphia, PA, United States of America
 - Advisor: Prof. Florian Schwarz
 - Affiliation: Penn Meaning Lab, Department of Linguistics
- **Master of Science in Linguistics, the University of Edinburgh** 2021-2022
Edinburgh, Scotland, United Kingdom
 - Dissertation title: *A Commitment-based Analysis of Believe as an Implicature Trigger* (Supervisors: Dr. Wataru Uegaki, Dr. Ciyang Qing)
 - Degree awarded with Distinction and conferred on Nov 25, 2022
- **Bachelor of Arts in Persian, Shanghai International Studies University** 2017-2021
Shanghai, People's Republic of China
 - Thesis title: *A Comparative Study of Contemporary Iranian Persian and Afghan Dari* [in Chinese] (Supervisor: Prof. LIU Hui)
 - Distinguished University Graduate of Shanghai; degree conferred on June 10, 2021
- **Summer School for Persian Language and Literature, Allameh Tabatabai University** Summer 2018
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

PUBLICATIONS

- Bian, Mingyang & Paloma Jeretič. To Appear. *The Story of a Light Verb Modal in Chinese*. Proceedings of the 38th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics.
- Bian, Mingyang. To Appear. *Interpreting Negation under Yiqian 'before' in Mandarin Chinese*. Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 30.
- Bian, Mingyang. To Appear. *Two Types of Definites in Kono (Sierra Leone)*. Penn Working Papers in Linguistics 33.1: Proceedings of PLC 50 (PWPL 33.1).

TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

INVITED TALKS

Bian, Mingyang. 2026. *Interpreting Negation under Yiqian 'before' in Mandarin Chinese*. Presented at the Negation Network.

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Bian, Mingyang & Paloma Jeretič. 2026. *The Story of a Light Verb Modal in Chinese*. Presented at The 38th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics (NACCL-38), George Washington University, Washington D.C., United States.
- Bian, Mingyang. 2026. *Two Types of Definites in Kono (Sierra Leone)*. Presented at The 50th Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC 50), University of Pennsylvania, PA, United States.
- Bian, Mingyang. 2025. *Interpreting Negation under Yiqian 'before' in Mandarin Chinese*. Presented at Sinn und Bedeutung 30 (SuB 30), Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany.
- Bian, Mingyang. 2025. *Processing Meta-linguistic Negation: Evidence from Negated Tautologies*. Presented at the 11th Experimental Pragmatics Conference (XPrag 2025), Cambridge University, United Kingdom.

Bian, Mingyang. 2022. *A Free-Relative Analysis of a Correlative-like Structure in Mandarin Chinese*. Presented at Linguistics and English Language Postgraduate Conference 2022 (LELPGC22), the University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom.

REGIONAL & INTERNAL COLLOQUIUM TALKS

Bian, Mingyang. 2025. *Interpreting Negation under Yiqian 'before' in Mandarin Chinese*. Presented at the 11th Mid-Atlantic Colloquium of Studies in Meaning (MACSIM), Johns Hopkins University.

Bian, Mingyang. 2024. *A Commitment-based Analysis of Believe as an Implicature Trigger*. Presented at the 10th Mid-Atlantic Colloquium of Studies in Meaning (MACSIM), University of Maryland.

Bian, Mingyang. 2023. ———. Presented at Integrated Language Sciences and Technology (ILST), University of Pennsylvania.

Bian, Mingyang. 2022. ———. Presented at Edinburgh Meaning Science Group (EMSG), the University of Edinburgh.

HONORS, AWARDS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- **Benjamin Franklin Fellowship** 2023 - Present
University of Pennsylvania
 - For doctoral studies at the Department of Linguistics, School of Arts and Sciences.
- **SAS Dean's Travel Subvention** 2026
School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pennsylvania
- **President Gutmann Leadership Award** 2025
University of Pennsylvania
 - Award Number: GAPSA-PGLA-12953-FALL25
- **ILST Small Grant** 2025
Language and Communication Sciences, University of Pennsylvania
- **Distinguished University Graduate of Shanghai** 2021
Education Commission of Shanghai
 - Award Number: 20211027102008
- **National Scholarship** 2019
Ministry of Education, People's Republic of China
 - Award Number: BZK201907824

TEACHING & RESEARCH SERVICES

- **University of Pennsylvania**
 - 2025 Fall: Teaching Assistant for *LING 0700: Data Science for Studying Language and the Mind*; Primary Instructor: Kathryn Schuler.
 - 2025 Spring: Research Assistant to Paloma Jeretič on light verb modality.
 - 2024 Fall: Teaching Assistant for *LING 0001: Introduction to Linguistics*; Primary Instructor: Aletheia Cui.
- **The University of Edinburgh**
 - 2022: Research Assistant for *MECORE* (a cross-linguistic investigation of meaning-driven combinatorial restrictions in clausal embedding); Principal Investigators: Wataru Uegaki, Maribel Romero.
- **Shanghai International Studies University**
 - 2020: Research Assistant for *Project: Handbook of Indigenous Languages*; Principal Investigator: LI Weifeng.

OTHER ACADEMIC SERVICES

- **2026 - University of Pennsylvania**
 - Session Chair for Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC) 50 - Pragmatics
- **2025 - University of Pennsylvania**
 - Content Chair for Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC) 49
- **2024 - University of Pennsylvania**
 - Copy-editor for Penn Working Papers in Linguistics (PWPL) 30.2 and 31.1.

SKILLS

- **Languages:** Mandarin Chinese (native); English (fluent); Persian (working proficiency); Sierra Leone Kono (fieldwork experience).
- **Statistics and Computation:** R (specialization in analysis and data-visualization of linguistic variations); Python (intermediate, familiarity with NLTK); Praat.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- **Linguistic Society of America**, Student Member, Contact ID: 261516

2023 - Present