

Chaoyi Chen

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Areas of specialisation

Syntax; Semantics; Chinese Linguistics; Experimental Linguistics

Employment

2024- Assistant Professor in English
Hunan University

Education

DEGREE-SEEKING PROGRAM

2018-24 **PhD** in Linguistics, Rutgers University
Dissertation: The Syntax and Semantics of Headless Relative Clauses
Committee: Mark Baker (co-chair), Yimei Xiang (co-chair), Dorothy Ahn, Ivano Caponigro (external member)

2015-18 **M.A.** in Linguistics, Peking University
Thesis: The (Non-)Occurrence of Localizers in Mandarin Chinese
Advisor: Xuhui Hu

2011-15 **B.A.** in English Language and Literature, Nankai University

NON-DEGREE STUDIES

2016 Fall **Visiting student** in Linguistics, National Tsing Hua University

Honors & awards

2023-24 Excellence Fellowship, Rutgers University

2023 Awards for Distinguished Contributions to Undergraduate Education, SAS, Rutgers University

Spring 2023 Excellence Fellowship, Rutgers University

2018-22 Presidential Summer Stipend, Rutgers University

2018-20 Excellence Fellowship, Rutgers University

2017 National Academic Scholarship, Ministry of Education, People's Republic of China

2016 The Yu-Minhong Scholarship, Peking University

2014 Merit Student, Nankai University

2012-14 Excellent Student Cadre, Nankai University

2012-14 Scholarship for Outstanding Students, Nankai University

Publications

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- In press **Chaoyi Chen.** The lexical category of [-wh] nominal headless relatives: the case of Mandarin. *The Linguistic Review*. Doi: <https://doi.org/10.1515/tlr-2025-0028>

PROCEEDINGS PAPERS

- 2024 **Chaoyi Chen.** Concessiveness and verum focus: the semantics of Mandarin concessive scalar particle *hai*. *Proceedings of CLS 59*.
- 2023 **Chaoyi Chen.** Mandarin verbal reduplication and the one-delimitation principle. *Proceedings of LSA, 8(1)*. Doi: <https://doi.org/10.3765/plsa.v8i1.5521>.
- 2022 **Chaoyi Chen.** Presupposition licenses limited ellipsis: evidence from the nonverbal *wh*-question in Mandarin. *Proceedings of CLS 56*.
- 2021 **Chaoyi Chen.** The unexpectedness of concessive scalar particles: a mirativity account. *Proceedings of SICOOG 23*.

Presentations

- 2025 What is syntactically moved is what is semantically composed: pied-pipings in English *wh*-free relatives. *SICOOG-27 Poster*. Seoul.
- 2024 Null-operator-based free relatives: a case study on Mandarin free relatives. *GLOW-in-Asia XIV Poster*. Hongkong.
- 2023 The antecedent preferences for Mandarin reflexive *ziji* and *ta-ziji*. *ICTEAP-4 Poster*. Seoul. (joint work with Dorothy Ahn)
- 2023 The object-reading preference in doubly-gapped Mandarin relatives. *TEAL-13*. Taipei.
- 2023 Concessiveness and verum focus: the emergence of Mandarin concessive scalar particle *hai*. *CLS-59*. Chicago.
- 2023 Mandarin concessive scalar particle *hai*: verum focus and *Maximize Presupposition!*. *MACSIM-9*. Philadelphia.
- 2023 Chinese verbal reduplication and the one-delimitation principle. *LSA-97*. Denver.
- 2021 The unexpectedness of concessive scalar particles: a mirativity account. *SICOOG-23 Poster*. Online.
- 2020 Presupposition licenses limited ellipsis: evidence from the nonverbal *wh*-question in Mandarin. *CLS-56*. Chicago. [Cancelled due to Covid-19]
- 2020 Two Effects of the Utterance-final Particle *hao-bu-hao* in Mandarin Chinese. *NACCL-32*. Online.
- 2020 The nonverbal *wh*-question in Mandarin and limited ellipsis. *SICOOG-22*. Online.
- 2019 Two Effects of the Utterance-final Particle *hao-bu-hao* in Mandarin Chinese. *IACL-27*. Kobe, Japan. [declined]
- 2018 The (Non-)Occurrence of Localizers in Mandarin Chinese and the Analyticity and Syntheticity in Locative PP. *IWSAGP2018*. Beijing.
- 2015 The Reduplication in Fuzhou Chinese. *The Annual Conference of the Tianjin Association of Linguistics*. Tianjin.

Teaching

HUNAN UNIVERSITY

Fall 2026-	College English III
Spring 2026-	College English II
Summer 2025-	Linguistic fieldwork
Spring 2025-	General Linguistics
Fall 2025-	Contrastive Analysis of English and Chinese

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

Fall 2022	Head teaching assistant for Intro to Linguistic Theory (LING 201)
Summer 2022	Instructor of record for Syntax (LING 305)
Spring 2022	Instructor of record for Intro to Linguistic Theory (LING 201 honors college section)
Fall 2021	Instructor of record for Intro to Linguistic Theory (LING 201)
Spring 2021	Instructor of record for Intro to Linguistic Theory (LING 201)
Fall 2020	Teaching assistant for Intro to Linguistic Theory (LING 201)

Reviewing

2026	Linguistic and Philosophy
2025	Natural Language and Linguistic Theory
2020-	Linguistics Research

Service

2022-24	Co-organizer of Morphology Reading Group, Rutgers University
2021-2022	President of Linguistics Graduate Student Association, Rutgers University
Fall 2021	Organizing committee member of NELS52
Spring 2021	Vice President of Linguistics Graduate Student Association, Rutgers University
2020-21	Co-organizer of Linguistics Colloquia, Rutgers University
2019-20	Treasurer of Linguistics Graduate Student Association, Rutgers University
2015	Organizer of IALIC 2015 (International Association for Languages and Intercultural Communication), Peking University
2014	Organizer of 12 th China Linguistics Summer Institute, Nankai University

Memberships

2019-	Member of Linguistic Society of America (LSA)
2016-18	Minimalist Program Reading Group, Peking University

Languages

NATIVE	Mandarin Chinese; Fuzhou Chinese
PROFICIENT	English
BASIC	French; Korean; Bengali

Skills

SOFTWARE PROFICIENCIES: R, $\LaTeX$, Praat, SPSS

Last updated: August 25, 2026