

Yimei XIANG

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AREAS OF INTEREST

- Broad: Semantics, philosophy of language, syntax-semantics interface, experimental approaches to semantics and pragmatics, Chinese & East Asian linguistics
- Narrow:
- Questions, free relatives, *wh*-conditionals
 - Focus, polarity items, implicatures, Alternative Semantics
 - Categorical approaches, compositionality
 - Functional particles in East Asian languages
 - Attitudes, belief, knowledge
 - Neg-raising, negation and aspects

EMPLOYMENT

- 2018– **Rutgers University**, New Brunswick, NJ, USA
Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics
- 2016–17 **Harvard University**, Cambridge, MA, USA
College Fellow, Department of Linguistics

EDUCATION

- 2010–16 **Ph.D. in Linguistics**
Department of Linguistics, Harvard University
Dissertation: *“Interpreting Questions with Non-Exhaustive Answers.”*
Committee: Gennaro Chierchia (co-chair), Danny Fox, C.-T. James Huang (co-chair)
- 2006–10 **B.A. in Chinese Linguistics**
Department of Chinese, Peking University

VISITING EXPERIENCE

- 2017–18 **University of Chicago**, Chicago, IL, USA
Department of Linguistics
- 2017 **University van Amsterdam**, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Institute for Logic, Language, and Computation (ILLC), March

PUBLICATIONS

Journal papers

- 2018 *A hybrid categorial approach to question composition.*
Under revision. 49pp.

- 2018 **Function alternations of the Mandarin particle *dou*: Distributor, free choice licenser, and ‘even’**
 (Old title: “Mandarin particle *dou* as a pre-exhaustification exhaustifier.”)
 Accepted (with minor revision) by *Journal of Semantics*. 40pp.
- 2017 **ONLY: An NPI-licenser and NPI-unlicenser.**
Journal of Semantics 34 (3): 447-481. DOI: [10.1093/jos/ffx006](https://doi.org/10.1093/jos/ffx006)

Peer-reviewed conference proceedings

- 2016 **Mandarin particle *DOU*: A pre-exhaustification exhaustifier.**
 Christopher Piñón (ed.), *Empirical Issues in Syntax and Semantics* (vol 11): 275-304. Paris: Colloque de Syntaxe et Sémantique à Paris.

Conference Proceedings with peer-reviewed abstracts

- 2017 **Mentions-some readings of plural-marked questions: Experimental evidence.**
 Yimei Xiang and Alexandre Cremers.
 In Andrew Lamont and Katerina A. Tetzloff (eds.), *Proceedings of North East Linguistics Society* 47 (vol 3): 261-274, University of Massachusetts, Amherst.
- 2016 **Solving the dilemma between uniqueness and mention-some.**
 In Brandon Prickett and Christopher Hammerly (eds.), *Proceedings of North East Linguistics Society* 46 (vol 3): 285-298. Concordia University, Montréal.
- 2016 **Complete and true: A uniform analysis for mention-some and mention-all.**
 In Bade, Nadine, Polina Berezovskaya and Anthea Schöller (eds.), *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung* 20: 815-830. University of Tübingen, Tübingen.
- 2015 **Mention-some readings of questions: Complexities from number marking.**
 In Thomas Brochhagen, Floris Roelofsen and Nadine Theiler (eds.), *Proceedings of Amsterdam Colloquium* 20: 438-447. Institute for Logic, Language, and Computation (ILLC), University van Amsterdam, Amsterdam.
- 2015 **A grammatical view of exhaustification with focus movement: Evidence from NPI.**
 In Eva Csipak and Hedde Zeijlstra (eds.), *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung* 19: 657-674. University of Göttingen, Göttingen.
- 2014 **Neg-raising: Focus and implicatures.**
 In Urtzi Etxeberria, Anamaria Fălăuş, Aritz Irurtzun and Bryan Leferman (eds.), *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung* 18: 487-503. University of the Basque Country, Vitoria-Gasteiz.
- 2013 **Neg-raising and aspect: Evidence from Mandarin.**
 In *University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics*. Vol. 19 (1): 257-266. University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania.

Dissertation

- 2016 ***Interpreting questions with non-exhaustive answers.***
 Ph.D. dissertation. Harvard University. MA: Cambridge.

Manuscripts

- 2014 **Obligatory neg-raising in Mandarin: Negatives and aspects.**

PRESENTATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Conference Presentations

- 2019 Getting quantifying-into questions uniformly: Functionality, exhaustivity, and QVE. [Poster]
Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT) 29, UCLA. May 17-19.
- 2017 *Wh*-items quantify over polymorphic sets.
Chicago Linguistics Society (CLS) 53. University of Chicago, Chicago. May 25-27.
- 2017 Composing questions: A hybrid categorial approach.
Workshop of Compositionality at the Interfaces, Generative Linguistics in the Old World
(GLOW) 40, Leiden University Centre for Linguistics (LUCL). March 14.
- 2016 Mentions-some readings of plural-marked questions: Experimental evidence.
North East Linguistics Society (NELS) 47, University of Massachusetts, Amherst. October
14-16. [with Alexandre Cremers]
- 2016 Deriving the ambiguity of mention-some questions by pre-exhaustifications.
Linguistic Society of America (LSA) Annual Meeting 90, Washington. January 7-10.
- 2015 Mention-some readings of questions: Complexities from number-marking.
Amsterdam Colloquium (AC) 20, Institute for Logic, Language, and Computation (ILLC),
University van Amsterdam. December 16-18.
- 2015 Solving the dilemma between uniqueness and mention-some.
North East Linguistics Society (NELS) 46, Concordia University, Montréal. October 16-18.
- 2015 Mandarin *dou* as a pre-exhaustification operator: Quantification and free choice.
European Association of Chinese Linguistics (EACL) 9, University of Stuttgart. September
24-26.
- 2015 Mandarin *dou* as a pre-exhaustification operator: Quantification and free choice"
Linguistics Association of Great Britain (LAGB) 2015, University College London, London.
September 15-18.
- 2015 Complete and true: A uniformed analysis for mention-some and mention-all.
Sinn und Bedeutung (SuB) 20, University of Tübingen. September 9-12.
- 2015 Sensitivity to false answers. [Poster]
Experimental Pragmatics (XPRAG) 2015, University of Chicago and Northwestern University,
Chicago. July 16-18.
- 2015 Mention-all versus mention-some: Exhaustivity and sensitivity to false answers.
Experimental and crosslinguistic evidence for the distinction between implicatures and
presuppositions" (ImPres), ZAS, Berlin. July 1-3.
- 2015 Multiple exhaustifications and multiple scalar items.
Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC) 39, University of Pennsylvania. March 20-22.
- 2014 Obligatory neg-raising in Mandarin: Negatives and aspects.
Theoretical East Asian Linguistics (TEAL) 9, University of Nantes. September 25-26.
- 2014 A grammatical view of exhaustification with focus movement: Evidence from NPI.
Sinn und Bedeutung (SuB) 19, University of Göttingen. September 15-17.

- 2014 Focus structure and NPI-licensing. [Poster]
Generative Linguistics in the Old World (GLOW) 37, KU Leuven HUBrussel. April 2-11.
- 2013 Neg-raising: Focus and implicatures. [Poster]
Sinn und Bedeutung (SuB) 18, University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU), Vitoria-Gasteiz.
September 11-13.
- 2012 Neg-raising and aspect: Evidence from Mandarin. [Poster]
Penn Linguistics Colloquium (PLC) 36, University of Pennsylvania. March 23-25.

Invited Presentations

- 2019 TBD
Multiple *wh*- constructions and their kin. University of Nantes. November 25-26.
- 2019 TBD
Oberseminar Colloquium. University of Göttingen. June 11.
- 2019 TBD
Workshop of Exhaustivity in questions and answers — Experimental and theoretical approaches. Tübingen University. June 13-14.
- 2018 Interpreting mention-some questions
Huazhong Agricultural University. December 27.
- 2018 Composing questions: Reviving the categorial approach
Wuhan University. December 26.
- 2018 Function alternations of the Mandarin particle *dou*
Central China Normal University. December 24.
- 2018 Function alternations of the Mandarin particle *dou*
Tsinghua University. December 16.
- 2018 A hybrid categorial approach to question composition
NYU Semantics Group. September 25.
- 2018 A hybrid categorial approach to question composition
Multiple *wh*- constructions and their kin. University of Nantes. September 17-18.
- 2018 Quantifying into questions
Multiple *wh*- constructions and their kin. University of Nantes. September 17-18.
- 2018 A hybrid categorial approach to question composition
Department of Linguistics. Rutgers University. Feb 7.
- 2018 Complete and true: Attitudes held of questions [Job talk]
Department of Linguistics. Rutgers University. Feb 6.
- 2017 Alternations of logical functions: Mandarin particle *dou* as a pre-exhaustification exhaustifier.
School of English Studies, Beijing Language and Culture University. July 5.
- 2017 Sensitivity to false answers in interpreting questions under attitudes.
School of Foreign Languages, Tsinghua University. July 4.
- 2017 Reviving the categorial approach: What does a question denote?"
Department of Chinese, Peking University. July 3.

- 2017 Semantics bootcamp: Questions”
Department of Chinese, Peking University. July 2.
- 2017 What does a question denote?
The First Forum for International Young Scholars. School of Foreign Languages, Shanghai Jiao Tong University. June 28.
- 2017 Alternations of logical functions: Mandarin particle *dou* as a pre-exhaustification exhaustifier.
School of Foreign Languages, Shanghai Jiao Tong University. June 27.
- 2017 Composing complex questions: Multi-*wh* questions and questions with quantifiers.
The Discourse and Philosophy (DIP) Colloquium. Institute for Logic, Language and Computation (ILLC), University van Amsterdam. March 17.
- 2017 Sensitivity to false answers in interpreting questions under attitudes.
Inquisitive Semantics seminar, Institute for Logic, Language, and Computation (ILLC), University van Amsterdam. March 17.
- 2016 Mandarin particle *dou*: A pre-exhaustification exhaustifier.
Workshop of Exhaustivity and Cognitive Architecture, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. September 10.
- 2016 Sensitivity to false answers in indirect questions.
Workshop of Attitudes and Questions, Center for Formal Epistemology, Carnegie Mellon University. June 10-11.
- 2015 Deriving disjunctive mention-all answers.
Inquisitive Semantics closing workshop Questions in Semantics and Logic. Institute for Logic, Language and Computation (ILLC), University van Amsterdam. December 15.
- 2015 Solving the dilemma between uniqueness and mention-some.
Department of Linguistics, University College London. September.
- 2015 Uniqueness, mention-some, and mention-all.
Zentrum für Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft (ZAS), Berlin. June.
- 2015 Uniqueness, mention-some, and mention-all.
The DFG Meeting: Questions in Discourse, University of Göttingen. June.

Other Presentations (non peer-reviewed)

- 2018 Complete and true: Attitudes held of questions
Linguistics and Philosophy Workshop. University of Chicago. Feb 2.
- 2018 A hybrid categorial approach to question composition
Linguistics and Philosophy Workshop. University of Chicago. Jan 26.
- 2017 Sensitivity to false answers in interpreting questions under attitudes.
PhiLing Workshop. Northwestern University. November 10.
- 2017 Composing pair-list readings: Multi-*wh* questions versus questions with quantifiers.
Workshop in honor of David Pesetsky’s 60th birthday. MIT. February 11. [Poster]
- 2016 Short answers, mention-some, and uniqueness: A hybrid approach for questions.
Logical Form Reading Group (LFRG), Linguistics Department, MIT. February 17.

- 2015 Number-marking in *wh*-questions: Uniqueness and mention-some.
Logical Form Reading Group (LFRG), Linguistics Department, MIT. March 30.
- 2014 Complete and true: a uniform analysis for mention-some and mention-all questions.
Logical Form Reading Group (LFRG), Linguistics Department, MIT. October 23.
- 2014 Mention-some and mention-all readings of modalized questions.
Harvard Graduate Student Workshop in Linguistics 2014, Harvard University. Nov 22.
- 2014 Interpreting indirect *wh*-interrogatives: From an experimental perspective.
Language and Cognition, Psychology Department, Harvard University. October 21.
- 2014 A semantic approach to the distribution of mention-some questions.
The DFG Meeting: Questions in Discourse, University of Göttingen. September 18-20.
- 2014 Exhaustification, focus structure and NPI-licensing.
Logical Form Reading Group (LFRG), Linguistics Department, MIT. March 20.
- 2013 Focus structure and NPI-licensing.
Harvard Graduate Student Workshop in Linguistics 2013, Harvard University. Nov 23.
- 2013 Covert *only* versus overt *only*: Evidence from NPI-licensing.
Southern New England Workshop in Semantics (SNEWS) 2013, MIT. Nov 16.
- 2011 Negation is not always focus-sensitive.
Southern New England Workshop in Semantics (SNEWS) 2011, UConn. April 16.
- 2011 Canonical Negatives and Aspectual Markers in Mandarin.
Harvard Graduate Student Workshop in Linguistics 2011, Harvard University. Nov 19.

TEACHING

As primary instructor (at Rutgers)

- 2020 Qualifying Paper Workshop.
Graduate, Spring
- 2020 Semantics.
Undergraduate, Spring
- 2019 Semantics I.
Graduate, Fall
- 2019 Semantics.
Undergraduate, Fall
- 2019 Semantics of Questions.
Graduate seminar, Spring
- 2018 Semantics I.
Graduate, Fall
- 2018 Pragmatics.
Undergraduate, Fall

As primary instructor (at Harvard)

- 2017 Knowledge of Meaning.

	Undergraduate semantics, Spring.
2017	Word Structure. Undergraduate morphology, Spring.
2016	Semantics of Questions. Graduate seminar, Fall.
2014	Mathematical Methods in Linguistics. Sophomore tutorial, Spring.
2013	The Meaning of Negation. Junior tutorial, Fall.
2013	Intensional Semantics. Junior tutorial, Fall.
2013	Mathematical Methods in Linguistics. Sophomore tutorial, Spring.
2013	Chinese Phonology and Phonetics. Sophomore tutorial, Spring.
2012	The Meaning of Negation. Junior tutorial, Fall.

As teaching fellow (at Harvard)

2014	Knowledge of Meaning. Undergraduate semantics, primary instructor Dr. Andreea Cristina Nicolae.
2012	Language, Structure, and Cognition. Introduction to linguistics, primary instructor Dr. Li Julie Jiang.

ADVISING

As Dissertation Committee member:

ongoing Morgan Moyer

As qualifying paper committee member:

ongoing Akane Ohtaka, Megan Gotoswik
2018-19 Lydia Newkirk, Christopher Oakden

SERVICE

Rutgers University

- 2018-19 • Member, Graduate Admission Committee, Department of Linguistics
 • Member, Search Committee for one-year semantics lecturer, Department of Linguistics
 • Faculty advisor, Senior Projects Evaluation Committee, Department of Linguistics

Harvard University

- 2014-15 • Departmental Teaching Fellow (pedagogy consultant), The Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning

REVIEWING

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| Journals | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Linguistic Inquiry</i>: 2018• <i>Journal of Semantics</i>: 2015×2, 2016×2, 2017×2• <i>Natural Language and Linguistic Theory</i>: 2016, 2018• <i>Language and Linguistics (Academia Sinica)</i>: 2018 × 4• <i>Pragmatics</i>: 2018• <i>Journal of Pragmatics</i>: 2018• <i>Journal of Linguistics</i>: 2016• <i>Syntax</i>: 2016• <i>Semantics-Syntax Interface</i>: 2015 |
| Conference abstracts | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Colloque de Syntaxe et Sémantiqueà (CSSP): 2019• Exhaustivity in questions and answers (ExQA): 2019• Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT): 2018, 2019• Encontro Internacional de Sintaxe e Semântica & Interfaces (EISSI): 2018• Chicago Linguistics Society (CLS): 2018• Sinn und Bedeutung (SuB): 2017, 2018, 2019• Semantics of African, Asian, and Austronesian Languages (TripleA): 2017, 2018, 2019• Inquisitiveness Below and Beyond the Sentence Boundary (InqBnB): 2017• Amsterdam Colloquium: 2017• North East Linguistic Society (NELS): 2016, 2017, 2018• Non-At-Issue Meaning and Information Structure (NAIS): 2017• Generative Linguistics in the Old World (GLOW): 2017, 2019• GLOW-in-Asia: 2017• Linguistic Society of America (LSA): 2017• Israel Association for Theoretical Linguistics (ITAL): 2016• ESSLLI Student Session: 2014 |

OTHERS

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|-----------|---|
| Language | Mandarin (Native), English (Fluent), Japanese (Basic) |
| Technical | L ^A T _E X, Python, R, SPSS, Praat, Adobe Illustrator (digital art design) |