

Yanwan Zhu

PHD CANDIDATE IN COGNITIVE SCIENCE · BROWN UNIVERSITY

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Education

Brown University

Providence, RI

PH.D. IN COGNITIVE SCIENCE

2021 - 2026*

- Advisor: Dr. Roman Feiman
- Dissertation Committee: Dr. Roman Feiman (chair), Dr. Scott AnderBois, Dr. Julia Marshall

Smith College

Northampton, MA

B.A. IN LINGUISTICS, STATISTICS & DATA SCIENCES

2017 - 2021

- Honors thesis advisor: Dr. Jill de Villiers & Dr. John Kingston
- Thesis title: *Perception of Mandarin nasal codas by Shanghainese-Mandarin bilingual listeners*

Publications

PUBLISHED

Kyuchukov, H., de Villiers, J., **Zhu, Y.**, Zhong, I. 2024. Assessing the acquisition of Romani in Roma children. *Language Acquisition*, 1-36.

UNDER REVISION

Zhu, Y., Feiman, R. Toddlers use “when” and “if” to talk about certain and uncertain possibilities.

Presentations

* *presenting author*

REFEREED TALKS

Zhu, Y., Feiman, R*. 2023. *Can children represent mere possibilities? Probing comprehension of “if” and “when” with task persistence.* Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development (BCCCD). Budapest, Hungary.

Zhu, Y.*, Feiman, R. 2023. *Children selectively use “when” and “if” to talk about certain and uncertain possibilities.* The 48th Boston University Conference on Language Development. Boston, MA.

REFEREED POSTERS

Zhu, Y.*, Feiman, R. 2025. *Can children represent mere possibilities? Probing comprehension of “if” and “when” with task persistence.* The 50th Boston University Conference on Language Development. Boston, MA.

de Villiers, J. G.*, **Zhu, Y.**, Bernstein, L., Quevedo, L., Zhong, S. 2021. *Preschool children misjudge the truth of negative complements.* The 15th Congress of the International Association for the Study of Child Language. Online.

OTHER PRESENTATIONS

Zhu, Y.*, Feiman, R. 2025. *Can children represent mere possibilities? Probing comprehension of “if” and “when” with task persistence.* DevLogic Workshop at Yale University. New Haven, CT.

Awards, Fellowships, & Grants

- 2025 **Best paper contributing to linguistic diversity (Paper title: *Assessing the acquisition of Romani in Roma children*)**, Language Acquisition
- 2025 **Paula Menyuk Travel Award**, BUCLD 50
- 2023 **Paula Menyuk Travel Award**, BUCLD 48
- 2020 **Nancy Kershaw Tomlinson Memorial Fund**, Smith College
- 2019 **Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship**, Smith College

Teaching Experience

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|------|---|-------------------------|
| 2025 | Child Language Acquisition , Teaching Assistant | <i>Brown University</i> |
| 2024 | Statistical Methods , Teaching Assistant | <i>Brown University</i> |
| | Language and the Mind , Teaching Assistant | <i>Brown University</i> |
| 2023 | Mind, Brain, and Behavior , Teaching Assistant | <i>Brown University</i> |
| | Research Methods , Teaching Assistant | <i>Brown University</i> |
| 2022 | Introduction to Linguistics , Teaching Assistant | <i>Brown University</i> |

Advising

- 2024-2026 **Ellie Travers**, undergraduate research intern at Brown University (University of Bath)

Outreach & Professional Development

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

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|-----------|--|-------------------------|
| 2024-2025 | CoPsy Department , Graduate Recruitment & Admission Representative | <i>Brown University</i> |
| 2023-2024 | CoPsy Department Diversity & Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) Committee , Member of the Hiring and Recruitment Subcommittee | <i>Brown University</i> |

PEER REVIEW

Conference: CogSci