# **Curriculum Vitae**

Xiaotong Xi

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# **Research interests**

Second Language Pronunciation Acquisition, Phonetic Training, Hand Gestures

# Accreditations and degrees

PhD in Translation and Language Sciences (2023). Universitat Pompeu Fabra. Thesis title: "Multimodal phonetic training: the benefits of hand gestures on learning L2 sounds". Supervisor: Pilar Prieto.

MA in Theoretical and Applied Linguistics (2019). Universitat Pompeu Fabra. Thesis title: "The effects of visuospatial gestures on the acquisition of L2 Mandarin aspirated consonants". Supervisor: Pilar Prieto.

BA in Spanish Philology (2018). Xi'an International Studies University. Thesis title: "Comparación de la oración simple del español con la del chino desde el punto de vista semántico". Supervisor: Wei Cao.

## Peer-reviewed journal articles

**Xi, X.**, Li, P., & Prieto, P. (accepted). Improving L2 vowel production with hand gestures encoding visible articulation: Evidence from picture-naming and paragraph-reading tasks. *Language Learning*.

Ozakin, A., **Xi, X.**, Li, P., & Prieto, P. (2023). Thanks or tanks: Training with tactile cues improves learners' accuracy of English interdental consonants in an oral reading task. *Language Learning and Development*, *19*(4), 404–419. <u>http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/15475441.2022.2107522</u>

Li, P., **Xi, X.**, Baills, F., & Prieto, P. (2021). Training non-native aspirated plosives with hand gestures: learners' gesture performance matters. *Language Cognition and Neuroscience*, *36*(10), 1313–1328. https://doi.org/10.1080/23273798.2021.1937663

**Xi, X.**, Li, P., Baills, F., & Prieto, P. (2020). Hand gestures facilitate the acquisition of novel phonemic contrasts when they appropriately mimic target phonetic features. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research, 63*(11), 3571–3585. <u>https://doi.org/10.1044/2020\_JSLHR-20-00084</u>

# **Conference proceedings**

**Xi, X.**, Li, P., & Prieto, P. (2023). Reducing acoustic overlap of L2 English vowels through gestures encoding lip aperture. In A. Henderson & A. Kirkova-Naskova (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 7th International Conference on English Pronunciation: Issues and Practices* (pp. 261–270). Université Grenoble-Alpes. doi: 10.5281/zenodo.8225191

**Xi, X.** & Li, P. (2023). Effects of stress and prominence on Spanish stops and lenition in L2 speech of proficient Mandarin learners of Spanish. *Proceeding of the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences* (ICPhS 2023). In R. Skarnitzl & J. Volín (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences* (pp. 2740–2744). Guarant International.

**Xi, X.**, Li, P., & Prieto, P. (2023). Does visuospatial working memory predict L2 perceptual learning from phonetic training with hand gestures? *Proceeding of the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences* (ICPhS 2023). In R. Skarnitzl & J. Volín (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences* (pp. 2670–2674). Guarant International.

Li, P. & Xi, X. (2023). Nuclear contours of Spanish echo questions produced by proficient Chinese learners of Spanish: A dynamic analysis. *Proceeding of the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences* (ICPhS 2023). In R. Skarnitzl & J. Volín (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences* (pp. 2491–2495). Guarant International.

**Xi, X.** & Li, P. (2022). Spanish stops and their allophones produced by proficient Mandarin learners of Spanish. In L. C. Mai, N. T. M. Huyen, N. T. T. Trang, & D. V. Hai (Eds.), *Proceeding of the 25th Conference of the Oriental COCOSDA*. doi: 10.1109/O-COCOSDA202257103.2022.9997932

Li, P. & Xi, X. (2022). Spanish lexical stress produced by proficient Mandarin learners of Spanish. *Proceedings of the 4th International Symposium on Applied Phonetics (ISAPh 2022).* doi: 10.21437/ISAPh.2022-8

### **Book chapters**

Li, P., Baills, F., **Xi, X.**, & Prieto, P. (2024). Gesture shape and gesture-speech alignment are important during embodied L2 pronunciation training. In A. Brown, & S. W. Eskildsen (eds.). *Multimodality and Multilingual Interaction Across Epistemologies*. Routledge.

## **Presentations at conferences**

### Oral presentations

**Xi, X.** & Li, P. (2024, August). Exploring the influence of study abroad on L2 perception of segmental and prosodic contrasts: A focus on Chinese learners studying in Spain. The 21st AILA World Congress (AILA 2024). Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia): August 11-16.

Yao, T., **Xi, X.**, & Prieto, P. (2024, July). A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of Storytelling Interventions in Second Language Learning. The 33rd Conference of the European Second Language Association (EuroSLA 33). Montpellier (France): July 3-6.

**Xi, X.**, Zhou, S., & Li, P. (2024, July). Exploring the role of duration as a prosodic marker for contextual factors in the production of Mandarin positive polar questions. Speech Prosody 2024 (SP2024). Leiden (the Netherlands): July 2-5.

Li, P. & **Xi, X.** (2024, July). The perception of Spanish lexical stress by proficient Mandarin learners of Spanish. Speech Prosody 2024 (SP2024). Leiden (the Netherlands): July 2-5.

Yao, T., **Xi, X.**, & Prieto, P. (2024, March). The effects of oral narrative interventions on second language learning: a meta-analysis. The 2024 Conference of American Association for Applied Linguistics (AAAL 2024). Houston (USA): March 16-19.

**Xi, X.** & Li, P. (2023, November). Spanish imperatives produced by proficient Chinese learners of Spanish: The differences in prenuclear pitch accent and boundary tones. The 2nd International Conference on Tone and Intonation (TAI 2023). Singapore: November 18-20.

**Xi, X.** & Li, P. (2023, October). The effects of study abroad on the perception of L2 Spanish stops and lexical stress by L1 Chinese learners. The 10th International Conference on Second Language Acquisition Research in China. Jinan (China): October 27-29.

**Xi, X.**, Li, P., & Prieto, P. (2023, August). Does visuospatial working memory predict L2 perceptual learning from phonetic training with hand gestures? The 20th International Conference of Phonetic Sciences (ICPhS 2023). Prague (Czech Republic): August 7-11.

Li, P. & **Xi**, **X**. (2023, August). Nuclear contours of Spanish echo questions produced by proficient Chinese learners of Spanish: A dynamic analysis. The 20th International Conference of Phonetic Sciences (ICPhS 2023). Prague (Czech Republic): August 7-11. **Xi, X.**, Li, P., & Prieto, P. (2023, March). Hand gestures encoding articulatory features and the learning of L2 vowels: the effects of visual accessibility. The 2023 Conference of American Association for Applied Linguistics (AAAL 2023). Portland (USA): March 18-21.

**Xi, X.** & Li, P. (2022, November). Spanish stops and their allophones produced by proficient Mandarin learners of Spanish. The 25th Conference of the Oriental COCOSDA (O-COCOSDA 2022). On-line event: November 24-26.

**Xi, X.**, Li, P., & Prieto, P. (2022, July). Hand gestures encoding articulatory features and the learning of L2 vowels: the effects of visual accessibility. The 9th Conference of the International Society for Gesture Studies (ISGS 9). Loyola University Chicago: Chicago (USA): July 13-15.

**Xi, X.**, Li, P., & Prieto, P. (2022, May). Hand gestures cueing visible lip shape help the pronunciation of L2 English vowel pair. The 7th International Conference on English Pronunciation: Issues & Practices (EPIP 7). Université Grenoble-Alpes: Grenoble (France): May 18-20.

**Xi, X.**, Li, P., & Prieto, P. (2022, April). Training English vowels with hand gestures: the effects of encoding articulatory movements to different degrees of visual accessibility. The 10th International Symposium on the Acquisition Second Language Speech (New Sounds 2022). University of Barcelona: Barcelona (Spain): April 20-22.

**Xi, X.**, Li, P., Baills, F., & Prieto, P. (2021, July). Hand gestures facilitate the acquisition of novel phonemic contrasts when adequately encoding target articulatory features. The 30th Conference of the European Second Language Association (EuroSLA 30). On-line event: June 30 - July 3.

Li, P., **Xi, X.**, Baills, F., & Prieto, P. (2021, July). Actively producing hand gestures mimicking articulatory features favors the long-term acquisition of novel words containing those features. The 30th Conference of the European Second Language Association (EuroSLA 30). On-line event: June 30 - July 3.

**Xi, X.**, Li, P., Baills, F., & Prieto, P. (2020, September). Training the pronunciation of L2 novel phonetic features: a comparison of observing versus producing hand gestures. The 7th Gesture and Speech in Interaction (GeSpIn 2020). On-line event: September 7-9.

Li, P., **Xi, X.**, Baills, F., & Prieto, P. (2020, September). Appropriately performing hand gestures cueing phonetic features facilitates simultaneous speech imitation in an L2. The 7th Gesture and Speech in Interaction Conference (GeSpIn 2020). On-line event: September 7-9.

# Poster presentations

**Xi, X.** & Li, P. (2024, June). Exploring perceptual development of L2 phonological contrasts during a study abroad program. The 19th Conference on Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon 19). Seoul (South Korea): June 27-29.

**Xi, X.** & Li, P. (2023, August). Effects of stress and prominence on Spanish stops and lenition in L2 speech of proficient Mandarin learners of Spanish. The 20th International Conference of Phonetic Sciences (ICPhS 2023). Prague (Czech Republic): August 7-11.

**Xi, X.**, Li, P., & Prieto, P. (2023, June). In L2 phonetic training, learners benefit more with hand gestures cuing visually salient articulatory information. The 5th Conference of the Phonetics and Phonology in Europe 2023 (PaPE 2023). Nijmegen (the Netherlands): June 2-4.

Li, P. & **Xi**, **X**. (2023, June). The prosodic realization of Spanish focus in nuclear positions by proficient Chinese learners of Spanish: The case of broad, corrective and contrastive foci. The 5th Conference of the Phonetics and Phonology in Europe 2023 (PaPE 2023). Nijmegen (the Netherlands): June 2-4.

Li, P. & **Xi**, **X**. (2022, September). Spanish lexical stress produced by proficient Mandarin learners of Spanish. Poster presentation at The 4th International Symposium on Applied Phonetics (ISAPh 2022). Lund University: Lund (Sweden): September 14-16.

Ozakin, A. S., **Xi, X.**, Li, P., & Prieto, P. (2021, June). Thanks or tanks: training with tactile cues facilitates the pronunciation of English interdental consonants. Poster presentation at The 12th Annual Pronunciation in Second Language Learning and Teaching Conference (PSLLT 2021). On-line event: June 18-19.

# Funding

"Multimodal Communication (MCOM): The integration of prosody and gesture in human communication and in language learning" (PID2021-123823NB-I00). Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación / Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation. 01/09/2022 - 01/09/2025. Principle Investigador: Pilar Prieto. Amount: 85305 €

"Grup de Recerca Consolidat (GRC) Grup d'Estudis de Prosòdia i Gestualitat (GrEPG)" (2021 SGR\_922). Pla de recerca de Catalunya. 01/03/2023 - 01/03/2025. Principle Investigador: Pilar Prieto. Amount: 60000 €

"Multimodal Language Learning (MLL): Prosodic and Gestural Integration in Pragmatic and Phonological Development" (PGC2018-097007-B-I00). Ministerio de Ciencia, Innovación y Universidades. 01/01/2019 - 31/12/2021. Principle Investigador: Pilar Prieto. Amount: 44770 €

"Grup de Recerca Consolidat (GRC) Grup d'Estudis de Prosòdia (GrEP)" (2017 SGR \_ 971). Pla de Recerca de Catalunya. 01/04/18 - 01/04/21. Principle Investigador: Pilar Prieto. Amount: 26029.25 €

# Grants

Grants for the recruitment of new research staff (FI). May, 2020 – April, 2023. Funded by Agència de Gestió d'Ajuts Universitaris i de Recerca (AGAUR) and European Social Fund.

Merit Awards for International Students. September, 2016 – June, 2017. Funded by Chinese Scholarship Council (CSC) and Agencia Mexicana de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo (AMEXCID).

# Study and research stay abroad

Universidad de Colima (Mexico). September, 2016 – June, 2017.

### Formal teaching experience

Year 2023-24. School of Foreign Studies, Shandong University of Finance and Economics. - Comprehensive English IV. Teaching language: English. BA in English Language and Literature.

Year 2021-23. Department of Translation and Language Sciences, Universitat Pompeu Fabra.Phonetics and Phonology. Teaching language: English. MA in Theoretical and Applied Linguistics.

### Academic training

Statistics for language studies - Universitat Pompeu Fabra, May 7-28, 2021

From draft to submission: publishing an article or book chapter in English – Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Feb 9-23, 2021

FIDU programme: initial training for university teachers – Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Sep 21, 2020-Jun 30, 2021

#### Academic service

#### Journal or conference reviewer

- Language Teaching Research
- ICPhS 2023
- MMSYM 2023/2024
- Speech Prosody 2024

Workshop or Conference organizer

- MMSYM 2023 (Spain, 2023)
- UrLING 2021 (Spain, 2021)

### Languages

- Mandarin (Native)
- English (C1)
- Spanish (B2)
- Catalan (A2)