

Ruoxuan Li

PHD STUDENT · LINGUISTICS

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Research Interests

Theoretical and experimental syntax, comparative syntax between French and Chinese, psycholinguistic methods

Education

Laboratoire de Linguistique Formelle (LLF), Université Paris Cité

Paris

PHD IN LINGUISTICS (EXPERIMENTAL SYNTAX)

2022 - 2026

- Thesis: « Towards a typology of wh-in situ strategies: theoretical and processing perspectives »
- Supervisor: Prof. Caterina Donati

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Massachusetts, USA

LSA (LINGUISTIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA) SUMMER INSTITUTE

Jun - Jul 2023

- Courses: Advanced Psycholinguistics, Advanced Syntax, Sentence Production, Children's Acquisition of Grammar

Université Paris Cité

Paris

MASTER IN THEORETICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL LINGUISTICS

2020 - 2022

- Master thesis: « Processing covert dependencies: the case of wh-in situ questions in spoken French »
- Mention: Bien
- Supervisor: Prof. Caterina Donati

Université Paris Cité

Paris

BACHELOR IN THEORETICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL LINGUISTICS

2019 - 2020

- Mention: Bien

University of International Relations | GPA 3.63/4.00

Beijing, China

BACHELOR IN FRENCH LANGUAGES

2015 - 2019

- Honours Classification: Upper Second-Class Honours

Sciences Po Toulouse

Toulouse, France

ERASMUS+

2017 - 2018

- Courses: French culture and languages, Minors in Micro- and macroeconomics; 5e Republic law and government policy
- Mention: Bien

Marietta College

Ohio, USA

SUMMER SCHOOL

Jun - Jul 2016

- Courses: American history and culture, American government and foreign policy, U.S.- China Network security

Teaching Experience

2022, 2023 **Theoretical syntax**, TD (24h), UFR Linguistique

U Paris Cité

Publications

Li, R.X., D. Gras, C. Donati. 2025. Investigating locality constraints on wh-in situ in French: an experiment. *Probus*. <https://doi.org/10.1515/probus-2025-0002>

Awards, Fellowships, & Grants

2022-2026 **PhD's Scholarship**, China Scholarship Council

64,800 €

2024	Smarts-up international mobility grant , Université Paris Cité	2,600 €
	Individual mobility grant , ED 622	300 €
	Travel grant , Labex EFL	1,000 €
2023	Bourses de formation , Labex EFL	2,600 €
	Individual mobility grant , ED 622	1,000 €
	Travel grant , LLF	1,500 €
2022	Master's Scholarship , Labex EFL	3,000 €

Presentations

* *presenting author*; + *mentored undergraduate*

TALKS

2023. (With Gras, D., Donati, C.) *Subject-object asymmetry in French wh-in situ questions: an experimental study*. Going Romance, Nijmegen, Netherlands, Nov 30-Dec 1.
2023. (With Gras, D., Donati, C.) *Different reflexes of the same underlying structure: an experimental study on two types of French wh-questions*. Workshop on Syntax, Semantics, and Phonology (WoSSP 19), Nantes Université, Nantes, France, Sept 26-29.

POSTERS

2025. (With Donati, C.) *A cartography of (covert) wh-movement across languages: some experimental evidence*. 50th Incontro di Grammatica Generativa, University of Padova, Italy, Feb 19-21.
2024. (With Donati, C.) *More experimental evidence for a covert dependency in wh-in situ questions in Mandarin Chinese*. Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP 30) Conference, Edinburgh, Scotland, Sept 5-7.
2023. (With Gras, D., Donati, C.) *Does French wh-in situ involve the same dependency as wh-ex situ? An experiment and a perspective on Mandarin Chinese*. 14th Generative Linguistics in the Old World in Asia (GLOW in Asia XIV), The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong(SAR), China, Mar 6-8.
2023. (With Gras, D., Donati, C.) *French wh-in situ: an experimental study*. Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP 29) Conference, Donostia-San Sebastián, Basque Country, Spain, Aug 31-Sept 2.

CONTRIBUTED PRESENTATIONS

- Zhu, Y.M.*+, **R.X. Li**, C. Donati*, 2023. Crosslinguistic influence for an abstract constraint: evidence from French/Chinese bilinguals. Bilingualism Matters Research Symposium, University of South Carolina, Columbia, USA, Oct 20-21.

Research Experience

Chinese University of Hong Kong - Department of Linguistics and Modern Languages

VISITING STUDENT, RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Hong Kong

Mar 2024 - May 2024

- Project: Mandarin as a heritage language in Paris and Hong Kong
- Supervisor: Prof. Victor Junnan Pan

Mentoring

- 2023-2024 **Qiuji Huang**, wh-questions in Hakka, M1, Université Paris 8 Vincennes - Saint-Denis
- 2022-2023 **Yimin Zhu**, Crosslinguistic influence in French/Chinese bilinguals, M2, Université Paris Cité

Internship

- 2021 **Master 1 research internship**, at LLF, supervised by Peijia Su (PhD student), translation/correction of syntactic experiment items, formatting in ibex farm
- 2020 **Licence 3 research internship**, at LLF, supervised by Anne Abeillé, analysis of French polar fragments in Frantext/Orfeo corpora

Service & Skills

SERVICE

Mar 2024 **14th Generative Linguistics in the Old World in Asia (GLOW in Asia XIV)**, Organizing Member *Hong Kong*

EXPERIMENTAL METHODS

Acceptability judgment, self-paced reading, picture-sentence matching task, Maze task, eye-tracking methods

LANGUAGES

Chinese (native speaker), French (DALF C2, 78/100), English (level B2-C1)

SOFTWARE

Python, Javascript, IbexFarm, PCibex, jsPsych, RStudio, Overleaf, Elan, Audacity, Experiment Builder, Data Viewer