

Yimin Xiao

PhD Candidate, University of Maryland | yxiao@umd.edu | yiminxiao.com

EDUCATION

- 2021-2027 **University of Maryland, College Park**
Ph.D. in Information Studies
Thesis: Three Pathways Toward Human Agency in AI-Assisted Language Use
Committee: Ge Gao (Chair), Wayne Lutters, Marine Carpuat, Hal Daumé III, Q. Vera Liao
- 2018-2021 **Syracuse University**
M.S. in Applied Data Science
M.A. in Linguistic Studies, Certificate of Advanced Studies in Language Teaching
- 2014-2018 **Shanghai International Studies University (SISU), Shanghai, China**
B. Management in Information Management & Systems, Minor in Finance
B.A. in English
Studying abroad at the University of North Carolina Wilmington (Fall 2016)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2021- **Graduate Research Assistant.** HCIL & College of Information, University of Maryland
Advisor: Ge Gao. [Related publications: C6, C5, J1, C3]
Conducting theory-driven, mixed-methods research on human agency in AI-assisted language use and communication. Developing interaction design approaches to support human agency and leading the implementation of interactive systems.
- 2024-2026 **Graduate Research Assistant.** TRAILS, University of Maryland
PIs: Marine Carpuat, Ge Gao [Related publication: C7]
Led the design and implementation of a public museum-based behavioral experiment to study public trust in and reliance on AI language systems. Contributed to research assistant training for participant outreach and visitor engagement.
- 2019-2021 **Graduate Research Assistant.** School of Information Studies, Syracuse University
PI: Lu Xiao. [Related publications: C4, C2, C1]
Conducted data-driven NLP research to analyze online discussion dynamics and curate corpora. Assisted in qualitative and experimental research on human-AI interaction.

PUBLICATIONS (* = Equal contribution, C = Conference, J = Journal)

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles and Conference Proceedings

- C7 **Yimin Xiao**, Yongle Zhang, Dayeon Ki, Calvin Bao, Marianna J. Martindale, Charlotte Vaughn, Ge Gao, Marine Carpuat. 2025. Toward machine translation literacy: How lay users perceive and

rely on imperfect translations. *In Proceedings of the Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP'25 Main Conference)*. [DOI](#) | [PDF](#)

- C6** **Yimin Xiao**, Cartor Hancock, Sweta Agrawal, Nikita Mehandru, Niloufar Salehi, Marine Carpuat, Ge Gao. 2025. Sustaining human agency, attending to its cost: An investigation into AI design for non-native speakers. *In Proceedings of the Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI'25)*. [DOI](#) | [PDF](#)
- C5** Yuexi Chen, **Yimin Xiao**, Kazi Zinat, Naomi Yamashita, Ge Gao, Zhicheng Liu. 2025. Comparing native and non-native English speakers' behaviors in collaborative writing through visual analytics. *In Proceedings of the Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI'25)*. [DOI](#) | [PDF](#)
- C4** Lu Xiao, **Yimin Xiao**, Giovanni Da San Martino, Preslav Nakov, Changzhou Zheng. 2025. Detecting persuasion techniques in online propaganda: An AI-annotation intervention. *In Proceedings of the 58th Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS-58)*. [DOI](#) | [PDF](#) **Best Paper Nomination**
- J1** **Yimin Xiao**, Yuewen Chen, Naomi Yamashita, Yuexi Chen, Zhicheng Liu, Ge Gao. 2024. (Dis)placed contributions: Uncovering hidden hurdles to collaborative writing involving non-native speakers, native speakers, and AI-powered editing tools. *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction (CSCW2)*, 1-31. [DOI](#) | [PDF](#)
- C3** Nikita Mehandru, Sweta Agrawal, **Yimin Xiao**, Ge Gao, Elaine C Khoong, Marine Carpuat, Niloufar Salehi. 2023. Physician detection of clinical harm in machine translation: Quality estimation aids in reliance and backtranslation identifies critical errors. *In Proceedings of the Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP'23)*. [DOI](#) | [PDF](#) **Outstanding Paper Award**
- C2** Charis Asante-Agyei, **Yimin Xiao**, Lu Xiao. 2022. Will you talk about God with a spirituality chatbot? An interview study. *In Proceedings of the 55th Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS-55)*. [DOI](#) | [PDF](#)
- C1** **Yimin Xiao***, Zong-Ying Slaton*, Lu Xiao. 2020. TV-AfD: An imperative-annotated corpus from The Big Bang Theory and Wikipedia's Articles for Deletion discussions. *In Proceedings of the Twelfth Language Resources and Evaluation Conference (LREC'20)*. [PDF](#)

Extended Abstracts, Workshop Papers, and Doctoral Consortium

- EA3** Yuhang Zhou, **Yimin Xiao**, Wei Ai, Ge Gao. The hidden language of harm: Examining the role of emojis in harmful online communication and content moderation. *Seventh Workshop on Natural Language Processing and Computational Social Science (NLP+CSS) at ACL'26*. [DOI](#) | [PDF](#)
- EA2** **Yimin Xiao**. 2025. Designing AI-based language tools for non-native speakers' language use and development. *Extended Abstract of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI'25 Remote Doctoral Consortium)*.
- EA1** **Yimin Xiao**, Lu Xiao. 2020. Effects of anonymity on comment persuasiveness in Wikipedia Articles for Deletion discussions. *Fourth Workshop on Natural Language Processing and Computational Social Science (NLP+CSS) at EMNLP'20*. [DOI](#) | [PDF](#)

HONORS & AWARDS

2026	UMD HCIL Maryland Way Award for Research Excellence (\$750)
2021-2023	Dean's Fellowship, University of Maryland
2021	Master's Degree Award, Syracuse University
2018-2021	Merit-based scholarship, Syracuse University
2018	Valedictorian, SISU School of Business and Management
2018	Outstanding graduate, Shanghai Municipal Government
2018	Undergraduate thesis distinction, SISU
2015	Chinese National Scholarship for Undergraduate Student (top 1/47)

MENTORING

2025-2026	KyuEun Kim, UMD Master's Student	
2023-2026	Cartor Hancock, UMD Undergraduate Student	[C6]
2022-2023	Yuewen Chen, UMD Undergraduate Student	[J1]

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2025	Information Organization (INST 311). University of Maryland
Summer 2025	Information Organization (INST 311). University of Maryland
Spring 2024	User Information Needs and Assessments (INST 352). University of Maryland
Spring 2020	The Nature and Study of Languages (LIN 201). Syracuse University <i>Instruction language: Mandarin and English; as part of Syracuse University's Language Across Curriculum program to provide bilingual learning experience</i>

Guest Lecture

Spring 2025	Introduction to Figma for Prototyping Design Information Organization (INST 311). University of Maryland
-------------	---

Language Teaching and Tutoring

2022-2025	Language Partner Program (Chinese tutor, SLLC 309). University of Maryland Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2024, Spring 2025
Spring 2020	Language Teaching Practicum (LIN 622). Syracuse University

SERVICE

Program Committee

CSCW 2026: Poster Track AC
CHI 2026: Assistant to Subcommittee Chairs (Understanding People: Mixed and Alternative Methods)

External Reviewer

Reviewed 32 submissions; received special recognition for 6 reviews.

HCI Venues: CHI (2022, 2024, 2025, 2026), CSCW (2024, 2025, 2026), DIS (2026), UIST (2026)

NLP Venues: ACL ARR (2026)

Student Volunteer

ACM CHI (2022), ACM CSCW (2022)

Internal Service

UMD INFO Doctoral Program Committee (2024-2025, Student Representative)

SKILLS

Research Methodology

- **Main approach:** Mixed-methods behavioral experiments with design interventions
- **Methods:** Experiment, behavioral observation, surveys, contextual inquiry, interviews, prototyping, storyboarding, co-design
- **Data analysis:** Inferential statistics (ANOVA, mixed-effects models, longitudinal data modeling); NLP-based text analysis; discourse analysis; reflexive thematic analysis

Data Processing & Analysis: Python, R, SQL

Design Software: Figma, Adobe Illustrator

Web Development: HTML, CSS