Eric A. Pelzl

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Penn State University
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EDUCATION

2018 **Ph.D., Second Language Acquisition**
University of Maryland, College Park
Advisor: Robert DeKeyser (Second Language Acquisition)
Committee members: Ellen Lau (Linguistics), Kira Gor (Second Language Acquisition), Scott Jackson (Center for Advanced Study of Language), Colin Phillips (Linguistics, Dean's Representative)
Dissertation Title: "Second language lexical representation and processing of Mandarin Chinese tones"

2010 **M.A., Chinese**
Middlebury College
Advisor: Jianhua Bai
Thesis Title: "Sentence processing in Chinese as a second language: A study of word order and the influence of event probabilities on the assignment of agent and patient roles"

2003 **M.Div.**
Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary

1999 **B.A., Pastoral Ministry**
Martin Luther College

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2020-*present* NSF postdoctoral fellow, Penn State University
Advisors: Matthew Carlson (Spanish & Linguistics), Carrie Jackson (German & Linguistics), Janet van Hell (Psychology & Linguistics)
2018-2020 Postdoctoral fellow, Center for Language Science, Penn State University
2011-2012 Assistant Professor of Mandarin Chinese, Wisconsin Lutheran College
2007-2011 Instructor of Mandarin Chinese, Wisconsin Lutheran College

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles

Pelzl, E., Liu, J., Qi, C. (*submitted*) Native language experience with tones influences both phonetic and lexical processes when acquiring a second tonal language

Pelzl, E., Lau, E., Guo, T., DeKeyser, R., C. (2021) Advanced second language learners of Mandarin show persistent deficits for lexical tone encoding in picture-to-word form matching. *Frontiers in Communication. 6*, 117.
https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fcomm.2021.689423/full

Pelzl, E., Lau, E. F., Jackson, S. R., Guo, T., Gor, K. (2021) Behavioral and neural responses to tone errors in foreign-accented Mandarin. *Language Learning. 71(2), 414-452.* https://doi.org/10.1111/lang.12438

Pelzl, E., Lau, E., Guo, T., DeKeyser, R., C. (2021) Even in the best-case scenario L2 learners have persistent difficulty perceiving and utilizing tones in Mandarin: Findings from behavioral and ERP experiments. *Studies in Second Language Acquisition. 43(2),* 268-296. https://doi.org/10.1017/S027226312000039X

Pelzl, E., Carlson, M. T., Guo, T., Jackson, C. N., van Hell, J. G. (2021) Tuning out tone errors? Native listeners do not down-weight tones when hearing unsystematic tone errors in foreign-accented Mandarin. *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition. 24(1),* 215-222. https://doi.org/10.1017/S1366728920000280

Pelzl, E. (2019). What makes perception of Mandarin tones difficult for second language learners: A non-technical review of evidence from psycholinguistic research. *Chinese as a Second Language. 54(1),* 51-78. https://doi.org/10.1075/csl.18009.pel

Pelzl, E., Lau, E., Guo, T., DeKeyser, R., C. (2019). Advanced second language learners' perception of lexical tone contrasts. *Studies in Second Language Acquisition. 41(1),* 59-86. https://doi.org/10.1017/S0272263117000444

Book Chapters

Pelzl, E. (2021) Foreign-accent in second language Mandarin Chinese. In C. Yang (Ed.) *The acquisition of Chinese as a second language pronunciation: Segments and prosody* (pp. 257-279). Singapore: Springer.

Cook, S. V., Sweet, S. J., Lancaster, A., Pandža, N. B., Jackson, S. R., **Pelzl, E.**, Gor, K., Doughty, C. J. (2018) Linguistic Correlates of Proficiency (LCP): At the intersection of testing and teaching. In J. M. Davis, et al. (Ed.), *Useful Assessment and Evaluation in Language Education.* Washington, D.C: Georgetown University Press.

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

2020   NSF SBE Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (NSF grant 2004279)
2017   NSF Linguistics Program-Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Award (NSF grant 1728851)
2017   Ann G. Wylie Dissertation Fellowship
2015   NSF-EAPSI Fellowship (summer research program in Beijing, China) (NSF grant 1514936)
2013   NSF-IGERT Fellowship (interdisciplinary training at University of Maryland)
2012   Graduate Research Assistantship, Center for Advanced Study of Language
2009   The Kathryn Davis Fellowship for Peace, Middlebury College

AWARDS

2016   Tao-Chung Ted Yao Memorial Award (CLTA conference presentation)
2016   Best Teaching Activity Award, CLTA-S2 conference

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Pelzl, E., Carlson, M. T., Jackson, C. N., van Hell, J. G. (2021) *When a second language speaker produces frequent pronunciation errors, native listeners can learn to treat the mis-produced sounds as less informative.* Poster presented at 62nd annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, New Orleans, LA.

Liu, Jiang, **Pelzl, E.** (2021) *Negative and Positive Influence of Tones: Vietnamese Speakers' Perception of Tones and Recognition of (Tone) Words in L2 Mandarin.* Paper presented at the 46th Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD), Boston, MA.

Pelzl, E., Carlson, M. T., Jackson, C. N., van Hell, J. G. (2021) *When L2 tone errors are extremely frequent, Mandarin listeners will ignore (some of) them.* Paper presented at 33rd North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics, Chicago, IL.

Pelzl, E. (2021) *The enduring difficulty of tones: Results of tone and word recognition experiments with advanced L2 Chinese learners.* Paper accepted at Chinese Language Teachers Association Annual Conference.

Pelzl, E., Lau, E. F., Guo, T., DeKeyser, R. (2018) *Suprasegmental difficulties are not superficial: An ERP study of tone word recognition in advanced second language learners of Mandarin Chinese.* Paper presented at Second Language Research Forum, Montreal, Canada.

Pelzl, E., Lau, E. F., Guo, T., DeKeyser, R. (2018) *Tonal word recognition in adult advanced second language learners of Mandarin Chinese.* Poster presented at Multidisciplinary Approaches to Child and Adult Language Acquisition, Penn State.

Pelzl, E. (2018) *The role of accent in Chinese listeners' comprehension of second language Mandarin speech.* Paper presented at Chinese Language Teachers Association Annual Conference, Herndon, VA.

Pelzl, E., Lau, E., DeKeyser, R. (2018) *The processing of tones and segments in Mandarin word recognition by advanced second language learners.* Poster presented at American Association for Applied Linguistics (AAAL) 2018 Conference, Chicago, IL.

Pelzl, E. (2016) *What makes hearing Mandarin tones difficult for second language learners? Evidence from psycholinguistic research.* Paper presented at Chinese Language Teachers Association Second International Symposium on Chinese Teaching and Learning (CLTA-S2), College Park, MD.

Pelzl, E., Guo, T., Lau, E. (2016) *Tuning in: adaptation to mispronunciation in foreign-accented sentence comprehension.* Poster presented at the twenty-ninth annual CUNY conference on human sentence processing, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL.

Pelzl, E., DeKeyser, R., Lau, E., Phillips, C. (2015). *Advanced second language learners' perception of lexical tone contrasts.* Paper presented at the thirty-fourth Second Language Research Forum (SLRF), Atlanta, GA.

Pelzl, E. (2015). (2015). *A proof-of-concept study for measuring receptive written vocabulary size in second language Chinese.* Poster presented at the fourteenth annual conference of the East Coast Organization of Language Testers (ECOLT), Georgetown University, Washington D.C.

Pelzl, E., Vafaee, P., Chrabaszcz, A., Cook, S., Gor, K., Jackson, S. R., Jiang, N., Lancaster, A., Li, C., Li, M., Long, M. H., Pandža, N. B., Zhou, Q. (2014). *Linguistic Correlates of Proficiency.* Paper presented at the thirteenth annual conference of the East Coast Organization of Language Testers (ECOLT), New York, NY.

Vafaee, P., Suzuki, Y., **Pelzl, E.** (2014). *How Aptitude-treatment Interaction studies can benefit Learning-oriented Assessment.* Paper presented at the Teachers College Columbia University Roundtable in Second Language Studies, New York, NY.

Cook, S., Bonilla, C., **Pelzl, E.**, Miller, C., Prado, T. T., Overfelt, C., Siegel, J., Vatz, K., Clark, C., Jackson, S., Doughty, C. (2014). *Language Aptitude and L2 Lexical Learning.* Paper presented at annual conference of the American Association for Applied Linguistics, Portland, OR.

Pelzl, E. (2009). *Zhōngwén shi hěn nán: Using processing instruction to address common learner errors in*

Chinese. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Wisconsin Association for Language Teachers, Appleton, WI.

Pelzl, E. (2008) *Zhongxi-hebi: making effective use of ESL ideas in the teaching of Chinese.* Paper presented at the annual conference of the Wisconsin Association for Language Teachers, Appleton, WI.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2016-2017   Graduate Assistant, Academic Technology Experience team, Division of Information Technology, University of Maryland, College Park

2012-2016   Graduate Research Assistant, Center for Advanced Study of Language, University of Maryland, College Park

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2021   Instructor, Penn State Linguistics program
2011 & 2012 Chinese School Faculty (Level II), Middlebury Chinese Language School
2006-2007   Adjunct Instructor of Mandarin Chinese, Wisconsin Lutheran College
2005-2006   English Teacher, The World Language Center, Fongyuan, Taiwan
2005   Volunteer Ancient Greek and ESL Teacher, Asia Lutheran Seminary, Hong Kong
2003-2004   English Teacher, Wenling High School, Wenling, Zhejiang

COURSES TAUGHT

Penn State University
        LING 447: Bilingualism (Spring, 2021)

Wisconsin Lutheran College
        Chinese 1 (Fall, 2006-2011)
        Chinese 2 (Spring, 2006-2010, 2012)
        Chinese 3 (Fall, 2006-2010)
        Chinese 4 (Spring, 2006-2011)
        Chinese 5 (Fall, 2007-2009)
        Chinese 6 (Spring, 2007-2009, 2011)
        Modern Chinese Media 1: Television (Fall, 2011)
        Modern Chinese Media 2: Newspapers and Blogs (Spring 2012)

Middlebury Chinese Language School
        Intermediate Chinese (Summer 2011 and 2012)

INVITED GUEST LECTURES AND COLLOQUIA

Foreign-accented Mandarin: It's all about tones, right? Invited talk for the Pronunciation Special Interest Group of the Chinese Language Teachers Association (01/07/2021)

Investigating Foreign-Accented Speech in a Tonal Language. Invited colloquia at Center for Language Science at Penn State University, University Park, PA (10/30/2020)

Zhongwen shengdiao weishenme zheme nan xue? (Why are tones so difficult to learn?) Invited online lecture for at Chinese Language Teachers Association Beginning and Intermediate Teacher's Group (6/13/2020, presented in Mandarin)

What is and isn't hard about learning lexical tones: Research with advanced second language

learners of Mandarin Chinese. Invited lecture at Beijing Language and Culture University, Beijing (5/17/2019)

What is and isn't hard about learning lexical tones: Research with advanced second language learners of Mandarin Chinese. Invited colloquia at Center for Language Science at Penn State University, University Park, PA (9/07/2018)

What makes hearing Mandarin tones difficult for second language learners? Evidence from psycholinguistic research. Invited lecture with students and faculty from IUP Chinese program at Tsinghua University, Beijing (12/12/2017, presented in Mandarin)

English native speakers' acquisition of Mandarin lexical tones. Invited colloquia at the second annual symposium on corpora and intercultural studies at Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai (12/01/2017)

Challenges in Teaching and Learning Chinese: Characters. Invited lecture with students from the ACC K-12 program at Minzu University, Beijing (7/13/2015, presented in Mandarin)

Processing Instruction and Task Essentialness. Invited online lecture with students from the Monterey Institute of International Studies (10/9/2013, presented in Mandarin)

My experience learning and teaching Chinese. Invited lecture at Chung Yuan Christian University, Chungli, Taiwan (5/18/2011, presented in Mandarin)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Ad hoc journal reviewer for: *Applied Psycholinguistics*; *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition*; *Chinese as a Second Language*; *Cognition; Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*; *Journal of Phonetics; Journal of Second Language Studies*; *Language, Cognition and Neuroscience*; *Linguistic Approaches to Bilingualism*; *Language Testing*; *The Modern Language Journal*; *Neuropsychologia*; *Psychophysiology; Second Language Research; Speech Communication; Studies in Second Language Acquisition*

2021	Proposal reviewer, Bilingualism Matters Research Symposium 2021
2020	Proposal reviewer, American Association for Applied Linguistics (AAAL) 2021 Conference
2017	Proposal reviewer, 36th annual Second Language Research Forum
2009-2010	Treasurer, Wisconsin Association of Chinese Language Teachers

INSTITUTIONAL AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

2019	Member, Penn State Language and Linguistics Day organizing committee
2012-2015	Member, University of Maryland Language Science Day organizing committee
2013	Co-chair, University of Maryland Language Science Day organizing committee
2011	Chair, Wisconsin Lutheran College Faculty Academic Co-curricular Committee
2008-2010	Secretary, Wisconsin Lutheran College Faculty Academic Co-curricular Committee

LANGUAGES

English, native; Mandarin Chinese, fluent

PAST AND PRESENT AFFILIATIONS

Member, American Association for Applied Linguistics
Member, The Psychonomic Society
Member, The Chinese Language Teachers Association, USA
Member, Wisconsin Association of Chinese Language Teachers
Member, Wisconsin Association for Language Teachers