GAN, Linghui (Eva)

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Personal website: https://ganlinghui.github.io/

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Broad: grammar of sign languages; syntax, syntax-semantics/prosody interfaces; language acquisition; bimodal bilingualism; sociolinguistics of Deaf communities

Narrow: information structure & packaging; wh-questions; development of syntax & semantics by deaf children; code-blending; language accessibility & language attitudes in Deaf communities

EDUCATION

University of Connecticut (UConn) — Storrs, Connecticut, USA

2019 – 2023	MA in Linguistics
2019 – 2025	PhD in Linguistics

Dissertation: *Information Structure of the Clause-final Position in Hong Kong Sign Language*

Supervisor: Diane Lillo-Martin

Committee: Željko Bošković, Magdalena Kaufmann, Jon Gajewski, Kathryn Davidson

2017-2019 University of Amsterdam (UvA) — Amsterdam, Netherlands

MA (research) in Linguistics

Thesis: *WH-questions in Hong Kong Sign Language*

Supervisor: Roland Pfau

Other major advisors: Vadim Kimmelman, Enoch Aboh

2014-2015 Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) — Hong Kong SAR, China

MA in Chinese Linguistics & Language Acquisition

Major advisors: Gladys Tang, Felix Sze

2009 – 2013 Minzu University of China — Beijing, China

BA in Chinese Minority Languages & Literature

GRANTS

08/2024 – 01/2026	The U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) 20-538 - Linguistics Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grants (Ling-DDRI). Project title: *Information Structure of the Clause-Final Position in Hong Kong Sign Language.* Award number 2416348.

HONORS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

06/2024	Summer Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, The Graduate School, UConn
09/2023	Fellowship semester, UConn Linguistics
01/2023	Conference Participation Award, The Graduate School, UConn
2019 – 2024	Predoctoral Fellowship, UConn Linguistics

2022	Annual Alumni Research Award, UConn Linguistics
2021	Annual Alumni Research Award, UConn Linguistics
07/2019	Horizon Fund (GSH), Graduate School of Humanities, University of Amsterdam
02/2019	Horizon Fund (GSH), Graduate School of Humanities, University of Amsterdam
08/2017	Horizon Fund (GSH), Graduate School of Humanities, University of Amsterdam
12/2016	The Best Oral Presentation of the session Audiology, Aural Rehabilitation & Deaf Education, *Hong Kong Speech & Hearing Symposium 2016*

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

01/2026 – present, **Postdoctoral Research Associate**
Department of Linguistics, University of Connecticut
Supervisor: Diane Lillo-Martin

08/2024 – 12/2025,
01 – 12/2023, **Research Assistant (Graduate Assistant-ship)**
06/2020–08/2022 Sign Linguistics & Language Acquisition Lab, University of Connecticut
Primary Investigator: Diane Lillo-Martin

06 – 08/2020,
2021, 2022, 2023, **Graduate Student Technician**
2024, 2025 Sign Linguistics & Language Acquisition Lab, University of Connecticut
Primary Investigator: Diane Lillo-Martin

01/2016 – 06/2017 **Junior Research Assistant (full-time)**
Centre for Sign Linguistics & Deaf Studies, Chinese University of Hong Kong
Supervisors: Gladys Tang, Jafi Lee

03 – 06/2015 **Student helper (part-time)**
Centre for Sign Linguistics & Deaf Studies, Chinese University of Hong Kong
Supervisors: Jia Li, Jafi Lee

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Spring 2024 **LING 3800 Structure of American Sign Language**
Instructor of Record (Graduate Assistant-ship)
Department of Linguistics, University of Connecticut

Fall 2022 **LING 2850 Introduction to Sociolinguistics of the Deaf Community**
Instructor of Record (Graduate Assistant-ship)
Department of Linguistics, University of Connecticut

Spring 2020 **LING 1010 Language and Mind**
Tech Teaching Assistant (Graduate Assistant-ship; Instructor: Harry Van der Hulst)
Department of Linguistics, University of Connecticut

Fall 2019	**LING 2850 Introduction to Sociolinguistics of the Deaf Community**
	Tech Teaching Assistant (Graduate Assistant-ship; Instructor: Diane Lillo-Martin)
	Department of Linguistics, University of Connecticut

Fall 2015	**LING 5104 Foundations in Sign Language Research**
	Teaching Assistant (full-time; Instructor: Gladys Tang)
	Department of Linguistics, Chinese University of Hong Kong

Fall 2015	**LING 5103 Foundations in Language Acquisition**
	Teaching Assistant (full-time; Instructor: Ziyin Mai)
	Department of Linguistics, Chinese University of Hong Kong

Fall 2015	**LING 5102 Foundations II: Syntax and Semantics**
	Teaching Assistant (full-time; Instructor: Gang Gu)
	Department of Linguistics, Chinese University of Hong Kong

PUBLICATIONS

Linghui Gan. Submitted. "Wh-questions in Hong Kong Sign Language: rightward wh-movement, special subject WHO, and multiple wh-questions"

Lillo-Martin, Diane, **Linghui Gan**, Deborah Chen Pichler, and Julie A. Hochgesang. Submitted. "Understanding Morpho-Syntactic Development in Children Acquiring American Sign Language: MLU and ASL-IPSyn"

Gan, Linghui. Angelica Llerena, Diane Lillo-Martin, Deborah Chen Pichler. In press. "What does bimodal bilingual vocabulary acquisition look like in deaf children with hearing parents?". *BUCLD 50 proceedings.*

Gan, Linghui. In press. "Last but not least: Focus and the clause-final position in Hong Kong Sign Language". *WCCFL 43 Proceedings.*

Chen Pichler, Deborah, Mary Cecilia Conte, Patrice Creamer, Martin Dale-Hench, Elaine Gale, **Linghui Gan**, Corina Goodwin, Shengyun Gu, Kaj Kraus, Margaret Chui-Yi Lee, Diane Lillo-Martin, Jeffrey Levi Palmer, Bettie Petersen, & Meghan Shaw. 2024. "Profile of a Family's Bimodal Bilingual Development." *BUCLD 48: Proceedings of the 48th annual Boston University Conference on Language Development*, edited by Hayat Abdullah Ali AlThagafi and Jupitara Ray, 158–68. http://www.lingref.com/bucld/48/BUCLD48-12.pdf

Gan, Linghui. 2022. "Question Answer Pairs in Hong Kong Sign Language (HKSL)." *Proceedings of the Fifty-Eighth Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS 58)*, edited by Lucas Fagen, Sam Gray, Quain, Stephanie Reyes, and Irene Tang, 103–18.

Gan, Linghui. 2022. "Scope Relation and Structure Hierarchy in Hong Kong Sign Language (HKSL): Exploring Ditransitives." *Proceedings of the 30th Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe (ConSOLE XXX)*, edited by Annie Holtz, Iva Kovač, and Rasmus Puggaard-Rode, 201–19. Leiden: Published by Leiden University Centre for Linguistics. https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/events/series/sole.

Gobbo, Federico, **Linghui Gan**, and Xuan Zheng. 2022. "Contested Linguistic Heritages: CODAs and Denaskuloj in Comparison." *Proceedings of the International Conference on "Minority Languages Spoken or Signed and Inclusive Spaces"*, 44–49. Suresnes: INSHEA Publishing department. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5834265.

Gan, Linghui. 2021. "Shifted Indexicals in Hong Kong Sign Language with(-out) Role Shift." *The FEAST Journal (Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign language Theory)*, 4:74–86. https://doi.org/10.31009/FEAST.i4.06

Gan, Linghui, and Federico Gobbo. 2019. "Attitudes towards the Official Recognition of Hong Kong Sign Language by Hong Kong Citizens." *Journal of Linguistics and Education Research* 02 (02): 1–16. https://hdl.handle.net/11245.1/87570616-d0c4-42f0-a4b5-4b08bad93643.

Manuscripts in preparation

Gan, Linghui and Diane Lillo-Martin. In prep. "Analyzing code-blending in ASL by adult CODAs"
Gan, Linghui and Jon Gajewski. In prep. "Why do sign languages make prominent use of the sentence final position?"
Gan, Linghui. In prep. "Perspective blend and indexical shift in Hong Kong Sign Language"

Invited talks

05/2025	Information Structure of the clause-final position in Hong Kong Sign Language, *NYU Syntax Brown Bag*, New York University. New York, USA
02/2025	Last but not least: Focus and the clause-final position in Hong Kong Sign Language (HKSL), *Department of Linguistics, Chinese University of Hong Kong.* Hong Kong
11/2024	Introduction to an Asian sign language: Hong Kong Sign Language, guest talk of the course *Variation and Discourse*, Central Connecticut State University. Connecticut, USA
08/2020	Wh-questions in Hong Kong Sign Language, *Sign language research group,* Shanghai International Studies University. Shanghai, China

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

01/2026	(with Bonnie Barret, Deborah Chen Pichler, & Diane Lillo-Martin) L2 Grammatical Development of ASL by Hearing Parents of Deaf Children (presentation). *Linguistic Society of America 2026 Annual Meeting.* New Orleans, USA
11/2025	(with Jon Gajewski) Why do sign languages make prominent use of the sentence final position? (presentation). *Interdisciplinary Workshop on Sign Language Grammars, Parsing Models, & the Brain.* Leipzig, Germany
11/2025	(with Angela Llerena, & Diane Lillo-Martin) What does bimodal bilingual acquisition look like in deaf children with hearing parents? (presentation). *Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD) 50.* Boston, USA
04/2025	Correlation between focus and the clause-final position in Hong Kong Sign Language (presentation). *43rd West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL 43).* Seattle, USA
01/2025	Correlation between word order and information structure in Hong Kong Sign Language (poster). *Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research (TISLR 2025).* Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

01/2025	Question Answer Pairs in Hong Kong Sign Language (poster). *Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research (TISLR 2025)*. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
08/2024	(With Diane Lillo-Martin, Julie Hochgesang, and Deborah Chen Pichler). Assessing the Development of ASL by Deaf Children: Longitudinal Spontaneous Production Data (presentation). *Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory (FEAST 2024)*. Ann Arbor, USA
01/2023	Perspective blend and indexical shift in Hong Kong Sign Language (HKSL) (presentation). *The 53th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS-53)*. Göttingen, Germany
05/2022	Syntactic structure of argument wh-questions in Hong Kong Sign Language (HKSL) (presentation). *The 28th Annual Conference of the International Association of Chinese Linguistics (IACL-28)*. Hong Kong, China
04/2022	Question Answer Pairs in Hong Kong Sign Language (HKSL) (presentation). *Chicago Linguistics Society 58 (CLS 58)*. Chicago, USA
01/2022	Scope relations and hierarchical structure in Hong Kong Sign Language: Exploring ditransitives (presentation). *Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe (ConSOLE 2022)*. Nantes, France
06/2021	Indexical shift with(-out) role shift: Evidence from Hong Kong Sign Language (poster). *Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory (FEAST 2021)*. Hong Kong
07/2019	(With Federico Gobbo). Attitudes towards the official recognition of HKSL by Hong Kong citizens (presentation). *Symposium on Sociolinguistic Variation in Signed and Spoken Languages of the Asia-Pacific Region.* Lancashire, UK
10/2016	Acquisition of WH-question in Hong Kong Sign Language by Deaf Bilingual Children (presentation). *Hong Kong Speech and Hearing Symposium 2016.* Hong Kong, China

Service (selective)

Community service

2022 – 2023	Knowledge support for the 'Access to sign language interpretation in legal services' project, Liang Bei Shui (NGO), Shenzhen, China
2022/08 – 2024/03	Knowledge support for the project 'Reviewing International practices of sign language interpretation services in emergency settings' (PI: Lan Ni), Shanghai University, China
09/2021 – 09/2023	Graduate LingClub Graduate Student Representative, UConn
08/2018	Speaker of the public workshop series: *Introduction to sign linguistics and language acquisition by deaf children*, Sabah Society for the Deaf, Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia
2017 –	Informal peer support/mentor for undergraduates/postgraduates in China who work on sign linguistics-related disciplines
08/2017	Speaker of the public workshop series 'Let's learn more about sign linguistics and communication with deaf people', Liang Bei Shui (NGO), Shenzhen, China
01/2017	Volunteer coordinator (with Yi Hin Chan) of the knowledge support group for the proposal of *Recognising HKSL as an official language of Hong Kong* to the Council meeting at the Legislative Council of Hong Kong

Academic service

08/2024 –12/2025	Coordinator. UConn Sign Language Reading and Discussion Group (SLRDG)
02/2022	Session Chair, *the 7th Workshop on Turkic and Languages in Contact with Turkic*
11/2021	Organizing Committee. *the 11th UConn Linguistics Graduate Roundtable*

10/2019	Organizing Committee, *the 9th UConn Linguistics Graduate Roundtable*
08-10/2016	Organizing committee. *Sign Linguistics Forum* at *the 16th China International Conference on Contemporary Linguistics*, Shanghai, China

Reviewing

2024	*CLS 60 Abstracts*
2022	*TU +7 Proceeding*
2022	*ConSOLE 30 Proceeding*
2021	*Linguistics* (with Diane Lillo-Martin)

LANGUAGES

Native:	Mandarin Chinese; Liuzhou Dialect
Fluent:	English, Cantonese, Hong Kong Sign Language (HKSL), American Sign Language (ASL)
Basic:	Thai, Hakka (heritage)

TECHNICAL

ELAN, R, LaTeX, CLAN, MS Office, Adobe Photoshop, etc.