

**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, LINGUISTICS AND THEATRE STUDIES**

**STAFF RESEARCH AREAS
English Language and Linguistics**

Hiramoto, Mie, PhD U of Hawai'i
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Areas of general interest:

- Contact Linguistics
- Language, Gender, and Sexuality
- Media discourse

Supervision style:

I take my students' projects very seriously, and for this reason, I am very strict, demanding, and unforgiving. I set high expectations from the very beginning of the HT project. Those who are not able to follow my pace will suffer, and naturally, the overall quality of their HT will also suffer.

Huang, Nick, PhD, University of Maryland
znhuang@nus.edu.sg

Supervision interests:

- Psycholinguistics, language acquisition, syntax from experimental and corpus perspectives. How can we use experiments and statistics to evaluate (more abstract) theoretical proposals?
- Comparative research, e.g. comparing standard English, Singapore English, other languages spoken in Singapore/Asia, whether from experimental or from more theoretical angles.

Supervision style:

I see my role at the beginning of a project as a sounding board, to help point students in the right direction, see the bigger picture, and determine project scope. Once a topic is picked, I expect students to take ownership of the project, proposing a timeline, setting agendas for our meetings, and so on. I would also like students to be open to trying out and learning new methods.

Ito, Aine, PhD University of Edinburgh
aine.ito@nus.edu.sg

- Psycholinguistics
- Language prediction
- Sentence comprehension
- Bilingualism/Second language processing
- Eye-tracking

I'm happy to supervise projects in psycholinguistics. Please contact me early to discuss your proposal if you are interested in conducting an experiment.

Julios-Costa, Maka, PhD Lancaster University
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- Critical Discourse Studies
- Language, Ideology, and Social Transformation
- Cognitive Linguistics
- Corpus Linguistics
- Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methods

My supervision is collaborative and discussion-based yet intellectually demanding. I encourage students to explore research questions with real-world relevance that challenge assumptions and open new ways of thinking about how language shapes (in)equality, power, and social change. While I provide guidance, feedback, and regular check-ins to help students stay on track, I also expect my students to work independently and take ownership of their work as they develop their research questions and analyses.

Lazar, Michelle M, PhD Lanc, MA BA (Hons) NUS
ellmml@nus.edu.sg

- Language, Gender and Sexuality
- 'Race'/ethnic relations; discourses about migrant workers
- Media Discourses (Traditional and Social Media)
- Linguistic/Semiotic Landscapes

I am interested to supervise on topics that deal with ideologies and power relations through language and visual semiosis. Students should be independent and self-motivated in thinking and working through their research. I'll be at hand to discuss ideas and offer feedback and suggestions.

Lee, Leslie, PhD UCSD
ellleel@nus.edu.sg

Supervision interests:

- Syntax
- Morphology
- Lexical semantics
- Variation
- Quantitative/experimental approaches

Supervision style:

- I am happy to discuss ideas and provide feedback, but I expect supervisees to think and work independently.

Nala Lee, PhD U of Hawai'i
nala.lee@nus.edu.sg

Areas of interest:

- Contact languages
- Language endangerment and revitalization
- Typology
- Sociolinguistics
- Sociophonetics
- Baba Malay

Supervision style:

I prefer acting as a sounding board and facilitator, rather than a person who doles out solutions, so supervisees should be clear about what it is they want to achieve. I also prefer supervisees to work on primary fieldwork data or experimental data. Finally, supervisees should not be afraid of harnessing technological tools and methods in their work.

Ooi Beng Yeow, Vincent, PhD (Lancaster, UK), MA BA (Hons) NUS
vinceooi@nus.edu.sg

Research interests:

- Corpus linguistics
- The lexicon in theory and practice
- Language and the Internet
- Asian varieties of English

Supervision style:
Facilitator and discussant

Park, Joseph Sung-Yul, PhD University of California, Santa Barbara
ellpjs@nus.edu.sg

Current active interest:

- Language ideology: beliefs about language structure and use and their consequences for social organization
- Language and globalization: the role language plays in the process of globalization, with a focus on English as a global language
- Linguistic construction of identity: how we use language to create, negotiate, and reproduce the distinction between self and other; how this process serves as a basis for more permanent social relationships and social inequalities

Supervision style:

Students will benefit most from working with me if they are highly independent (able to know what they are interested in, taking the initiative to ask questions, able to set a schedule for research and abide by it, etc.). I tend to see myself as a discussant when interacting with students, thinking through the issue together rather than telling them what to do, and learning together rather than providing answers.

Rebecca Lurie Starr, PhD Stanford, BA Harvard
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- Multilingual language acquisition
- Sociolinguistic variation in Mandarin, Cantonese, Japanese, Korean, English
- World Englishes
- Sociophonetics
- Sociolinguistics in media
- Teacher speech
- Experimental sociolinguistics

I'm happy to supervise projects in new areas and languages. Please feel free to get in touch and we can chat about your preliminary HT ideas!

Shen, Zheng, PhD University of Connecticut
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- fields: experimental and theoretical syntax
- topics: movement, island, agreement, ellipsis, conjunction, right node raising
- potential projects (not exhaustive):
 1. Are Singlish sentences judged different when presented in text and with audios?
 2. Do wh-in situ and wh-movement questions in Singlish have meaning differences?
 3. Why similar sentences in Singlish and US English differ in judgments?

Supervision style:

- Feel free to contact me if you want to do projects on theoretical or experimental syntax, especially in languages spoken in Singapore and neighboring countries!

Tan, Peter K W, PhD Edin., BA (Hons) Malaya
PeterTan@nus.edu.sg

1. Pragmatics, discourse and conversation analysis
2. Genre
3. Stylistics and Styling
4. The history of English and Asian Englishes
5. Names (onomastics)

Supervision style:

I am quite open to a range of approaches (qualitative, quantitative, methods based on corpora, questionnaires and experimental data, etc.), but students should be prepared to think through the planning, direction and organisation of their research. I see my role as a discussant and as someone who can provide feedback on students' writing.