Michelle Yuan

Department of Linguistics, UCLA
3125 Campbell Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90095

email: yuanm@ucla.edu
web: https://yuan.humspace.ucla.edu/

Areas of specialization

Syntax, morphology, fieldwork, Inuktitut, Inuit-Yupik-Unangan, Mixtec

Academic positions

2025–present | **University of California, Los Angeles**
Department of Linguistics
Associate Professor

2024–2025 | **University of California, Los Angeles**
Department of Linguistics
Assistant Professor

2019–2023 | **University of California San Diego**
Department of Linguistics
Assistant Professor

2018–2019 | **University of Chicago**
Department of Linguistics
Postdoctoral Researcher appointed at the rank of Instructor

Education

2013–2018 | **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**
Department of Linguistics & Philosophy
Ph.D. in Linguistics (specialization in syntax)
Dissertation: *Dimensions of ergativity in Inuit: Theory and microvariation*
Committee: David Pesetsky (chair), Sabine Iatridou, Alana Johns, Norvin Richards

2012–2013 | **University of Toronto**
Department of Linguistics
M.A. in Linguistics
Thesis: *A phasal account of ergativity in Inuktitut*
Advisor: Alana Johns (Second Reader: Arsalan Kahnemuyipour)

2008–2012 | **University of Toronto**
Hon. B.A. with High Distinction
Linguistics (specialist) and German (minor)

Other research affiliations

2016–2018 | **Nunavut Research Institute**, Iqaluit, Nunavut
Researcher (license #: 01 001 17R-M)
Project: *Pronouns and reflexives in Inuktitut*

Papers

Journal articles

resubmitted	Yuan, Michelle. Deriving clause-incorporation in Inuktitut.
in re-revs.	Yuan, Michelle and Claudia Juárez Chávez. Remarks on 'Lexical DP Blocking' in the Person-Case Constraint: Comparative evidence from San Juan Piñas Mixtec.
2026	Caballero, Gabriela, Claudia Duarte Borquez, Claudia Juárez Chávez, and Michelle Yuan. Lexical and grammatical tone in San Juan Piñas Mixtec (Tò'ōn Ndá'ví). *Phonological Data & Analysis* 8, e7. https://doi.org/10.1017/S2642182825000029
2025	Yuan, Michelle. Morphological conditions on movement chain resolution: Inuktitut noun incorporation revisited. *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory* 43, 509-562. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11049-024-09620-w
2023	Yuan, Michelle. Case as an Anaphor Agreement Effect: Evidence from Inuktitut. *Linguistic Inquiry* 54, 413-428. https://doi.org/10.1162/ling_a_00443
2022	Yuan, Michelle. Ergativity and object movement across Inuit. *Language* 98, 510-551. https://doi.org/10.1353/lan.0.0270
2021	Yuan, Michelle. Diagnosing object agreement vs. clitic doubling: An Inuit case study. *Linguistic Inquiry* 52, 153-179. https://doi.org/10.1162/ling_a_00366
2020	Yuan, Michelle. Dependent case and clitic dissimilation in Yimas. *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory* 38, 937-985. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11049-019-09458-7

Book chapters

submitted	Yuan, Michelle. Incorporation. In: *The Routledge Handbook of Syntax, 2nd ed.*, eds. Andrew Carnie, Yosuke Sato, and Daniel Siddiqi. Oxford: Routledge. (invited contribution).
to appear	Compton, Richard and Michelle Yuan. Agreement in Inuktut. In: *The Inuit, Unangan, and Yupik Languages*, eds. Anna Berge, Anja Arnhold, and Naja Blytmann Trondhjem. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (invited contribution)
2023	Yuan, Michelle and Matthew Tyler. Agreement and the realisation of arguments. In: *Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Morphology*, eds. Peter Ackema, Sabrina Bendjaballah, Eulàlia Bonet, and Antonio Fábregas. Hoboken: Wiley-Blackwell. (invited contribution) Online: https://www.doi.org/10.1002/9781119693604.morphcom004
2017	Yuan, Michelle. More on Undermerge: Phrasal and head movement interactions in Kikuyu. In: *A Pesky Set: Papers for David Pesetsky*, eds. Claire Halpert, Hadas Kotek, Coppe van Urk, pp. 543–552. MIT Working Papers in Linguistics.

Conference proceedings

to appear — Yuan, Michelle, Gabriela Caballero, and Claudia Juárez Chávez. Clitic coalescence in San Juan Piñas Mixtec at the syntax-phonology interface. In: *Proceedings of the 56th meeting of the North East Linguistics Society*. Amherst, MA: GLSA.

to appear — Yuan, Michelle. Two restrictions on pronominal clitics in San Juan Piñas Mixtec (Tò'ōn Ndá'ví). In: *Proceedings of the 26th Workshop on Structure and Constituency of Languages of the Americas*. Vancouver: UBC Working Papers in Linguistics.

2025 — Hedding, Andrew A. and Michelle Yuan. Distinct pathways to possessor Ā-extraction in Mesoamerican languages. In: *Proceedings of the 55th meeting of the North East Linguistics Society*, eds. Duygu Demiray, Roger Cheng-yen Liu and Nir Segal, pp. 261-274. Amherst, MA: GLSA.

2025 — Hedding, Andrew A. and Michelle Yuan. Phase unlocking and the derivation of verb-initiality in San Martín Peras Mixtec. In: *Proceedings of the 41st West Coast Conference On Formal Linguistics*, eds. Nikolas Webster, Yağmur Kiper, Richard Wang, and Sichen Larry Lyu, pp. 184-193. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Press.

2024 — Yuan, Michelle. More on 'Lexical DP Blocking' effects in the PCC: Evidence from Mixtec. In: *Proceedings of the 54th meeting of the North East Linguistics Society*, eds. Shaunak Phadnis, Carla Spellerberg, and Brynne Wilkinson, pp. 245-255. Amherst, MA: GLSA.

2024 — Yuan, Michelle. A pseudo-relative in Inuit. In: *Proceedings of the 40th West Coast Conference On Formal Linguistics*, eds. Jiayi Lu, Erika Petersen, Anissa Zaitsu, and Boris Harizanov, pp. 338-346. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Press.

2024 — Caballero, Gabriela, Claudia Juárez Chávez, and Michelle Yuan. The representation of tone in San Juan Piñas Mixtec (Tò'ōn Ndá'ví): Phonological and orthographic implications. In: *Proceedings of the 39th West Coast Conference On Formal Linguistics*, eds. Robert Autry, Gabriela de la Cruz, Luis A. Irizarry Figueroa, Kristina Mihajlovic, Tianyi Ni, Ryan Smith, and Heidi Harley, pp. 294-302. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Press.

2023 — Yuan, Michelle. The morphosyntax of participle-incorporating existentials in Inuktitut. In: *Proceedings of the 24th Workshop on Structure and Constituency of Languages of the Americas*, ed. Daniel Reisinger. Vancouver: UBC Working Papers in Linguistics.

2019 — Tyler, Matthew and Michelle Yuan. Nominal-clitic case mismatches. In: *Proceedings of the 36th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*, eds. Richard Stockwell, Maura O'Leary, Zhongshi Xu, and Z.L. Zhou, pp. 333-343. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Press.

2018 — Yuan, Michelle. M-merger and copy spell-out in Inuktitut noun incorporation. In: *Proceedings of the 48th meeting of the North East Linguistics Society*, eds. Sherry Hucklebridge and Max Nelson, pp. 275-284. Amherst, MA: GLSA.

2018 — Baier, Nico and Michelle Yuan. Anti-agreement with bound variables. In: *Proceedings of the 35th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*, eds. William G. Bennett, Lindsay Hracs, and Dennis Storoshenko, pp. 96-103. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Press.

2016 — Yuan, Michelle. Dependent case is dissimilation: Evidence from Yimas. In: *Proceedings of the 46th meeting of the North East Linguistics Society*, eds. Christopher Hammerly and Brandon Prickett, pp. 299-308. Amherst, MA: GLSA.

2016 Yuan, Michelle. Case competition and case domains: Evidence from Yimas. In: *Proceedings of the 51st annual meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society*, eds. Ksenia Ershova, Joshua Falk, and Jeffrey Geiger, pp. 565-578. Chicago: Chicago Linguistic Society.

2015 Yuan, Michelle. Person restrictions in South Baffin Inuktitut: An argument for feature movement. In: *Proceedings of the 19th Workshop on Structure and Constituency of Languages of the Americas*, eds. Natalie Weber and Sihwei Chen, pp. 159-173. Vancouver: UBC Working Papers in Linguistics.

2014 Yuan, Michelle. Ā-fronting in Dinka (Twic East): Evidence for a left-peripheral domain below CP. In: *Proceedings of the 2013 Annual Conference of the Canadian Linguistic Association*, ed. Shan Luo.

2013 Yuan, Michelle. On the phasal status of DP in Inuktitut. In: *Proceedings of the 1st Montreal-Ottawa-Toronto-Hamilton Syntax Workshop*, eds. Alanah McKillen and Brian Buccola. Montreal: McGill Working Papers in Linguistics.

Other manuscripts

2018 Yuan, Michelle. Dimensions of ergativity in Inuit: Theory and microvariation. PhD dissertation, MIT.

2017 Yuan, Michelle. Movement to complement in Kikuyu and the syntax of focus association. 2nd generals paper, MIT.

2015 Yuan, Michelle. Dependent case and anti-identity in Yimas. 1st generals paper, MIT.

2013 Yuan, Michelle. A phasal account of ergativity in Inuktitut. MA thesis, University of Toronto.

Digital resources

2026– Juárez Chávez, Claudia, Basilisa Pérez Morelos, Cirila Pérez Morelos, Gabriela Caballero, Claudia Duarte Borquez, Tylar Kameda, Maxine Van Doren & Michelle Yuan. *Materiales del Proyecto del Idioma Mixteco de San Juan Piñas*, 2025-08, California Language Archive, Survey of California and Other Indian Languages, UC Berkeley.
Online: http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.7297/X2D50M9G

2022– Juárez Chávez, Claudia, Gabriela Caballero, Claudia Duarte Borquez, José Armando Fernández Guerrero, Ray Huaute, Akil Iyer, Mark Simmons, Nico Tedeschi, Maxine Van Doren & Michelle Yuan. *Tò'ōn Ndá'ví San Juan Piñas Mixtec Talking Dictionary.* Living Tongues Institute for Endangered Languages.
Online: http://www.talkingdictionary.org/sanjuanpinas

Fellowships and awards

External support

(= declined in favour of another award)*

2017–2020 NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant
Pronominals and verb agreement in Inuktitut, BCS-1728970
(Co-PI with David Pesetsky and Norvin Richards)

2013–2017	SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship *An investigation of the extraction restriction in Inuktitut*
2013–2016*	Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarships Program Doctoral Scholarship (SSHRC) *An investigation of the extraction restriction in Inuktitut*
2012–2013	Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarships Program Master's Scholarship (SSHRC) *An investigation of the behaviour and properties of syntactic operators in Inuktitut*
2012–2013*	Ontario Graduate Scholarship (Master's)

Internal support

2013–2018	Graduate Fellowship, MIT Linguistics
2016	Ken Hale Fund, MIT Linguistics
2015	Ken Hale Fund, MIT Linguistics
2012	Registrars' Graduation Award in the Humanities, New College, University of Toronto
2010–2011	Angela and Giulio Zigrossi Memorial Scholarship in the Humanities, University of Toronto
2010–2011	McNab Scholarship in Linguistics, University of Toronto
2010–2011	Paul Mathews Memorial Scholarship in the Humanities, New College, University of Toronto
2008–2012	Dean's List Scholar in the Faculty of Arts and Science, University of Toronto

Presentations

Invited

2026	Yuan, Michelle. Clitic coalescence and cyclic spell-out in San Juan Piñas Mixtec. Colloquium, University of Chicago.
2026	Yuan, Michelle. Ergativity and object movement across Inuit. Ergativity Reading Group, International Research Network CauLaGeNet, CNRS.
2024	Yuan, Michelle. Pronominal cliticization and verb-initial word order in San Juan Piñas Mixtec. Colloquium, USC.
2023	Yuan, Michelle. Two restrictions on pronominal clitics in San Juan Piñas Mixtec (Tò'ōn Ndā'ví). *WSCLA 26*, McGill University.
2023	Yuan, Michelle. Syntactic ergativity: Perspectives from Inuit, Yimas, and beyond. UCLA.
2022	Yuan, Michelle. Morphological conditions on movement chain resolution: Inuktitut noun incorporation revisited. Colloquium, MIT.

2022 Yuan, Michelle. Morphological conditions on movement chain resolution: Inuktitut noun incorporation revisited. Colloquium, NYU.

2022 Yuan, Michelle. Covert A-movement at the syntax-morphology interface: Insights from Inuktitut incorporation. *Abralin ao Vivo: Linguists Online*, Brazilian Linguistics Association.

2022 Yuan, Michelle. Deriving VSO in San Juan Piñas Mixtec. Syntax Workshop, UMass Amherst.

2021 Yuan, Michelle. Morphological conditions on chain resolution: Inuktitut noun incorporation revisited. Colloquium, UCLA.

2021 Yuan, Michelle. VP-movement in a VSO language: A case study from San Juan Piñas Mixtec. Center for Research in Syntax, Semantics, and Phonology seminar, KU Leuven.

2021 Yuan, Michelle. Morphological conditions on copy spell-out: Inuktitut noun incorporation revisited. *SICOGG 23*, Seoul, Korea.

2021 Yuan, Michelle. Noun incorporation and movement chains in Inuktitut. Linguistics Circle, Harvard University.

2021 Yuan, Michelle. Movement in Inuktitut incorporation. Colloquium, UC Berkeley.

2021 Caballero, Gabriela, Claudia Juárez Chávez, and Michelle Yuan. Tonal and morphosyntactic properties of pronominal clitics in San Juan Piñas Mixtec. Workshop on the Languages of Meso-America, UC Santa Cruz.

2019 Yuan, Michelle. Case discrimination and the Anaphor Agreement Effect: Consequences in Inuktitut and beyond. *DISCO: Dependency in Syntactic Covariance*, Universität Leipzig.

2019 Yuan, Michelle. Participle-incorporation in Inuit: Consequences for incorporation and polysynthesis. *Princeton Symposium on Syntactic Theory*, Princeton University.

2019 Yuan, Michelle. Pronoun movement and doubling in Inuktitut (and beyond). McGill University.

2019 Yuan, Michelle. Ergativity as object shift in Inuit: New insights from microvariation. UC Santa Cruz.

2019 Yuan, Michelle. Ergativity in Inuit: New insights from microvariation. UC San Diego.

2018 Yuan, Michelle. Object clitic doubling in Inuktitut: Theoretical and typological consequences. University of Chicago.

2018 Yuan, Michelle. The Anaphor Agreement Effect in Inuktitut (and what it teaches us about the Inuktitut case/agreement system). *Les midis autochtones*, Université du Québec à Montréal.

2017 Yuan, Michelle. Plural person and associativity (in Inuktitut). *Manitoba Workshop on Person*, University of Manitoba.

2017 Yuan, Michelle. Plural pronouns and associative plurals. *Inuktitut Language & Linguistics Workshop*, University of Toronto.

Other invitations

2021 Discussant for presentation by Thomas McFadden, *The structural/inherent case distinction and the implementation of dependent case*, Abralin ao Vivo, Brazilian Linguistics Association.

2018 Panelist for film screening of *Keep Talking* (documentary on Kodiak Alutiiq language revitalization), Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago.

Refereed presentations at conferences

[2027] Taghipour, Sahar and Michelle Yuan. Two split agreement systems in Pamiri: A unified syntax. *LSA 2027*, San Francisco, CA (poster).

2025 Yuan, Michelle, Gabriela Caballero, and Claudia Juárez Chávez. Clitic coalescence in San Juan Piñas Mixtec at the syntax-phonology interface. *NELS 56*, NYU.

2025 Hedding, Andrew A. and Michelle Yuan. Dos caminos a la extracción Ā en lenguas mexicanas. *VI Encuentro de Lingüística Formal en México*, UNAM.

2024 Hedding, Andrew A. and Michelle Yuan. Distinct pathways to possessor Ā-extraction in Mesoamerican languages. *NELS 55*, Yale University.

2024 Mikkelsen, Line, Emily Clem, Michelle Yuan, and Ellen Thrane. Apparent cross-clausal agreement with obliques in Kalaallisut is prolepsis. *WSCLA 27*, University of Toronto.

2024 Yuan, Michelle. More on 'Lexical DP Blocking' effects in the PCC: Evidence from Mixtec. *NELS 54*, MIT (poster).

2023 Hedding, Andrew A. and Michelle Yuan. Phase unlocking and the derivation of verb-initiality in San Martín Peras Mixtec. *WCCFL 41*, UC Santa Cruz.

2023 Duarte Borquez, Claudia, Gabriela Caballero, Claudia Juárez Chávez, and Michelle Yuan. Propiedades tonales y morfosintácticas de los enclíticos pronominales del mixteco de San Juan Piñas (Tò'ōn Ndā'ví). *COLOV IX*, Oaxaca, MX.

2022 Yuan, Michelle. A pseudo-relative in Inuit. *WCCFL 40*, Stanford University.

2021 Caballero, Gabriela, Claudia Juárez Chávez, and Michelle Yuan. The representation of tone in San Juan Piñas Mixtec: Phonological and orthographic implications. *WCCFL 39*, University of Arizona.

2020 Yuan, Michelle and Ksenia Ershova. Dependent case in syntactically ergative languages: Evidence from Inuit and West Circassian. *LSA 2020*, New Orleans, LA.

2020 Yuan, Michelle. Deriving ergativity from object shift across Inuit (Eskimo-Aleut). *LSA 2020*, New Orleans, LA.

2019 Yuan, Michelle. Deriving variation in ergativity across Eskimo-Aleut. *NELS 50*, MIT.

2019 Yuan, Michelle. The morphosyntax of participle-incorporating existentials in Inuktitut. *WSCLA 24*, University of Maryland, College Park.

2019 Yuan, Michelle. Morphological conditions on copy spell-out: Insights from Inuktitut noun incorporation. *LSA 2019*, New York City, NY.

2018 Yuan, Michelle. Lexical case as an Anaphor Agreement Effect: The view from Inuktitut. *NELS 49*, Cornell University.

2018 Tyler, Matthew and Michelle Yuan. Nominal-clitic case mismatches. *WCCFL 36*, UCLA.

2018 Yuan, Michelle. Last Resort case licensing in Inuktitut. *WSCLA 23*, University of Ottawa.

2018 Tyler, Matthew and Michelle Yuan. Nominal case and clitic case: Evidence from Choctaw and Yimas. *Penn Linguistics Colloquium 42*, University of Pennsylvania.

2018 Yuan, Michelle. Inuktitut antipassive morphology and the Anaphor Agreement Effect. *LSA 2018*, Salt Lake City, UT.

2018 Tyler, Matthew and Michelle Yuan. Case-assignment before and after clitic doubling: Evidence from Choctaw and Yimas. *LSA 2018*, Salt Lake City, UT (poster).

2017 Yuan, Michelle. M-merger and copy spell-out in Inuktitut noun incorporation. *NELS 48*, University of Iceland (poster).

2017 Yuan, Michelle. Object agreement and clitic doubling across Inuit: Evidence from Inuktitut ABS objects. *CamCoS 6*, University of Cambridge.

2017 Baier, Nico and Michelle Yuan. Anti-agreement with bound variables. *WCCFL 35*, University of Calgary.

2017 Yuan, Michelle. Why ABS objects are exceptional in Inuktitut: Clitic doubling and cross-dialectal variation. *WSCLA 22*, University of British Columbia.

2017 Baier, Nico and Michelle Yuan. Anti-agreement with bound variables. *Berkeley Linguistic Society 43*, UC Berkeley.

2017 Yuan, Michelle. Decomposing transitive agreement in Inuktitut. *LSA 2017*, Austin, TX.

2016 Yuan, Michelle. Clitic dissimilation and dependent case. *GLOW 39*, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen.

2016 Yuan, Michelle. Subordinate clause types and the left periphery in Kikuyu. *LSA 2016*, Washington, DC.

2016 Yuan, Michelle, Ruth Brillman, and Zuzanna Fuchs. Inuktitut mood-agreement interactions as contextual allomorphy. *LSA 2016*, Washington, DC.

2015 Yuan, Michelle. Case and morphosyntactic anti-identity in Yimas. *NELS 46*, Concordia University (poster).

2015 Yuan, Michelle. Case competition and case domains: Evidence from Yimas. *Chicago Linguistic Society 51*, University of Chicago.

2014 Colantoni, Laura, Alana Johns, Michelle Yuan, and Marta Ortega-Llebaria. Perception of English corrective focus by native Inuktitut speakers. *Canadian Linguistic Association 2014*, Brock University.

2014 Yuan, Michelle. Person restrictions in South Baffin Inuktitut: An argument for feature movement. *WSCLA 19*, Memorial University of Newfoundland.

2013 Yuan, Michelle. Ā-fronting in Dinka (Twic East): Evidence for a left-peripheral domain below CP. Presentation at *Canadian Linguistic Association 2013*, University of Victoria.

Other (non-refereed) presentations

2025 Yuan, Michelle. Towards an account of clitic coalescence restrictions in San Juan Piñas Mixtec. Syntax/Semantics Seminar, UCLA.

2024 Hedding, Andrew A. and Michelle Yuan. Distinct pathways to possessor Ā-extraction in Mesoamerican languages. Syntax and Semantics Roundtable, University of Washington.

2024 Yuan, Michelle. A restriction on vocalic clitic coalescence in San Juan Piñas Mixtec. American Indian Seminar, UCLA.

2023 Yuan, Michelle. An apparent restriction on 3rd person vocalic clitics in San Juan Piñas Mixtec. Linguistic Fieldwork Working Group, UCSD.

2023 Hedding, Andrew A. and Michelle Yuan. Phase unlocking and the derivation of verb-initiality in San Martín Peras Mixtec. Syntax and Semantics Roundtable, University of Washington.

2022 Yuan, Michelle. A pseudo-relative in Inuit. Syntax/Semantics Babble, UCSD.

2022 Yuan, Michelle. Deriving VSO in San Juan Piñas Mixtec (and some puzzles along the way). Syntax Square, MIT.

2021 Yuan, Michelle. Word order in San Juan Piñas Mixtec: Some considerations. Linguistic Fieldwork Working Group, UCSD.

2021 Caballero, Gabriela, Claudia Juárez Chávez, and Michelle Yuan. Tonal and morphosyntactic properties of pronominal clitics in San Juan Piñas Mixtec. Linguistic Fieldwork Working Group, UCSD.

2020 Caballero, Gabriela, Claudia Juárez Chávez, and Michelle Yuan. Tonal and morphosyntactic properties of the San Juan Piñas Mixtec verb complex. Linguistic Fieldwork Working Group, UCSD.

2020 Yuan, Michelle. Field report: Labrador Inuttut. Linguistic Fieldwork Working Group, UCSD.

2019 Yuan, Michelle. On object shift, ergativity, and microvariation in Inuit. Language Variation and Change Workshop, University of Chicago.

2018 Yuan, Michelle. Some new insights into Inuktitut morphosyntax, as revealed through a particular existential construction. Morphology and Syntax Workshop, University of Chicago.

2017 Yuan, Michelle. Anaphors and antipassives in Inuktitut. Ling-Lunch, MIT.

2017 Yuan, Michelle. Last Resort licensing in Inuktitut. Syntax Square, MIT.

2017 Yuan, Michelle. Towards a unified analysis of associative plurals and plural pronouns in Inuktitut. Syntax Square, MIT.

2017 Yuan, Michelle. Against using morphological diagnostics for object agreement vs. clitic doubling (in Inuit). Ling-Lunch, MIT.

2017 Yuan, Michelle. Dependent ergative across Inuit: Variation in object shift and clitic doubling. DP60: Workshop for David Pesetsky, MIT (poster).

2016 Yuan, Michelle. Movement, doubling, and selection in Inuktitut noun incorporation. Syntax Square, MIT.

2016 Yuan, Michelle. Wh-movement to complement position in Kikuyu (and cross-linguistically). Syntax Square, MIT.

2015 Yuan, Michelle. Dependent case and clitic dissimilation. Ling-Lunch, MIT.

2015 Yuan, Michelle. Case and anti-identity in Yimas. Syntax/Semantics Group, University of Toronto.

2015 Yuan, Michelle. Case assignment as featural dissimilation. East Coast 5 Workshop, Harvard University.

2015 Yuan, Michelle. Two tiers of case assignment in Yimas. Syntax Square, MIT.

2014 Yuan, Michelle. An unexpected connection between ergative and oblique in South Baffin Inuktitut. Ergativity Roundtable Workshop, University of Toronto.

2014 Yuan, Michelle. Oblique-participant restrictions in Inuktitut: An argument for feature movement. East Coast 5 Workshop, University of Maryland, College Park.

2013 Yuan, Michelle. Infl in Inuktitut: Tenseless yet deictic? Dog Days of Summer Workshop II, University of Toronto.

2013 Yuan, Michelle. On the phasal status of DP in Inuktitut. 1st Montreal-Ottawa-Toronto-Hamilton Syntax Workshop, McMaster University.

Teaching

UCLA Dept. of Linguistics

Spring 2026 Ling 105 *Morphology* (undergraduate)

Spring 2026 Ling 120B *Syntax I* (undergraduate)

Winter 2026 Ling 201B *Syntactic Theory II* (graduate)

Fall 2025 Ling 165B *Syntax II* (undergraduate)

Spring 2025 Ling 120B *Syntax I* (undergraduate)

Winter 2025 Ling 201B *Syntactic Theory II* (graduate)

Fall 2024 Ling 105 *Morphology* (undergraduate)

Spring 2024 Ling 165B *Syntax II* (undergraduate)

Winter 2024	Ling 252 *Topics in Syntax and Semantics* (graduate) Topic: Ergativity

UCSD Dept. of Linguistics

Winter 2023	LIGN 225 *Topics in Syntax* (graduate) Topic: Case (and related phenomena)
Winter 2023	LIGN 121 *Syntax I* (undergraduate)
Spring 2022	LIGN 120 *Morphology* (undergraduate)
Spring 2022	LIGN 125 *Syntax II* (undergraduate)
Winter 2022	LIGN 225 *Topics in Syntax* (graduate, co-instructor with Emily Clem) Topic: Agreement
Fall 2021	LIGN 221 *Syntax* (graduate)
Spring 2021	LIGN 225 *Topics in Syntax* (graduate) Topic: Syntactic Movement and its Morphological and Phonological Correlates
Spring 2021	LIGN 120 *Morphology* (undergraduate)
Winter 2021	LIGN 121 *Syntax I* (undergraduate)
Fall 2020	LIGN 221 *Syntax* (graduate)
Spring 2020	LIGN 120 *Morphology* (undergraduate)
Spring 2020	LIGN 241 *Fieldwork* (graduate, co-instructor with Gabriela Caballero) Language: San Juan Piñas Mixtec (Otomanguean)
Winter 2020	LIGN 240 *Field Methods* (graduate, co-instructor with Gabriela Caballero) Language: San Juan Piñas Mixtec (Otomanguean)

UChicago Dept. of Linguistics

Spring 2019	LING 20201 *Introduction to Syntax* (undergraduate)
Winter 2019	LING 30202 *Syntactic Analysis II* (graduate)
Fall 2018	LING 46000 *Seminar: Syntax* (graduate) Topic: North American Languages and Syntactic Theory
Fall 2018	HUMA 17000 *Language and the Human* (undergraduate, co-instructor with several others)

Summer institutes

Summer 2023	*The morphosyntax of case and licensing* (undergraduate/graduate) 2023 LSA Summer Institute, UMass Amherst

Other teaching

Spring 2014	*Introduction to Linguistics* (co-instructor with several others) High School Studies Program (HSSP), MIT

Guest lectures

Winter 2022	SEV 20 *First-Year Honors Seminar*, UCSD Seventh College Instructor: Kate Antonovics Topic: Linguistics and linguistic fieldwork
Fall 2016	24.951 *Introduction to Syntax*, MIT Linguistics Instructors: Shigeru Miyagawa, Norvin Richards Topic: Ergativity
Fall 2015	24.902 *Languages and Its Structure II: Syntax*, MIT Linguistics Instructor: Sabine Iatridou Topic: Polysynthesis and noun incorporation

Teaching assistantships

Fall 2016	24.951 *Introduction to Syntax*, MIT (graduate) Instructors: Shigeru Miyagawa, Norvin Richards
Fall 2015	24.902 *Languages and Its Structure II: Syntax*, MIT (undergraduate) Instructor: Sabine Iatridou
Fall 2014	24.900 *Introduction to Linguistics*, MIT (undergraduate) Instructor: Adam Albright
Summer 2013	LIN 200 *Introduction to Language*, University of Toronto (undergraduate) Instructor: Derek Denis
Spring 2013	LIN 200 *Introduction to Language*, University of Toronto (undergraduate) Instructor: Safieh Moghaddam
Fall 2012	LIN 100 *Introduction to Linguistics*, University of Toronto (undergraduate) Instructor: Monica Irimia

Voluntary pedagogical programs

Fall 2018	Participant in *Humanities Core Inclusive Pedagogy Program*, University of Chicago Division of the Humanities

Advising

Ph.D. Dissertations

As chair

2025	Jun Jie Lim, UC San Diego (co-chair with Emily Clem) Title: *(A)symmetries in the morphosyntax of embedded clauses in Khalkha Mongolian*

As committee member

ongoing	Joseph Class, UCLA
ongoing	Hannah Lippard, UCLA
ongoing	János Egressy, UCLA
ongoing	Hunter Johnston, UCLA
ongoing	Matthew Carter, UC San Diego (external member)
2026	Claudia Duarte Borquez, UC San Diego (external member) Title: *Tone and prosodic structure in San Juan Piñas Mixtec (Tò'ōn Ndá'ví)*
2026	Hashmita Agarwal, UCLA Title: *Read-Only: Rethinking phasehood*
2025	Olivia Griffin, UC San Diego (external member) Title: *Iconicity along the dimension of identity*
2022	Andrew Hedding, UC Santa Cruz (external member) Title: *How to move a focus: The syntax of alternative particles*

Ph.D. Prospectuses/Qualifying Papers

As chair

2023	Jun Jie Lim, UC San Diego (co-chair with Emily Clem)

As committee member

2026	Joseph Class, UCLA
2025	Hannah Lippard, UCLA
2024	János Egressy, UCLA
2024	Hunter Johnston, UCLA
2024	Matthew Carter, UC San Diego (external member)
2023	Claudia Duarte Borquez, UC San Diego
2023	Olivia Griffin, UC San Diego
2022	Seoyeon Jang, UC San Diego
2022	Maho Takahashi, UC San Diego
2022	Nico Tedeschi, UC San Diego

M.A. Papers

As chair

ongoing	Will Zimmermann, UCLA
ongoing	Sakshi Singh, UCLA (co-chair with Stefan Keine)
2022	Jun Jie Lim, UC San Diego (co-primary reader with Emily Clem) Title: *Dependent accusative case in Khalkha Mongolian*
2021	Nico Tedeschi, UC San Diego (co-primary reader with Leon Bergen) Title: *Frames of reference in San Juan Piñas Mixtec*

As committee member

2026	Yoann Léveillé, Université du Québec à Montréal (external member) Title: *Mécanique interne des démonstratifs en language inuit*
2022	Catherine Arnett, UC San Diego Title: *A psycholinguistic approach to form-meaning correspondence in Mandarin Chinese monosyllabic verbal reduplication*
2022	Claudia Duarte Borquez, UC San Diego Title: *The representation of tone in San Juan Piñas Mixtec*
2022	Olivia Griffin, UC San Diego Title: *Encoding dimensions of iconicity via multiple pluractionality marking*
2021	Matthew Carter, UC San Diego Title: *Polyfunctional argument markers in Ket: Implicative structure within the word*
2021	Sihun Jung, UC San Diego Title: *An experimental study of contrastive focus and the that-trace effect*
2021	Hagyeong Shin, UC San Diego Title: *Polyfunctionality of Korean case markings: Clarifying the patterns*
2021	Maho Takahashi, UC San Diego Title: *Gap-filler dependencies are sensitive to islands: The case of Japanese relative clauses*

Other formal advising

2024–present	Sahar Taghipour, UCLA (postdoctoral supervisor, Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali Postdoctoral Fellowship in Iranian Linguistics)
2020–2025	Jun Jie Lim, UC San Diego (PhD co-advisor with Emily Clem)
Fall 2020	Claudia Duarte Borquez, UC San Diego (PhD co-advisor with Gabriela Caballero)
Summer 2020	Claudia Duarte Bórquez Competitive Edge Summer Fellowship, UC San Diego Graduate Division (pre-PhD co-mentor with Gabriela Caballero)

Undergraduate advising

2025–2026	Herman Guo, UCLA (faculty mentor for independent studies on case and noun incorporation)
2025	Casey O'Brien, UCLA (research supervisor on San Juan Piñas Mixtec project)
2024	Saíd Bracamontes, UCLA (research supervisor on San Juan Piñas Mixtec project)
2023	Tiffany Wu, UC San Diego (research supervisor on San Juan Piñas Mixtec project)
2020–2022	Akil Iyer, UC San Diego (research supervisor on San Juan Piñas Mixtec project)

Academic service

Editorial service

Natural Language and Linguistic Theory (editorial board, 2025–present).

Grant review

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) (2025).

Monograph review

Cambridge University Press (2024), Johns Benjamin (2026).

Journal review

Anthropological Linguistics (2020), *Canadian Journal of Linguistics* (2018-2021, 2024), *Glossa* (2019-2020, 2022-2024), *Journal of Linguistics* (2021), *Journal of South Asian Linguistics* (2017), *Language* (2022, 2024, 2025), *Linguistic Inquiry* (2018-2022, 2024-2026), *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* (2018, 2022, 2025-2026), *Studies in African Linguistics* (2022), *Syntax* (2021).

Abstract review

ACAL 53 (UC San Diego); *CLS* 54, 55, 56, 57, 59 (University of Chicago); *FASAL* 7 (MIT); *GLOW in Asia* XIII (Chinese University of Hong Kong), *NELS* 48 (University of Iceland), 49 (Cornell University), 50 (MIT), 51 (UQAM), 52 (Rutgers), 54 (MIT); *Object Agreement Across Barriers 2019* (Croatian Institute of History); *WCCFL* 40 (Stanford), 41 (UCSC), 42 (UC Berkeley), 43 (University of Washington), 44 (UNAM); *WSCLA* 24 (UMD College Park), 26 (McGill University), 27 (University of Toronto).

Conference organizing

WSCLA 25 (virtual/Sogang University, co-organizer); *Computational Modeling of Polysynthetic Languages* (workshop at COLING 2018, Santa Fe, NM, program committee member).

Department service

2026	Member, Admissions Committee, UCLA Linguistics.
2026	Chair, Ad Hoc Research Review Committee, UCLA Linguistics.
2025	Co-organizer, Field Linguistics Group, UCLA Linguistics.
2025–2026	Chair, Website Committee, UCLA Linguistics.

2025	Member, Ad Hoc Research Review Committee, UCLA Linguistics.
2025	Faculty guest panelist, Grad Apps for Underrepresented Students in Linguistics (and Related Fields) workshop, UCLA Linguistics.
2025	Member, Admissions Committee, UCLA Linguistics.
2024	Member, Ad Hoc Research Review Committee, UCLA Linguistics.
2024	Member, Website Committee, UCLA Linguistics.
2023	Chair, Excellence Review Committee for continuing lecturer, UC San Diego Linguistics.
2023	Member, Temporary Lecturer Selection Committee, UC San Diego Linguistics.
2022–2023	Member, Job Search Committee, UC San Diego Linguistics.
2022–2023	Undergraduate Faculty Academic Advisor, UC San Diego Linguistics.
Fall 2022	Member, Temporary Lecturer Selection Committee, UC San Diego Linguistics.
2021–2023	Co-organizer, S-Babble, UC San Diego Linguistics.
2021–2022	Member, Faculty Growth Planning Committee, UC San Diego Linguistics.
2020–2022	Chair, Colloquium Committee, UC San Diego Linguistics.
Fall 2020	Chair, Excellence Review Committee for continuing lecturer, UC San Diego Linguistics.
Spring 2020	Member, Ad Hoc Committee on Tenure and Promotion, UC San Diego Linguistics.
2019–2020	Member, Colloquium Committee, UC San Diego Linguistics.
2019–2023	Co-director, Field Research Lab, UC San Diego Linguistics.
2017	Organizer, Informal NSF DDRIG Workshop, MIT Linguistics.
2016–2018	Member, Community & Equity Committee, MIT Linguistics.
2015–2017	Co-founder and co-organizer, Fieldwork Group (FiG), MIT and Harvard Linguistics.
2016	Co-editor, WHAMIT, MIT Linguistics.
2015–2016	Co-organizer, Colloquia, MIT Linguistics.
2015	Member, Open House Committee, MIT Linguistics.
2014	Co-organizer, Syntax Square, MIT Linguistics.

University service

2026	Reviewer, Eugene Cota-Robles awards, UCLA.

2024–2025	Member, Humanities Task Force on Community Engaged Research and Teaching, UCLA.
2024	Reviewer, Graduate Summer Research Mentorship program, UCLA.
2022–2023	Member, Undergraduate Council, UC San Diego.
2022	Reviewer, Triton Research & Experiential Learning Scholars program, UC San Diego.

Service to the linguistics community

2023–	Member, COGEL Stats and Demographics Subcommittee, Linguistic Society of America.
2021–2023	Member, COGEL Pop-Up Mentoring Program Subcommittee, Linguistic Society of America.
2019–	Mentor, COGEL Pop-Up Mentoring Program (NELS 50, LSA 2020, WSCLA 25, WCCFL 40, WCCFL 41, NELS 54, NELS 55, NELS 56).
2016–	Member, Committee on Gender Equity in Linguistics (COGEL), Linguistic Society of America.

Languages of research

Inuktitut (since 2012), San Juan Piñas Mixtec (since 2020), Labrador Inuttut (2019), Tigrinya (2016), Kikuyu (2015–2017), Dinka Twic East (2012–2013).

(updated Sept. 2026)