

Jiayuan (Diana) Liu, Ed.M.

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EDUCATION

MGH Institute of Health Professions

Ph.D. Student, Rehabilitation Sciences

Advisor: Yael Arbel, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Boston, MA

2026 – Present

Harvard University

Ed.M., Human Development and Education

Cambridge, MA

2025 – 2026

Peking University

B.A., English Language and Literature

B.S., Psychology

Beijing, China

2021-2025

- Exchange Student, Cornell University, Fall 2023

- Honors: Huang Tingfang/Xinhe Outstanding Student Overseas Exchange Scholarship (2022, 2023), Merit Student of Peking University (2022, 2023), Second Prize Scholarship of Peking University (2022), Gongya Scholarship (2023)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Cognitive Neuroscience Group, MGH-IHP

Doctoral Research Fellow, Rehabilitation Sciences

Advisor: Yael Arbel, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Boston, MA

Sep. 2026 – Present

Language and Literacy Research Group, UCLA

Research Assistant

Advisor: Alison L. Baily, Ph.D.; Mentor: Phoebe Wang

Remote

Jun. 2026 – Aug. 2026

- Annotated English classroom videos from China, coding language, code-switching, technology use, etc.
- Analyzed language input and output in interactions involving neurodivergent (autistic) students
- Co-developed an annotation manual to standardize coding and train future annotators

Bergelson Lab, Harvard University

Research Assistant

Advisor: Erika Bergelson, Ph.D.; Mentors: Amanda O'Brien, Ph.D., Rainy Dong, Ph.D.

Cambridge, MA

Jan. 2026 – Jul. 2026

- Coordinated participant recruitment and study visits, engaging directly with infants, young children, and families across eye-tracking, head-turn, and other behavioral paradigms
- Transcribed and coded children's naturalistic language environments using ELAN (ACLEW-DARCLE) and annotated symbolic understanding across language, gesture, and play using Datavyu
- Developed pipeline documentation and a training manual to standardize coding workflows
- Proposed a study examining how deictic versus iconic gestures support children's mapping of words to objects and properties during early word learning

Hou Lab, Peking University

Research Assistant

Advisor: Yubo Hou, Ph.D.; Mentor: Yi Cao, Ph.D.

Beijing, China

Jan. 2024 – Jan. 2025

- Conducted cultural-threat perception research, focusing on questionnaire design and response-bias reduction
- Designed and executed an independent study comparing AI-generated and traditional advertising, finding

stronger immediate persuasive effects for traditional advertising

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Beijing Huilongguan Hospital

Beijing, China

Psychiatrist Trainee

May 2024

- Analyzed patient interviews and psychopathological mechanisms in detailed case reports

ACHPPI (Association of Chinese Helping Professionals and Psychiatrists–International)

Remote

Volunteer

Dec. 2023 – Dec. 2024

- Compiled and validated 300+ Chinese mental health assessment scales for overseas use
- Reviewed assessment and intervention research on Chinese Americans

ORGANIZATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Social Justice Club, Harvard Graduate School of Education

Cambridge, MA

Deputy Spokesperson (Executive Member)

Sep. 2025 – May 2026

- Co-organized “Wear Purple Day—Stop Domestic Violence,” leading bilingual English–Chinese outreach
- Supported a civic dialogue with Boston City Councilor Edward Flynn and coordinated a Harvard holiday food drive for the local community

BUCLD 50 (the 50th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development)

Boston, MA

Session Chair

Nov. 2025

- Moderated conference sessions by introducing speakers, managing time, and facilitating scholarly discussion

JING Forum

Beijing, China/Tokyo, Japan

President/Delegate

Aug. 2022 – Feb. 2024

- Led the major student exchange program between Peking University and the University of Tokyo
- Revived post-pandemic programming, overseeing logistics, academics, and sponsorship acquisition
- Represented students in dialogues with the Japanese ambassador and Panasonic leadership

SKILLS & INTERESTS

- Languages: Mandarin & Shanghainese (Native); English (Fluent); Japanese (Intermediate); Italian (Elementary)
- Softwares: R; ELAN; Datavyu
- Interests: Softball; badminton; singing; painting