

Ziyi Cao, M.S., CCC-SLP

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EDUCATION

Expected 2028	Ph.D. Student, Rehabilitation Sciences, MGH Institute of Health Professions, Boston, MA <i>Advisor: Dr. Yael Arbel, CCC-SLP</i>
2026 Summer	Visiting PhD student, Department of Psychology, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ <i>Advisor: Dr. Casey Lew-Williams</i>
2022	M.S., Communication Science and Disorders, MGH Institute of Health Professions, Boston, MA
2020	Postbaccalaureate B.S., Speech & Hearing Sciences, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
2019	B.A., Chinese Linguistics, Fudan University, Shanghai, Shanghai, China

PUBLICATION

- **Cao, Z.**, Black, K., Gul, A., Baron, L. S., Patel, S., Schafer, A. L., & Arbel, Y. (2026). Learning of Grammar-Like Sequences by Children with Developmental Language Disorder: An Electrophysiological Examination. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*, 69(3), 1033–1052. https://doi.org/10.1044/2025_JSLHR-25-00107

Under Review

- Arbel, Y., Fox, A., **Cao, Z.**, Schafer, L. A., Black, K., Baron, L. S., Gul, A. Patel, S. (Under Review). On the Relationship Between Implicit and Explicit Learning in Children with Developmental Language Disorder. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*.

PRESENTATIONS

Peer-reviewed Presentations

- **Cao, Z.**, Schafer, A., Black, K., Baron, L. S., Gul, A., & Arbel, Y. (2025, Nov): *When Learning Doesn't Stick: Evidence of Consolidation Challenges in Children with DLD*. [Oral Presentation]. American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Annual Convention, Washington, D.C.
- **Cao, Z.**, Black, K., Schafer, A., Baron, L. S., Gul, A., Patel, S., & Arbel, Y. (2025, May): *Statistical Learning with Inner Speech Suppression in Children with and without Developmental Language Disorder*. [Poster Presentation]. Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders, Madison, WI.
- **Cao, Z.**, Gul, A., Black, K., Baron, L. S., Schafer, A., & Arbel, Y. (2025, May): *Differences in Learning Mechanisms Used for Grammatical Learning in Children with and without DLD*. [Poster Presentation]. Society for Research in Child Development 2025 Biennial Meeting, Minneapolis. MN.
- **Cao, Z.**, Gul, A., Baron, L. S., Patel, S., Schafer, A., Black, K., & Arbel, Y. (2025, March): *Statistical Learning with Inner Speech Suppression – Behavioral and ERP Evidence from an Artificial Grammar Learning Task in Children*. [Poster Presentation & Data Blitz Session]. Cognitive Neuroscience Society 2025 Annual Meeting, Boston. MA.
- **Cao, Z.**, Gul, A., Baron, L. S., Schafer, A., Black, K., Patel, S., & Arbel, Y. (2024, Dec): *Decoding the Timing Effect: How Immediate and Delayed Feedback Influences Learning in Children with DLD*. [Poster Presentation]. American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Annual Convention, Seattle. WA.
- **Cao, Z.**, Baron, L. S., Black, K., Gul, A., Schafer, A., & Arbel, Y. (2024, May): *Visual Artificial Grammar Learning in Children with Developmental Language Disorder*. [Poster Presentation]. Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders, Madison, WI.
- **Cao, Z.**, Chen, Z., Huang, M., Li, Y. (2020, Nov.): *Effects of Pitch Contours on Mandarin Tone 2 & 3 Perception by Preschoolers with Cochlear Implants*. [Poster Presentation]. American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Annual Convention, San Diego, CA. (canceled due to COVID-19)

- **Cao, Z.**, Wang, Y., Gong, Q. (2018, Sept.): *A Study on the Classifier Constructions in Sign Languages of Representative Cities in Mainland China —An Analysis Based on the Motion Events in the Sign Language Story “Frog, where are you?”* [Oral Presentation] Symposium on Linguistics of Chinese Sign Language, Shanghai, China.

Invited Presentation

- **Cao, Z.** (2026, July): *Visual Statistical Learning in Children with DLD and Speech-Language Pathology 101*, Princeton Baby Lab, Department of Psychology, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ

RESEARCH SUPPORT & AWARDS

2026	ASHA Research Mentoring-Pair Travel Award (\$750) <i>Mentor: Dr. Elena Plante, CCC-SLP</i>
June – July 2026	Princeton Visiting Internship for PhD Students (VIPS) Program (\$6,500)
2026	ASHA Pathway Program Protégé <i>Mentor: Dr. Lizbeth Finestack, CCC-SLP</i>
2026	MGH IHP The Gregory L. Lof Dissertation Support Fund Award (\$1,000)
2025	ASHA Asian-Pacific-Islander Caucus Convention Scholarship (\$250)
2025	SRCLD Student Travel Award (\$800)
2025	SRCD 2025 Biennial Graduate Student Travel Award (\$300)
Oct 2017 – Oct 2018	Undergraduate Research Grant Title: Study on Classifier Constructions in Chinese Sign Language Funding source: Fudan Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program Total award: CNY 10,000 Role: PI
2018	Fudan University Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award
2016	Fudan University Undergraduate Student Scholarship

CLINICAL & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Jan 2024 – Present	Teaching Assistant MGH-IHP, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders • HRS929 – Reproducible Research in R (2026 Fall) • CD724 – EBP & Research Methods for SLP (2024 Spring) • CD744/745 – Spoken & Written Language Development & Disorders (2024 Fall)
Oct 2022 – Aug 2023	Bilingual Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP) – Clinical Fellowship Progressive Pediatric Therapy for Kids, West Palm Beach, FL <i>Supervisor: Joan Cajucom, CCC-SLP</i> • Provided in-person and virtual evidence-based, client-centered speech, language, voice, AAC, and feeding evaluation, intervention, and consultation for pediatric clients and families; • Provided community SLP services for children with autism spectrum disorder and/or Down Syndrome at a local special-ed private school, Our Sacred Academy; • Provided aquatic language therapy targeting functional communication, collaborating with PT and OT to support participation in movement-based activities.
Feb 2023 – Aug 2023	SLP per diem Love Serving Autism, Boca Raton, FL <i>Supervisor: Lisa Pugliese-LaCroix, CCC-SLP</i> • Integrated group language therapy into tennis class for children with ASD; trained and supported coaches in implementing ASD-informed communication strategies.
May 2022 – Aug 2022	Graduate Student Clinician Boston Children’s Hospital, Waltham & Boston, MA <i>Supervisor: Roseanne Clark, CCC-SLP & Liza Catallozzi, CCC-SLP</i>

- Provided and assisted evidence-based assessments and therapy for pediatric patients with voice disorders or velopharyngeal insufficiency (VPI) under supervision;
- Actively observed and participated in multidisciplinary collaboration with ENTs, plastic surgeons, orthodontists, audiologists, social workers, and case coordinators to provide comprehensive and individualized treatment for patients with cleft lip & palate/craniofacial anomalies.

CERTIFICATES

Since Aug. 2023

Since Aug. 2023

Sept. 2022 – Sept. 2023

Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC) in Speech-Language Pathology

License in Speech-Language Pathology, Massachusetts

Provisional license in Speech-Language Pathology, Florida

SERVICE

Journal Reviewing

2026

Reviews for *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research* (1),

2025

Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research (1),

American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology (1).

Peer Mentorship

2025

Marcela Holmes Madruga (MGH-IHP RS PhD program)

2024

Rachel Norton (MGH-IHP RS PhD program),

Hee Eun Jeon (MGH-IHP CSD M.S. program),

Keying Wang (Fudan University Linguistics B.A. program)