Ping Hei Yeung 楊秉羲

Georgetown University
Department of Linguistics
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Research interests	Phonetics, computational sociolinguistics, language ideology, World Englishes, tonal phonology, language contact

Education

Georgetown University — Washington, DC
Doctor of Philosophy in General Linguistics — 2021 – Present
Advisor: Jennifer Nycz
Dissertation: *Standard language ideology in Malaysian English: A Sociophonetic Perspective*

Georgetown University — Washington, DC
Master of Science in General Linguistics — 2021 – 2023
Advisor: Jennifer Nycz
Thesis: *Contact-induced tonogenesis in Hong Kong English*

University of Hong Kong — Hong Kong
Bachelor of Arts in General Linguistics, Minor in Spanish — 2016 – 2020
Advisor: Jonathan Havenhill
Thesis: *An articulatory perspective on differential substitution: the production of the English voiceless (inter)dental fricative by Mandarin and Cantonese speakers*

Publications

Yeung, **Ping Hei**. (In preparation). Tonogenesis in a contact language: an acoustic study of tonal minimal pairs in Hong Kong English.

Nycz, Jennifer, & **Yeung**, **Ping Hei**. (In preparation). Phonology in Sociocultural Linguistics. In R. Kennedy & P. Strycharczuk (Eds.), *Elements in Phonology.* Cambridge University Press.

Havenhill, Jonathan, & **Yeung**, **Ping Hei**. (Under review). Contextual and interspeaker variability in the production of the Hong Kong Cantonese sibilants: A dynamic articulatory and acoustic study.

Yeung, **Ping Hei**. 2023. Contact-induced tonogenesis in Hong Kong English. In R. Skarnitzl & J. Voln (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences.* Guarant International. 1921-1925.

Thompson, Arthur Lewis, Chan, May Pik Yu, **Yeung**, **Ping Hei**, & Do, Youngah. 2022. Structural Markedness and Depiction: The Case of Lower Sequential Predictability in Cantonese Ideophones. *The Mental Lexicon, 17*(2), 300-324. https://doi.org/10.1075/ml.21016.tho

Do, Youngah, & **Yeung**, **Ping Hei**. 2021. Evidence against a link between learning phonotactics and learning phonological alternations. *Linguistics Vanguard,7*(1). https://doi.org/10.1515/lingvan-2020-0127

Presentations

Yeung, **Ping Hei**. 2026. Social perception of TH-stopping and postvocalic rhoticity in Malaysian English. Paper presented at the Linguistic Society of America 2026 Annual Meeting (LSA2026), New Orleans, LA.

Yeung, **Ping Hei**. 2025. Interaction between standard language ideology and sociophonetic variation in Malaysian English. Poster presented at the 53rd New Ways of Analyzing Variation Conference (NWAV53), Ann Arbor, MI.

Yeung, **Ping Hei**. 2025. Morphologically conditioned tone changes in Cantonese are grammatical tones. Poster presented at the Linguistic Society of America 2025 Annual Meeting (LSA2025), Philadelphia, PA.

Yeung, **Ping Hei**. 2024. Constructing Hong Kong English identity through vowel mergers: Indexical meanings of local phonological features in the Outer Circle of English. Paper presented at the 52nd New Ways of Analyzing Variation Conference (NWAV52), Miami Beach, FL.

Yeung, **Ping Hei**. 2023. Modeling sociophonetic variation in L2 varieties of English: considerations of proficiency and norm orientation. Poster presented at the 51st New Ways of Analyzing Variation Conference (NWAV51), New York, NY.

Yeung, **Ping Hei**. 2023. Contact-induced tonogenesis in Hong Kong English. Paper presented at the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences (ICPhS2023), Prague, Czech Republic.

Yeung, **Ping Hei**. 2023. "I speak Hong Kong English, not American or British English.": The effect of language affiliation on vowel production among L2 English speakers in Hong Kong. Paper presented at the 25th conference of the International Association of World Englishes (IAWE25), Stony Brook, NY.

Yeung, **Ping Hei**. 2023. Tonal alternation of the proximal demonstrative suffix -na in Dagaare. Paper presented at the 54th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL54), Storrs, CT,

Yeung, **Ping Hei**. 2022. Diachronic reversal of /ɪ/-tensing in Hong Kong English: a result of dialect contact with non-local English varieties? Paper presented at the 7th meeting of the New Ways of Analyzing Variation – Asia Pacific (NWAV-AP7), Bangkok, Thailand.

Yeung, **Ping Hei**. 2022. Can English become a tone language? Production of lexical tones in Hong Kong English. Poster presented at the 18th Conference on Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon18).

Yeung, **Ping Hei**, and Havenhill, Jonathan. 2021. Acoustic ambiguity leads to articulatory re-analysis: Affricate palatalization in Hong Kong Cantonese. Paper presented at the 33rd meeting of the North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics (NACCL-33), Chicago, IL.

Yeung, **Ping Hei**. 2021. Allophonic variation of coronal affricates in Hong Kong Cantonese. Paper presented at the 6th meeting of the New Ways of Analyzing Variation – Asia Pacific (NWAV-AP6), Singapore.

Fieldwork experience

Malaysian English   Spring 2025
University of Malaya — Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Conducted independent sociolinguistic fieldwork for doctoral dissertation; designed and performed sociolinguistic interviews and perception experiments; collaborated with local scholars.

Dagaare   Spring 2022
Georgetown University — Washington, DC
Conducted phonological, morphological, and syntactic documentation.

Hong Kong English   Summer 2021
University of Hong Kong — Hong Kong
Conducted independent sociolinguistic fieldwork; designed and performed sociolinguistic interviews.

Gurung   Fall 2019
University of Hong Kong — Hong Kong
Conducted phonological, morphological, and syntactic documentation as part of language documentation training.

Research assistantships

Research Assistant, Department of Linguistics, Georgetown University
Supervisor: Jennifer Nycz   2021 – Present
- Co-authored a forthcoming Cambridge Elements volume on Phonology in Sociocultural Linguistics with Prof. Nycz
- Assisted in preparing the Corpora of Mobile Speakers (COrMS) for public release

Research Assistant, Department of Linguistics, University of Hong Kong

Supervisors: Youngah Do and Jonathan Havenhill   2020 – 2021

- Developed research projects in experimental phonology employing the artificial language paradigm
- Designed and conducted research in articulatory phonetics using ultrasound tongue imaging to investigate sound change
- Utilized R for statistical modeling and data visualization across phonological and phonetic research projects

Student Research Assistant, Faculty of Education, University of Hong Kong

Supervisor: Tong Xiuli Shelley   2019

- Assessed cognitive and linguistic development in school-aged children with ASD using standardized diagnostic tools

Teaching experience

Teaching associate (Georgetown University)

LING1000 Introduction to Language (co-instructor)   Fall 2024

- Designed syllabus, independently led half of lectures, created assignments, and graded student work

Teaching assistant (Georgetown University)

Led recitations, supported course delivery, graded assignments/exams, and designed course material

LING4431 LLMs for Computational Linguistics   Spring 2026
Instructor: Ethan Wilcox

LING5320 Sociolinguistic Variation   Fall 2025
Instructor: Jennifer Nycz

LING1000 Introduction to Language   Fall 2023
Instructor: Danni Shi

LING001 Introduction to Language   Spring 2023
Instructor: Lara Bryfonski

LING215 Sounds of Language   Fall 2022
Instructor: Elizabeth Zsiga

Teaching assistant (University of Hong Kong)

Led recitations, supported course delivery, graded assignments/exams, and designed course material

CCHU9066 Human learning: a life-long adventure   Spring 2021
Instructor: Youngah Do

LING2004 Phonetics   Fall 2020
Instructor: Jonathan Havenhill

LING2027 Phonology   Fall 2020
Instructor: Youngah Do

Honors and Scholarships	Dissertation Research Travel Grant (Georgetown University)	2025
	Linguistics Department Travel Grant (Georgetown University)	2023-2025
	Graduate School Conference Travel Grant (Georgetown University)	2024
	Prize in Linguistics (University of Hong Kong)	2019-2020
	Dean's Honour List (University of Hong Kong)	2016-2020
	Fellow of HKU Undergraduate Research Fellowship Programme	2019
	HKU Worldwide Undergraduate Student Exchange Scholarships	2018-2019
	HKSAR Government Scholarship Fund Reaching Out Award	2018-2019

Other experience

Consulate General of Peru in Hong Kong — Hong Kong
Consulate Assistant Intern — Summer 2019
- Spanish-English-Chinese trilingual simultaneous interpretation
- Represented the Consulate in diplomatic and business events

Service and outreach

Variation Lab, Georgetown University — Fall 2023 – Present
Organized and facilitated bi-weekly discussions on current research in variationist sociolinguistics

Abstract reviewer, CogSci2025 — 2025
Per-reviewed abstracts for scholarly conference submissions.

Undergraduate Research Mentor, Georgetown University — Spring 2024
Mentor in LING 3930 Research-based Undergraduate Linguistics Research Experience (RULE).
Supervised two undergraduate research assistants, guiding them through research projects and fostering analytical and communication skills.

Conference organizer, Georgetown University Round Table 2022: Dialect Contact (GURT 2022) — Spring 2022
Coordinated with faculty, student organizers, and presenters to manage logistics, submissions, and scheduling

Skills

Programming
Proficient in Python, R, Praat scripting

Phonetic research tools
Automatic speech recognition (ASR), Praat, Montreal Forced Aligner, ELAN, ultrasound tongue imaging, Articulate Assistant Advanced

General research tools
PsychoPy, Qualtrics, LaTeX, GitHub

Languages
Cantonese, English: native/bilingual
Mandarin: advanced
Spanish, Italian, Malay, Indonesian: intermediate
Gurung, Dagaare: research