

Shengkai YIN

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy Sept 2020 – current
Dual-degree Shanghai Jiao Tong University and The University of Melbourne

Expected submission: November 2024

Thesis title: “Assessing Critical Thinking in EAP Speaking: Design and Validation of a Rating Scale”

- conceptualize the concept of critical thinking (CT) in the context of English for academic purposes (EAP) speaking assessment construct
- describe the domain of CT in EAP speaking context by developing a rating scale, and
- validate the rating scale based on an argument-based validation framework.

Exchange (major in Applied Linguistics) 2017 – 2018
University of Kent, Canterbury, United Kingdom

Master of Arts (major in Applied Linguistics) 2016 – 2019
Tongji University, Shanghai, China

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Sessional Academic Tutor 2023 - current
The University of Melbourne, School of Languages and Linguistics

Courses taught: *Academic English 1 (ESLA10003)*, *Advanced Self-Editing (ESLA90002)* at undergraduate level and *Language Assessment (LING 9009)* at postgraduate level. Primary responsibilities include:

- Develop curriculum and assessment, covering topics such as formative and summative assessment, assessment of/for/as learning, and construction and validation of language tests
- Retrofit assessments and quizzes to align with students’ learning trajectory
- Offer consultation and support to students with learning difficulties

Research Assistant 2023 - current
The University of Melbourne, Language Testing Research Center

Researcher, marker and invigilator for Diagnostic English Language Assessment (DELA)

University Lecture (T&R, full-time) 2019 – 2020
Shanghai Polytechnic University, School of Foreign Languages and Cultural Communication

Primary responsibilities include:

- Undertake lecturing, course coordination, and tutorials at undergraduate level
- Provide support to the management of the Master of Translation and Interpretation degree
- Undertake scholarly research projects individually and/or in collaboration with colleagues, for publication in traditional outlets appropriate for the field of applied linguistics
- Coordinating international affairs, including organising exchange programs for students at College of Arts and Sciences
- Translate for the Dean during the visits of international partners

- Course development and curriculum design
- Course teaching
- TOEFL teaching and research

AWARDS & GRANTS

Year	Awards	Amount
2024	University of Melbourne Research Essential Grant	AUD 5,990
	TOEFL/ITLA Student Travel Grant	USD 2,500
2023	University of Melbourne Graduate Research in Arts Travel Scheme	AUD 1,500
	Research and Graduate Studies Grant (Languages and Linguistics)	AUD 2,000
	British Council Assessment Research Awards¹	GBP 2,500
	Graduate Researcher Prize Scholarship; Outstanding Student Award; First Prize, Shanghai Jiao Tong University Scholarship	CNY 5,000
2022	Duolingo Dissertation Research Awards in Language Assessment²	USD 6,000
2020	Seed Funding of Shanghai Jiao Tong University- The University of Melbourne Joint PhD Program (Fellowship) (WH610160507/047) ³	AUD 20,000

PUBLICATIONS

A. Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

- (1) **Yin, S.**, Fan, J., Jin, Y., & Stapleton, P. (2024). Towards a framework of critical thinking for assessing EAP speaking. *Journal of English for Academic Purposes*, 1-14.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jeap.2024.101426> [SSCI, Q1 in Linguistics and Education, JIF: 3.1]
- (2) **Yin, S.**, Guo, K., & Li, D. (2024). To Assign a Topic or Not: Examining Critical Thinking in English as a Foreign Language Speaking. *RELC Journal*, 1-14.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/00336882231222651> [SSCI, Q1 in Linguistics, JIF: 3.6]
- (3) Sun, Q., Chen, F., & **Yin, S.** (2023). The role and features of peer assessment feedback in college English writing. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 13:1070618, 1-16.
<https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2022.1070618> [SSCI, Q1 in Psychology, JIF: 3.8]
- (4) **Yin, S.** & Jin, Y. (2022). The effect of critical thinking on the performances of integrated speaking assessments. *Foreign Languages and Their Teaching*, 327(6): 66-77.
<https://doi.org/10.13458/j.cnki.flatt.004905> [CSSCI-indexed, Top journal in China]
- (5) **Yin, S.**, Chen, F., & Chang, H. (2022). Assessment as learning: How does peer assessment function in students' learning? *Frontiers in Psychology*, 13: 912568, 1-14.
<https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2022.912568> [SSCI, Q1 in Psychology, JIF: 3.8]
- (6) Sun, H. & **Yin, S.** (2022). Review of Language Aptitude: Advancing Theory, Testing, Research and Practice. *Assessing Writing*, 51 (1): 1-4. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.asw.2021.100588> [SSCI, Q1 in Linguistics, JIF: 4.2]

B. Conference papers

¹ Announcement: <https://www.britishcouncil.org/exam/aptis/research/grants-and-awards/awards>

² Announcement: <https://blog.duolingo.com/p/905403ae-572f-431a-8bf6-ba5037f2ec85/>

³ Announcement: <https://go.unimelb.edu.au/7bo8>

- (1) **Yin, S.** (2024). Conceptualizing and operationalizing the construct of critical thinking in EAP speaking: The development and validation of a rating scale. In Proceedings of *the 45th Language Testing Research Colloquium (LTRC) 2024*, Innsbruck, Austria. Research paper presentation.
- (2) **Yin, S.,** Jin, Y., & Fan, J. (2024) Understanding critical thinking in EAP speaking: Evidence from the CET-SET6. *Academic Forum on English Language Testing in Asia (AFELTA) 2024*, Singapore. Research paper presentation.
- (3) **Yin, S.** (2023). Assessing critical thinking in EAP speaking: Design and validation of a rating scale. In Proceedings of *the 44th Language Testing Research Colloquium (LTRC) 2023*, New York City, United States. presentation.
- (4) **Yin, S.** (2022). Assessing critical thinking in EAP speaking: Development and validation of a rating scale. In Proceedings of *the 8th Annual International Conference of the Asian Association for Language Assessment (AALA) 2022*, Chennai, India. poster, slides.
- (5) Sun, Q., Chen, F. & **Yin, S.** (2022). Understanding diversified evaluation in ESL writing classroom: An insight from effectiveness of peer assessment feedback. *New Direction 2022*, British Council, England. Slides.
- (6) **Yin, S.** (2021). Investigating the Relationships Between Test Takers' Critical Thinking Ability and Their Performances on Speaking Task: A Case Study of TOEFL Integrated Speaking Task. In Proceedings of *the 19th World Congress of Applied Linguistics (AILA) 2021*, Groningen, the Netherlands. poster, slides.
- (7) **Yin, S.** (2021). Validating dynamic assessment: an argument-based approach. In Proceedings of *The Sixth Conference on Language Testing and Assessment 2021*, pp.42. Shanghai, China. paper, slides.
- (8) **Yin, S.** & Chen, F. (2021). Assessing by peers: How it benefits students' learning. In Proceedings of *the 7th Annual International Conference of the Asian Association for Language Assessment (AALA) 2021*, Seoul, Korea. paper, slides.
- (9) **Yin, S.** (2020). On Integrated Speaking Test Performance and its Relation with Critical Thinking: A Case Study of TOEFL Integrated Speaking Task. In Proceedings of *the Fifth International Conference on Language Testing and Assessment*. Guangzhou, China. paper, slides.

C. Translation book

Yang, M. & **Yin, S.** (2020). *Dark Genius of Wall Street: The Misunderstood Life of Jay Gould, King of the Robber Barons*. Shanghai: Shanghai University of Finance and Economics. ISBN: 978-7-5642-3580-2/F • 3580

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- (1) How to assess speaking in academic context? Invited talk at Shanghai Polytechnic University, Shanghai, China, June 12, 2020.
- (2) Introduction to applying Rasch model in SLA. Invited talk at East China Normal University, Shanghai, China, March 23, 2022.
- (3) Zhao., N., & Zhang., T. (2023, November 14-16). Unlocking Opportunities: A Graduate Student's Guide to Research Award Application. ALTAANZ 2023 Conference

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Interim reviewer and final report evaluator for National Education Examinations Authority – British Council English Assessment Research Grants, 2020-2024.
- Reviewer of the 11th and 12th British Council New Directions in Language Assessment East Asia, July 2023, 2024.

- Ad-hoc Reviewer for Journals: “Foreign Languages and Their Teaching”; “TESOL Journal”; “Assessing Writing”; “Journal of Language Teaching”
- Academic contributor to the project “Linking China’s Standards of English Language Ability to College English Test Band 4 and 6”, January 17- February 7, 2021.
- Academic contributor to the project “Construction of China’s Standards of English Language Ability Speaking Subscales Descriptors”, 2020.

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

- Credentialed Community Language Test in Mandarin (Issued by National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters) (January 2024)
- PTE 85 (December 2023)
- Shanghai Advanced-Level English Interpreter (February 2014)
- China Accreditation Test for Translators and Interpreters (December 2017)
- Teacher Certification for Senior High School (State Education Commission of the P.R. China) (May 2018)
- Driver License (Full, Car) (Victoria, Australia)

Languages: Chinese (native language), English (bilingual ability), French (A2 level)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- ILTA (International Language Testing Association) Graduate Student Assembly Steering Committee
- AALA (Asian Association for Language Assessment) Student Committee Member, Public Relation Officer
 - Manage operational activities (e.g., engaging student members, encouraging membership, offering on-site support for events)
 - Active participation in discussions and provide feedback on proposed initiatives
 - Edit the *In Conversation Series*
 - Draft the cover page report for the seventh conference of AALA
- Member in ALTAANZ (Association for Language Testing and Assessment of Australia and New Zealand) Reference Group 2022-2024
 - Help editorial team to enhance the journal, *Studies in Language Assessment*
 - Support the ALTAANZ Executive Committee
 - Work with the Student Representatives to build a strong ALTAANZ student community