

**Sing Sing Ngai**  
Academic CV

**Education background**

- 2009-to date** Doctoral candidate at l'Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, France.  
**2012** Masters in Translation at l'Ecole Supérieure d'Interprètes et de Traducteurs, France.  
**2003** MPhil in Linguistics at the University of Cambridge, United Kingdom.  
**2002** BA (Hons) in European studies at the University of Hong Kong, China.

**PhD thesis**

**(Forthcoming)** A grammar of Shaowu, a Sinitic language of north-western Fujian.  
Supervised by Professor Hilary Chappell at EHESS-CRLAO-CNRS, Paris, France.  
(Thesis submission expected in 2019/20 at l'Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales)

**MPhil thesis**

**2003** The fall of the imperfect subjunctive and the rise of the conditional in Old French.  
Supervised by Professor Wendy Bennett at the Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages,  
University of Cambridge, the United Kingdom.

**Scholarships and Awards**

- 2009-2012** ERC Sinotype Project scholarship, funded by the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Community's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement n° 230388.  
**2003** Cambridge Overseas Trust scholarship, University of Cambridge, the U.K.  
**2002** First Class Honours and Outstanding Student Award, University of Hong Kong.  
**2001** Top Student Award, Consulat Général of France, Hong Kong.  
**2001** Dean's Honours' List, Faculty of Arts, University of Hong Kong.  
**2000** One-year exchange programme to Lund University, Sweden.  
**1999** Dean's Honours' List, Faculty of Arts, University of Hong Kong.

**Publications**

1. 'On the origin of special numerals for 'one' in south-eastern China: [kei213] in the Western Min dialect of Shaowu', in *Diversity in Sinitic languages*, ed. by Hilary Chappell, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2015.
2. 'Giving is receiving: The polysemy of the GET/GIVE verb [tie53] in Shaowu, in *Causation, Permission, and Transfer. Argument realisation in GET, TAKE, PUT, GIVE and LET verbs*, by Nolan Brian, Gudrun Rawoens and Elke Diedrichsen (eds.) [SLCS 167], Amsterdam: John Benjamins, 2015.
3. 'Shaowu: a hybrid dialect in Southeast China', *Encyclopaedia of Chinese Language and Linguistics*, Rint Sybesma et al (eds.), Leiden, Brill, 2016.
4. (Forthcoming) *A grammar of Shaowu, a Sinitic language of north-western Fujian*, in the grammar series *Sinitic Languages of China*, ed. by Hilary Chappell, Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton, (2020).

## **Conference presentations**

**2019 June** ‘On the negation of Shaowu’. Presentation at the *Journées CRLAO (JLAO 32)*, Paris, France.

**2013 August** ‘The Shaowu GET-GIVE verb [tie53]’. Paper presented at the 10th Biennial Conference of the Association for Linguistic Typology (ALT-10). Leipzig, Germany. 2013 June ‘Shaowu: A typological profile of a hybrid Sinitic dialect of Min-Gan in northwest Fujian Province’. Paper presented at the Final Symposium for the ERC Sinotype Project, Paris, France.

**2013 June** ‘Shaowu: A typological profile of a hybrid Sinitic language of Min-Gan in northwest Fujian Province’. Presentation at the Final Symposium for the ERC Sinotype Project, Paris, France.

**2013 May** ‘The argument structure, multi-functionality and poly-grammaticalisation pathways of the GET verb [tie53] in the Shaowu dialect (Min-Gan supra-group) in south-eastern China’. Paper presented at the 25th Scandinavian Conference of Linguistics (25-SCL), Reykjavik, Iceland.

**2011 September** ‘Possible origins of basic numbers in Southern China’. Paper presented at the 7th European Association of Chinese Linguistics (EACL-7), Venice, Italy.

**2011 June** ‘Classifier and/ or numeral? [kei213] of Shaowu in Fujian, China’. Paper presented at the 23rd North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics (NACCL-23), University of Oregon, the U.S.A.

**2011 May** ‘From classifier to numeral: [kei213] of Shaowu in Fujian, China’. Paper presented at the Workshop on "Ecology, Population Movements, and Language Diversity in the Fourth International Conference of the French Association for Cognitive Linguistics, hosted by the Collegium de Lyon, Ecole Normale Supérieure (ENS) Lyon, France.

**2010 November** ‘The classifier GE in the Shaowu dialect in north-western Fujian: its properties and multi-functionality’. Paper presented at the 5th International Symposium on Chinese dialectal grammars, Shanghai, China.

**2010 September** 7th International Symposium on Ancient Chinese grammar, Roscoff, France. Participation at the ERC workshop.

**2010 May** ‘Sinitic numeral classifier systems: origins, diachronic development and synchronic variations’. Joint presentation at COST Action A31 Final Conference: Stability and Adaptation of Classification Systems in a Cross-cultural Perspective, Ecole Normale Supérieure (ENS) Paris and CRLAO-EHESS, France.

**2009 December** International Conference on Chinese Dialects and the 15th National Conference of the Chinese Dialect Society, University of Macau, China. Participation.

**2009 August** The 8th Biennial Conference of the Association for Linguistic Typology (ALT- 8). UC Berkeley, USA. Participation.

### **CRLAO-EHESS Seminars**

**2018 March** ‘On the topic-comment structure of Shaowu’. Talk given at CRLAO-EHESS, Paris, France.

**2015 June** ‘Giving is receiving: on the poly-functional Shaowu morpheme [tie53]’, CRLAO- EHESS, Paris, France.

**2014 May** ‘The polysemy and grammaticalisation pathways of the GET/GIVE verb [tie53] in Shaowu’, CRLAO-EHESS, Paris, France.

**2013 March** ‘On the complex structure of Shaowu’. Talk given at the Sinotype Project, CRLAO-EHESS, Paris, France.

**2013 February** ‘On the Shaowu modality’. Talk given at the Sinotype Project, CRLAO- EHESS, Paris, France.

**2012 December** ‘On the comparative structure of Shaowu’. Talk given at the Sinotype Project, CRLAO-EHESS, Paris, France.

**2012 November** ‘On the ditransitive constructions of Shaowu’. Talk given at the Sinotype Project, CRLAO-EHESS, Paris, France.

**2012 October** ‘On the clausal structure of Shaowu’. Talk given at the Sinotype Project, CRLAO-EHESS, Paris, France

**2011 November** ‘On the complex structure of Shaowu’. Talk given at the Sinotype Project, CRLAO-EHESS, Paris, France.

**2011 June** ‘On the predicate structure of Shaowu’. Talk given at the Sinotype Project, CRLAO-EHESS, Paris, France.

**2011 March** ‘Sinitic adpositions and adpositional phrases’. Talk given at the Sinotype Project, CRLAO-EHESS, Paris, France.

**2010 April** ‘On the nominal structure of Shaowu’. Talk given at the Sinotype Project, CRLAO-EHESS, Paris, France.

### **Research visits**

**2012 January** Research visit to the Department of Linguistics, the University of Hong Kong.

**2011 July** Research visit to Harvard-Yenching Library, Harvard University, the U.S.A.

**2009 May** Short-term scientific mission in the framework of COST Action A31: Stability and adaptation of classification systems in a cross-cultural perspective, to the Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, the Netherlands.

## **Summer schools**

**2013 August** DGfs Summer School on Linguistic Typology, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany.

**2011 July-August** Linguistic Institute 2011 at the University of Colorado, Boulder, held by the Linguistic Society of America, U.S.A.

**2010 August** DFG-CNRS Summer School on Linguistic Typology held by the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany.

**2009 July-August** Linguistic Institute 2009 at the University of California, Berkeley, held by the Linguistic Society of America, U.S.A.

**2009 June** The 5th Spring School of European Association of Chinese Linguistics (EACL5) at the Russian State University for the Humanities, Institute for Oriental Cultures and Antiquity, Moscow, Russian Federation.

## **Conference organisation**

**2013 June** The Final Symposium for the ERC Sinotype Project, Paris, France.

**2009 July** The 17th Annual Conference of the International Association of Chinese Linguistics (IACL-17), Paris, France.

## **Field trips to China**

Fieldwork carried out in Shaowu city, China, for the PhD thesis *A Grammar of Shaowu* in the following periods:

2019 August

2014 June

2013 May - June

2012 Jan - April

2010 Dec

2010 July - Aug

2009 Dec

## **Language skills**

Chinese (Mandarin, Cantonese, Eastern Min): mother tongue

English and French: excellent command

Spanish and German: intermediate level

## **Computer skills**

Good command of Office tools including Word, Excel and PowerPoint

Basic knowledge in HTML and PYTHON languages, efficient internet research

Familiarity with ELAN, TOOLBOX, PRAAT, Audacity and Meta-data management

## **Research interests**

Syntax and semantics, language documentation, Sinitic languages, language typology.