

YUQIU CHEN (LINDA)

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EDUCATION AND SKILLS

King's College London MSc Neuroscience (neuroimaging) 2:1 or higher 09/2025-09/2026
Academic excellence marked 92 in Research Proposal (PET study of glutamine)
Durham University BSc Psychology high2:1 10/2022-06/2025
Data-related skills: ImageJ/Fiji, SPM, FLIR, R, JASP, Qualtrics, PsyToolkit, Psychopy, MATLAB, SPSS, Microsoft
Language: Mandarin (native), English (professional fluency), German (intermediate B1)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

MSc Neuroscience Research Project < Development of Ultra-Low Field Magnetic Resonance Imaging for Accessible Neuroimaging>, Supervisor: Dr. Po-wah So, 02/26–09/26

Acquired and analysed an ex vivo human post-mortem sagittal brain hemisphere at 50 mT and 3 T using TSE-based quantitative T_2 mapping; contributed to **the first 50 mT quantitative T_2 -mapping study** of an ex vivo human brain, with original analyses incorporated into a BIC-ISMRM 2026 conference project (P33; [FINAL BICISMRM Abstract Book](#).) and co-authorship secured on a journal paper in preparation. Independently designed and presented a 5-minute scientific poster at the KCL MSc Neuroscience Poster Conference, communicating quantitative MRI findings and confidently responding to technical questions from academic and student audiences: [Yuqiu Chen Poster 2026](#).

Generated **quantitative T_2 maps** and performed manual ROI analysis using ImageJ across cortical and deep grey-matter structures, demonstrating preserved neuroanatomical contrast at 50 mT. **Fabricated tissue-mimicking GM/WM and iron (III) chloride phantoms** and used MSME sequences to validate T_2 sensitivity to tissue composition and iron concentration; identified strong correlations between regional R_2 and reported brain iron concentrations at 50 mT ($r = 0.85$, $p = 0.0029$) and 3 T under supervision. **CaliberMRI Mini Hybrid Phantom** was used with $MnCl_2/NiCl_2$ reference samples to estimate effective echo times from measured signal intensities and literature-reported T_2 values, then calculated quantitative T_2 using multi-echo signal decay at 50 mT.

Preclinical Research and Ex Vivo Tissue Preparation, 06/26-07/26

Received **hands-on training** in post-mortem mouse dissection and organ harvesting, systematically identified major anatomical structures and organs, including the liver and liver tumour, and carefully excised liver tissue while maintaining sample integrity. **Gained hands-on experience** with 9.4 T preclinical MRI of a mouse liver cancer model, including animal preparation, positioning and imaging workflows; developed practical understanding of animal welfare and behavioural assessment, including recognition of pain, distress and behavioural changes.

Undergraduate Dissertation Research < Gender Differences in Cognitive Task Performance Between Autistic and Non-Autistic Individuals>, Supervisor: Dr. Sophie Hodgetts, 10/24-05/25

Independently led the research project, completing ethics approval and recruiting 100 participants within two months, while maintaining sample representativeness and project timelines. **Developed** 2D and 3D mental rotation and lexical decision tasks using PsyToolkit and designed a customised strategy questionnaire to collect behavioural and subjective data. Conducted JASP statistical analyses, including 2×2 ANOVA, to examine cognitive performance in autistic participants during lexical decision tasks, critically interpreting findings against existing theoretical assumptions.

Research Assistant <Infra-red thermal techniques to study emotionality in free-ranging Japanese macaques>, 06/24-09/24

Applied infrared thermography (FLIR) to quantitatively assess emotional and physiological arousal in free-ranging Japanese macaques, coding 20+ thermal imaging videos and 200+ observation points to measure nasal skin temperature across 10+ behavioural contexts, including feeding and grooming; established associations between nasal temperature changes and emotional arousal while developing a standardised data workflow to ensure data quality and high inter-rater reliability. Analysed and reported context-dependent physiological variations to support the identification of potential biomarkers of stress and social bonding in primates.

Research Assistant < Judging emotions and social context from naturalistic expressions: An eye-tracking study >, 12/23-03/24

Managed recruitment and scheduling for 50+ participants, implementing communication and reminder procedures that supported participant engagement and achieved a 100% attendance rate. Independently configured eye-tracking cameras and sensitivity settings according to individual differences in height and visual conditions.

Operated eye-tracking equipment and used MATLAB and Presto to synchronize stimulus presentation with gaze data acquisition. Presented naturalistic photographs of facial expressions captured while individuals watched films and examined participants' emotion judgments and visual attention to facial expressions.

Research Assistant < Implicit and explicit visual perspective taking: An eye-tracking study >, 10/23- 03/24

Programmed 20+ PsychoPy experimental scripts for each participant to present avatar-based visual scenes and assess whether participants reported their own visual perspective (implicit) or what the avatar could see (explicit), contributing to research on perspective-taking and cognitive processing.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Academic Officer & Student Representative | Durham University, 10/24 – 09/25

Supported the management of a 400+ member academic society, delivered promotional talks to audiences of 100+ students during flagship events, and helped recruit approximately 50 new members. Developed psychology-focused content based on the interests of a diverse international student audience of 100+, with one WeChat article achieving a record 300+ readers. Coordinated academic events by liaising with 10+ faculty members and external speakers, organising five neuroscience seminars covering various topics such as the autistic brain. Facilitated interdisciplinary engagement and increased exposure to current research developments.

Represented approximately 200 psychology students, collecting and synthesising feedback for departmental committees and producing three structured reports that informed improvements in teaching delivery and resource allocation. Collaborated with up to 10 academic staff to design and promote a research feedback initiative, increasing student engagement and participation by approximately 50% through multi-channel communication strategies.

Tutor | BFB English Teaching Organisation | 07/24 – 09/24

Delivered English speaking, writing and vocabulary support to 20+ learners from primary to university level, providing tailored feedback on academic writing, grammar and study strategies; developed and reviewed IELTS/TOEFL-aligned materials and daily quizzes with 12 senior educators, contributing to an 80% average improvement in vocabulary retention.

Recruitment Consultant Internship | Himalaya Audio Book Company, 08/23-09/23

Personally screened and evaluated 100+ CVs daily against company recruitment guidelines and position-specific requirements, applying structured selection criteria to identify and shortlist suitable candidates across 23 vacancies within 30 days. Coordinated 20+ interviews daily across 20 interviewers and 50+ candidates, managing multiple interview stages, timetable changes, and availability conflicts while maintaining accurate scheduling records and timely communication to ensure a seamless and professional candidate experience.

Spearheaded the training of one new intern, providing 1-to-1 guidance and advisory sessions and proofreading the Intern Handbook to improve clarity and departmental efficiency. Developed strong organizational and communication skills in a high-pressure, fast-paced recruitment environment.

Director | Durham Student Theatre, 10/22-01/23

Co-led the production of Durham University's first Mandarin musical in recent years, overseeing the project from concept to three successful live performances, including production planning, rehearsals and cross-department coordination; bridged Chinese and UK cultural contexts to facilitate effective cross-cultural communication.

Led cast and crew recruitment, auditioning 15+ candidates and directing a multidisciplinary team of 20+ performers and backstage staff across technical, stage, music and marketing functions; resolved logistical and communication challenges throughout production, achieving a high sell-out rate and £500+ net profit and received 5-star coverage from Durham's student newspaper, with particular recognition for the ensemble performance.

