



Department of  
*Linguistics and Modern Languages*  
語言學及現代語言系

# Cue Weighting in Second Language Perception: Evidence from Phonological Contrast and Salience

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**Date:** February 15, 2022 (Tuesday)  
**Time:** 4:30pm - 6:15pm (Hong Kong Time, UTC +8)  
**\*Seminar will be conducted via ZOOM**



**Prior registration is required**

**The Zoom Meeting details will be provided on 14 February 2022**



## Abstract

The characteristics of second language (L2) speech are an important source of evidence for how language perception and production work in general. Several potential factors are at play in creating the particular features of L2 speech, including first-language (L1) transfer, language universals, phonetic cues, and cross-linguistic perceptual biases. To investigate the mechanisms governing cross-linguistic perceptual biases in L2 speech, this study investigates the perception of L2 English /z/ under the influence of two L1s, dominant L1 Mandarin and non-dominant L1 Taiwan Southern Min (S. Min). This study argues that a single dominant L1 within a language community may give rise to different biases in L2 perception with different frequency of usage of non-dominant L1 with phonemic features that differ from the dominant L1. This study aims to offer cross-linguistic empirical evidence for second language theories of speech perception such as Flege's (1995) Speech Learning Model.

## Speaker

Yu-Leng Lin is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature at the Feng Chia University. She received her PhD degree from the Department of Linguistics at the University of Toronto in 2016. Before joining the Feng Chia University, she served as a postdoctoral fellow in the Hong Kong Polytechnic University's Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies. Her research interests include psycholinguistics, Chinese linguistics, laboratory phonology, and sociophonetics. Her publications include a monograph, book chapters and conference proceedings, and she has presented her work – ranging from learning bias, speech perception and production, tonal studies, and comparative studies among Mandarin, Taiwan Southern Min, Cantonese, and English – at several international conferences.

**All are Welcome**

Enquiries

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