

Xuesong(Andy) Gao

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Faculty of Education
The University of Hong Kong
Pokfulam Hong Kong
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Educational and Professional Background

- Sept. 2011- Associate Professor
Master of Education in English Language Studies (EdB primary group) Coordinator
Research Postgraduate Coordinator (till the end of August, 2012)
Deputy Programme Leader for BEd programmes
First-year Experience Coordinator for BEd programmes
Faculty of Education, the University of Hong Kong
- Jan. 2008—Aug.2011 Assistant Professor, Department of English, Hong Kong
Institute of Education
- Jan. 2004-Dec.2007 PhD in Applied Linguistics/PT Instructor
English Centre/Faculty of Education, the University of Hong Kong
- Sept. 2002- June, 2003 MA in Social and Cultural Anthropology, Katholieke
Universiteit Leuven,Belgium
- Sept. 2001—Sept.2002 MA in English Language Studies and Methods
Centre for English Language Teacher Education, University of
Warwick, UK
- Sept. 1992 to June, 1996 BA in English Language and Literature
Wuhan University of Hydraulic and Electric Engineering (Now
Wuhan University)

Teaching Areas

Second Language Acquisition, Reading English as Second Language

Research Interests

Learner autonomy, Sociolinguistics, Higher education, Teacher development

Publication and Research

Scholarly Books:

1. Murray, G., Gao, X. & Lamb, T. (2011)(eds.). *Identity, motivation and autonomy in language learning*. Bristol: Multilingual Matters.

2. Gao, X. (2010). *Strategic language learning: The roles of agency and context*. Bristol: Multilingual Matters.
3. Trent, J., Gao, X. & Gu, MM. (under preparation). *Becoming language teachers in a multilingual context*. New York, Springer. (Contract signed, revised manuscript to be submitted in January, 2013)

Refereed Articles:

- Gao, X. (2012). Cantonese is not a dialect: Chinese netizens' defence of Cantonese as a regional lingua franca. *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development*, 33(5), 449-464.
- Gao, X. (2012). The study of English as a patriotic enterprise. *World Englishes*, 31(3), 351-365.
- Gao, X. (in press). Parental strategies in supporting Chinese children's learning of English vocabulary. *Research Papers in Education*.
- Gao, X., & Chow, A. W.K. (2012) Primary school English teachers' research engagement. *English Language Teaching Journal*, 66(2), 224-232.
- Gao, X., & Benson, P. (2012). 'Unruly pupils' in pre-service English language teachers' teaching practicum experiences. *Journal of Education for Teaching: International Research and Pedagogy*, 38(2), 127-140.
- Gao, X. (2011). The 'falling' language standards and teachers' professional vulnerability in Hong Kong. *Research Papers in Education*, 26(4), 485-498.
- Gao, X. (2011). The religion of learning English in English: A language educator's reading. *Changing English*, 18(4), 429-436.
- Gao, X., & Ma, Q. (2011). Vocabulary learning and teaching beliefs of pre-service and in-service teachers in Hong Kong and Mainland China. *Language Awareness*, 20(4), 327-342.
- Gao, X., Barkhuizen, G., & Chow, A. W.K. (2011). Research engagement and educational decentralization: Problematizing primary school English teachers' research experiences in China. *Educational Studies*, 37(2), 207-219.
- Gao, X., Barkhuizen, G., & Chow, A. W. K. (2011). 'Nowadays, teachers are relatively obedient': Understanding primary school English teachers' conceptions of and drives for research in China. *Language Teaching Research*, 15(1), 61-81.
- Gao, X., Leung, P., & Trent, J. (2010). Chinese teachers' views on the increasing use of Putonghua as a medium of instruction in Hong Kong schools. *Australian Journal of Teacher Education*, 35(8), 79-103.
- Gao, X. (2010). Autonomous language learning against all odds. *System*, 38(4), 580-590.
- Gao, X. (2010). To be or not to be: Shifting motivations in Chinese secondary school English teachers' career narratives. *Teacher Development*, 14(3), 321-334.
- Gao, X. (2010). To be or not to be 'part of them': Micropolitical challenges in Mainland Chinese students' learning of English in a multilingual university. *TESOL Quarterly*, 44(2), 274-294.
- Gao, X., & Ko, P. (2009). Learning study for primary school English teachers: A case story from Hong Kong. *Changing English*, 16(4), 397-404.

- Trent, J., & Gao, X. (2009). “At least I’m the type of teacher I want to be”: Second-career English language teachers’ identity formation in Hong Kong secondary schools. *Asia-Pacific Journal of Teacher Education*, 37(3), 253-270.
- Gao, X., & Trent, J. (2009). Understanding mainland Chinese students’ motivations for choosing teacher education programmes in Hong Kong. *Journal of Education for Teaching: International Research and Pedagogy*, 35(2), 145-159.
- Benson, P., Chik, A., Gao, X., Huang, J., & Wang, W. (2009). Qualitative research in language teaching and learning journals 1997-2006. *Modern Language Journal*, 93(1), 79-90.
- Gao, X. (2009). ‘English corner’ as an out-of-class learning activity. *English Language Teaching Journal*, 63(1), 60-67.
- Gao, X. (2008). Forget Chinese; let us think only in English! Chinese netizens debating the best ways to learn English in China. *Changing English*, 15, 435-444.
- Gao, X. (2008). Shifting motivational discourses among mainland Chinese students in an English medium tertiary institution in Hong Kong: A longitudinal inquiry. *Studies in Higher Education*, 33(5), 599-614.
- Gao, X. (2008). You had to work hard ‘Cause you didn’t know whether you were going to wear shoes or straw sandals! *Journal of Language, Identity and Education*, 8(3), 169-187.
- Gao, X. (2008). Teachers’ professional vulnerability and cultural tradition: A Chinese paradox. *Teaching and Teacher Education*, 24(1), 154-165.
- Gao, X., & Benson, P. (2008). Situating student approaches to learning English in a Chinese context: A re-interpretation of two tertiary vocational learners’ experiences. *Asian Journal of English Language Teaching*, 18, 41-66.
- Gao, X., Cheng, H., & Kelly, P. (2008). Supplementing an uncertain investment? Chinese alliances for English language learning. *Journal of Asia Pacific Communication*, 18(1), 9-29.
- Wang, W., & Gao, X. (2008). English language education in China: A review of selected research. *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development*, 29(5), 280-299.
- Gao, X. (2007a). Has language learning strategy research come to an end? A response to Tseng et al. (2006). *Applied Linguistics*, 28(4), 615-620.
- Gao, X. (2007b). Language learning experiences and learning strategy research: Voices of a mainland Chinese student in Hong Kong. *Innovations in Language Learning and Teaching*, 1(2), 193-207.
- Gao, X. (2007c). A tale of Blue Rain Café: A study on the online narrative construction about a community of English learners on the Chinese mainland. *System*, 35(2), 259-270.
- Gao, X. (2006a). Understanding changes in Chinese students’ uses of learning strategies in China and Britain: A socio-cultural re-interpretation. *System*, 34(1), 55-67.
- Gao, X. (2006b). Strategies used by Chinese parents to support English language learning: Voices of “elite” university students. *RELC Journal*, 34(3), 285-298.

- Gao, X. (2006c). Interpreting Chinese students' motives in a weekly English discussion group: A case study. *Asian Journal of English Language Teaching*, 16, 129-143.
- Gao, X, Su, Z., & Hu, X. (2006). Managing vocational institutional transformation: A Chinese case. *Research in Post-Compulsory Education*, 11(1), 49-63.
- Gao, X. (2005). A tale of two mainland Chinese English learners. *Asian EFL Journal*, 7(2), 4-23.
- Gao, X. (2004). A critical review of questionnaire use in learner strategy research. *Prospect, An Australian Journal of TESOL*, 19(3), 3-14.

Book Chapters

- Gao, X. (forthcoming). Motivated by visions: Stories from Chinese contexts. In E. Ushioda (Ed.) *International perspectives in English language teaching: Motivation*. Basingtoke: Palgrave MacMillan
- Gao, X. (forthcoming). Working in Asia: A case of Hong Kong. In Sun Y. & Kubota, R. (eds.) *Demystifying career after graduate school: A guide for second language professionals in higher education*. Charlotte, NC.: Information Age Publishing.
- Gao, X. (forthcoming). A call for better social support in learning: Insights from research on Asian students' language learning strategy use in English medium (EM) universities. In Davison, C. & Bruce, N. (eds.) *Language Issues in English Medium Universities across Asia*. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.
- Gao, X., & Lamb, T. (2011). Exploring links between identity, motivation and autonomy. In Murray, G., Gao, X. & Lamb, T. (eds.) *Identity, motivation and autonomy in language learning* (pp.1-8). Bristol: Multilingual Matters.
- Gao, X., & L. J. Zhang (2011). Joining forces for synergy: Agency and metacognition as interrelated theoretical perspectives on learner autonomy. In Murray, G., Gao, X. & Lamb, T. (eds.) *Identity, motivation and autonomy in language learning* (pp.25-41). Bristol: Multilingual Matters.
- Benson, P., & Gao, X. (2008). Individual variation in language learning strategy. In Hurd, S. & Lewis, T. (Eds.) *Language learning strategies in independent learning settings*(pp. 25-40). Clevedon, UK: Multilingual Matters.
- Gao, X. (2006). Understanding Chinese students' teacher-dependence. In Thomas Farrell (Ed.) *Language Teacher Research Asia* (pp.61-74). Virginia: TESOL Publications.
- Gao, X. (2003). Changes in Chinese students' learner strategy use after arrival in the UK: A qualitative enquiry. In Palfreyman, D. & Smith, R.C. (eds.) *Learner autonomy across cultures: Language education perspectives* (pp. 41-57). Basingtoke: Palgrave MacMillan.

Working Papers, Newsletter Articles and Book Reviews:

- Gao, X. (2011). Review: Language Learner Autonomy: Policy, Curriculum, Classroom, Breffni O'Rourke and Lorna Carson (Eds.), Bern, Frankfurt, New York, Peter Lang, 2010, Pp. xxvi + 413. *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development*, 33(1), 97-99.
- Gao, X. (2009). Review: Standards for ESL/EFL teachers of adults, TESOL. Alexandria, VA: TESOL, 2008.Ppx+187. *TESOL Quarterly*, 43 (3), 560-562.

- Gao, X. (2009). Ethical Challenges in Internet-based Research on Language Learners' Autonomous Learning: Personal reflections. *Independence, IATEFL Learner Autonomy SIG Newsletter*, 46, 13-17.
- Gao, X. (2006a). English corners as emerging communities of English learners from the Chinese mainland: Implications for research and pedagogy. *Independence, IATEFL Learner Autonomy SIG Newsletter*, Issue 39, 12-15.
- Gao, X. (2006b). A realist interpretation of a Mainland Chinese student's English-learning experiences in Hong Kong: Focus on learning strategy. *Research Studies in Education*, 4, 172-182.
- Gao, X. & Davison, C. (2006c). Learning styles and learning strategy. *TESOL RIS Newsletter*.
- Gao, X. (2005). Advancing a sociocultural framework in language learning strategy research. *Research in Education*, 3, 191-202.
- Gao, X. (2004a). A qualitative inquiry into changes in Chinese students' situated uses of learner strategies in China and Britain. *Research Studies in Education*, 2, 195-202.
- Gao, X. (2004b). Review: Richards, K. (2003). *Qualitative Inquiry in TESOL* Palgrave/MacMillan; 332 pages; ISBN 1-40369-0135-X. *Hong Kong Journal of Applied Linguistics*, 9, 87-91.

Conferences / Workshops / Talks / Invited Speaker:

1. Gao, X. (Sept. 2012). Agency and autonomy: Back to basics. Keynote Paper presented at Independent Learning Association Conference, Wellington, Victoria University.
2. Gao, X. (March, 2012). Agency and strategic language learning. A paper presented at American Association for Applied Linguistics 2012 conference. Boston, USA.
3. Gao, X. (March, 2012). Mediated strategic language learning. A paper presented TESOL 2012 convention. Philadelphia, USA.
4. Gao, X. & Benson, P. (2011, Feb.) 'Unruly pupils' in pre-service teachers' teaching practicum narratives. Departmental Seminar, Department of English, Hong Kong Institute of Education
5. Gao, X. & Benson, P. (2010, Dec.). Learning to teach: Pre-service language teachers' professional development. 2nd East Asian International Conference on Teacher Education. Hong Kong Institute of Education.
6. Gao, X. (2010, Nov.). Agency and metacognition: Two worlds apart? 2nd ESP in Asia Conference. University of Nottingham Ningbo China.
7. Gao, X. (2010, Sept.) To be or not to be 'part of them': Micropolitical challenges in mainland Chinese students' strategic language learning in an English medium university. British Educational Research Association Annual Conference. University of Warwick, UK.
8. Gao, X. (2010, April). Autonomy at all costs: A tale of a disabled learner. 44th Annual International IATEFL Conference. Harrogate, UK.
9. Gao, X. (2010, April). Shifting motivations in Chinese secondary school teachers' career narratives. English Language Centre 2010 Conference. Shantou University, Shantou, China.
10. Gao, X. (2009, December). Getting published: Multiple voices. Invited panel discussion at 3rd Research Forum, Hong Kong Association for Applied Linguistics. Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong.
11. Gao, X. (2009, August). Language learning strategy research: A critical review. An invited talk at Department of English, Peking University, China.

12. Gao, X. (2008a, December). Teachers' professional vulnerability and cultural tradition: A Study on Online Discussions. A paper presented at Key Research Area (Teaching and Teacher Education) sharing session. Hong Kong Institute of Education, Hong Kong.
13. Gao, X. (2008b, December). Forget Chinese; let us think only in English! Chinese netizens debating the best ways to learn English in China. A paper presented at English in Southeast Asia Conference. National Institute of Education, Singapore.
14. Gao, X. (2008, August). A realist perspective on autonomy, agency and identity. A paper presented at Autonomy Research Network Symposium in the 15th AILA (International Association of Applied Linguistics). Essen, Germany.
15. Gao, X. (2008, July). Ethical challenges in Internet-based applied linguistics research. A paper presented at Australian Association of Applied Linguistics Annual Conference. Sydney: University of Sydney.
16. Gao, X. (2008a, June). Beyond language learning strategies: What do mainland Chinese undergraduates' language learning experiences within an English medium university in Hong Kong tell us? A paper presented at Featured Colloquium on 'Learners' Experiences' in an International Conference on Language Issues in English Medium Universities: A Global Concern. Hong Kong: the University of Hong Kong.
17. Gao, X. (2008b, June). Beyond language learning strategies: What should Chinese undergraduates do to learn English within an English medium university in a multilingual context. A paper presented at Canadian Association of Applied Linguistics Annual Conference. Vancouver: University of British Columbia.
18. Gao, X. (2007a, December). Know thyself, know thine world, then... A workshop given for research students at the Faculty of Education, the University of Hong Kong.
19. Gao, X. (2007b, December). Beyond Language Learning Strategies: What should we advise mainland Chinese undergraduates to do in learning English in Hong Kong. Paper presented at Hong Kong Association of Self-access Learning and Development Monthly Meeting. Hong Kong: City University.
20. Gao, X. (2007a, November). Publishing from your thesis. A workshop given for research students at the Faculty of Education, the University of Hong Kong.
21. Gao, X. (2007b, November). How to become adventurous in research. A workshop given for research students at the Faculty of Education, the University of Hong Kong.
22. Gao, X. (2007c, November). How to become adventurous in research. A workshop given for research students at English Centre, the University of Hong Kong.
23. Wang, W., & Gao, X. (2007, November). Developing a bibliography project on English language education in China: Some post-reflections. Seminar supported by the Constituent Theme Funding "Languages, Media and Communication: Language in Education and Assessment". Hong Kong: The University of Hong Kong.
24. Gao, X. (2007, October). Tracing language learners' shifting motivational discourses: A biographical study. A paper presented at the Independent Learning Association 2007 Conference, Chiba, Japan.
25. Gao, X. (2007, July). A troubling tale of two English learners on the Chinese Mainland. Paper presented at the 1st International Conference on English, Discourse and Intercultural Communication, Macao, China.

26. Gao, X. (2007, June). Mainland Chinese students' strategic language learning efforts in Hong Kong: Focusing on learning context. Paper presented at the 2nd HAAL Research FORUM, Hong Kong, China.
27. Gao, X. (2007a, April). Biographical studies and learning strategy research. Paper presented at the American Association of Applied Linguistics Annual Conference, USA: Costa Mesa.
28. Gao, X. (2007b, April). A tale of Blue Rain Café. Paper presented at 41st IATEFL Conference. UK: Aberdeen
29. Gao, X. (2007, March). Biographical studies and learning strategy research. Paper presented at 41st TESOL Convention. USA: Seattle.
30. Gao, X. (2007, Jan.). Cultural tradition as an unexpected source of teachers' professional vulnerability. Paper presented at International Conference on Contemporary China Studies. Hong Kong: the University of Hong Kong.
31. Gao, X. (2006a, Nov.) Mainland Chinese undergraduates' language learning experiences in Hong Kong: A case study focusing on learning strategy use. Seminar supported by the Constituent Theme Funding "Languages, Media and Communication: Language in Education and Assessment". Hong Kong: The University of Hong Kong.
32. Gao, X. (2006b, Nov.) Mainland Chinese students' strategic language learning efforts in Hong Kong: A preliminary progress report. Paper presented at Conference on Student Development of University Students, sponsored by Wu Jieh-Yee Research Fund. Hong Kong: the University of Hong Kong.
33. Gao, X. (2006c, Nov.) Managing vocational institutional transformation: A Chinese case study of shifting leadership images. Paper presented at Asia Pacific Educational Research Association International Conference. Hong Kong: Hong Kong Institute of Education.
34. Gao, X. (2006, Oct.) A tale of Blue Rain Café: An inquiry into online narrative construction of a learning community. Paper presented at KOTESOL. Korea: Seoul.
35. Gao, X. (2006a, June.) You had to work hard 'Cause you didn't know whether you were going to wear shoes or straw sandals! First Pearl River Delta English Studies Graduate Student Conference. China: Macau.
36. Gao, X. (2006b, June) A narrative analysis of an online community of English learners on the Chinese mainland. International Conference on Tertiary/College English Language Teaching. Hong Kong: CUHK.
37. Gao, X. (2006c, June) Language learning experiences and learning strategy research: A socio-cultural case study. Postgraduate Research Conference. Hong Kong: The Faculty of Education, the University of Hong Kong.
38. Gao, X. (2006, Jan.). Managing vocational institutional transformation: A Chinese case. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of Comparative Education Society Hong Kong. Hong Kong.
39. Gao, X. (2005, June). Mainland Chinese students' shifting strategy use in Hong Kong: A longitudinal inquiry. Paper presented at the Postgraduate Research Conference (PRC). Hong Kong: Faculty of Education, the University of Hong Kong.
40. Gao, X. (2005a, Sept.) Parental mediation: A neglected factor in Chinese students' strategy use development, Paper presented at Applied Linguistics Association New Zealand Symposium. New Zealand: Wellington.
41. Gao, X. (2005b, Sept.). Parental involvement and Chinese students' development as language learners. Invited talk at School of Language Studies, Massey University. New Zealand: Palmerton North.

42. Gao, X. (2005c, Sept.). Socializing through using English together: Mainland Chinese postgraduates in Hong Kong. Paper presented at Independent Learning Association Oceania Conference. New Zealand: Auckland.

Research Projects

- 2012-2013 Linguistic and sociocultural challenges for mainland Chinese undergraduates in their final year of studies. SEED grant, funded by the University of Hong Kong
- 2010-2011 A comparative survey of methodology trends in leading Chinese and international journals in the field of language teaching and learning 2000-2009. Principal Investigator, funded by Internal Research Grant, Hong Kong Institute of Education
- 2010-2011 Strategy-enhanced language learning and teaching in primary schools. Principal Investigator, funded by Internal Research Grant, Hong Kong Institute of Education
- 2009-2010 Support student teachers' self-directed learning in field experience. Principal Investigator, funded by Teaching Development Grants, Faculty of Language, Hong Kong Institute of Education
- 2008-2009 An Inquiry into Boundary-crossing Teacher Trainee. Co-investigator, funded by Research Centre into Language Education and Acquisition in Multilingual Societies (RCLEAMS), Hong Kong Institute of Education
- 2008-2009 Understanding English language teachers' experiences in Yi Chang, China: a narrative inquiry. Principal Investigator, funded by Departmental Research Fund, Department of English, Hong Kong Institute of Education
- 2008-2009 A comparative study of Guangdong and Hong Kong primary school ELT teachers' engagement with research. Co-Investigator, funded by Departmental Research Fund, Department of English, Hong Kong Institute of Education
- 2008-2009 Language teachers' professional development: A comparative biographical narrative study. Principal Investigator, funded by Internal Research Grant, Hong Kong Institute of Education

Scholarship and Awards Received:

1. University of Warwick Postgraduate Scholarship for Chinese Applicants, UK
2. All Saints Educational Trust Award, UK
3. Postgraduate Research Studentship, the University of Hong Kong (April, 2003)
4. Successful applicant for Overseas Research Scholarship, UK (Aug. 2003)
5. Successful applicant for Warwick Postgraduate Fellowship, UK (Jan. 2004-Dec. 2007)
6. Sik Sik Yuen Research Grant, the University of Hong Kong (2004-2006)
7. Wu Jieh-Yee Research Award for Best Student Project, the University of Hong Kong (2006/7)

Service

Professional Services

Associate Editor for *The Asia Pacific Education Researcher* (Springer)

Member of the Editorial and Advisory Board for *TESOL Quarterly* (Since Jan. 2010)

Exco-Member, Hong Kong Association for Applied Linguistics

Doctoral examiner: Griffiths University Australia

Regular manuscript reviewer for *Journal of Asia TEFL, Linguistics and Education, Studies in Higher Education, System and Teacher Development*

Occasional manuscript reviewer for *Asia Journal of English Language Teaching, Asia Pacific Journal of Education, Bilingualism: Language and Cognition, Chinese Journal of Communication, Hong Kong Journal of Applied Linguistics, Diaspora, Indigenous, and Minority Education: An International Journal, Educational Research, Journal of Educational Review, International Perspectives in Psychology: Research, Practice, Consultation, International Journal of Education for Teaching, Journal of Pragmatics, Journal of Teacher Education Language Awareness, Language, Culture and Curriculum, Modern Language Journal, Reading in Foreign Languages and World Englishes*

Book Reviewer for BAAL Book Prize and Pearson Longman.

Project Consultant for National Association of Foreign Language Education

Professional Membership:

IATEFL, TESOL, AAAL, BERA, Hong Kong Association for Applied Linguistics, Korea TESOL.

Professional Certificates:

March, 2005 Certificate in University in University Teaching, Centre for Advancing University Teaching, the University of Hong Kong

Dec. 2006 Certificate of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, the University of Hong Kong