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Education background

Ghent University (Ph.D. student)	Ghent, Belgium
Oriental languages and cultures: China	Oct. 2023 - now
Ghent University (Master)	Ghent, Belgium
Oriental languages and cultures: China	Sept. 2021- Sept. 2023
Graduated with <i>summa cum laude</i> honour ('met grootste onderscheiding') in 2023.	
Shanghai University (Bachelor)	Shanghai, China
Chinese Language and Literature; GPA: 3.92/4.00	Sept. 2018- Jul. 2022

Ph.D. ongoing project

"Semantic Domains and the Grammaticalization of Peripheral Modal Markers in Middle Chinese Buddhist Texts"

This project investigates how Chinese Buddhist translations shaped the grammaticalization of modal and quasi-modal expressions in Middle Chinese. Rather than treating Buddhist texts as passive transmitters of linguistic change, the study argues that they constitute distinct semantic domains, such as fear, preference, volition, and endurance, which interact with emerging modal constructions in systematic ways. Drawing on corpora from the Eastern Han (25-220 CE) to the Tang dynasty (618-907 CE), including manuscript evidence and digitally transmitted versions.

By integrating linguistic theory with the study of Buddhist translation practices, the project tries to propose a model of "domain-sensitive grammaticalization," contributing to our understanding of modality, language contact, and the role of textual traditions in shaping linguistic change in early written Chinese.

Conference presentations

International Association of Chinese Linguistics (IACL-31), 2025

- Presentation: "Interpreting Possibility in 5th-Century Vinaya Translations: A Comparison of *néng* 能 and *kān* 堪".

European Association for Chinese Studies (EACS-25), 2024

- Presentation: "Research on the grammaticalization of *níngkě* 寧可 in Medieval Chinese".

Projects and workshops

Sichuan Buddhist Sites: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives

Ghent University, 2025 - 2030

- Researcher

Doctoral School “Current Research on Middle Chinese and Buddhist Hybrid Chinese”

Ghent University, 2025

- Co-organizer (with Prof. Dr. Christoph Anderl)

Intensive Seminar on Digital Humanities and their Applications in Buddhist Studies

Hamburg University, 2024

Research cluster “Typologies of Text - Image Relations in Buddhist Narratives”

FROGBEAR, 2022

- Published a report for the blog of the *Canadian Journal of Buddhist Studies*.
- Co-authored “A Virtual Survey of the *Pílú dòng* Site with an Emphasis on the Tableau of Liǔ Běnzūn”, intended for submission to the *Canadian Journal of Buddhist Studies*.

Glorisun International & Intensive Program on Buddhism

Glorisun, 2022

Internship: Database of Medieval Chinese Texts (DMCT)

Ghent University, 2021-2022

Languages and Skills

Language: Chinese (native); English (professional); Dutch (B1); Sanskrit (elementary)

Teaching: Certified high-school Chinese language teacher