

Zhang, Longyu 张龙宇

Department of Languages and Cultures

Faculty of Art and Philosophy

Ghent University

+32 456 39 14 22

zhang.longyu@ugent.be

<https://research.flw.ugent.be/en/zhang.longyu>

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”

The project examines how Chinese Buddhist translations contributed to the grammaticalization of modal and quasi-modal expressions in Middle Chinese, with a focus on peripheral semantic domains such as fear, volition, and preference. Based on transmitted corpora and manuscripts, as a supplement, from the Eastern Han to the Tang dynasty, it proposes a domain sensitive model of grammaticalization at the syntax - semantics interface.

Conference presentations

2025 International Association of Chinese Linguistics (IACL-31)

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

2024 European Association for Chinese Studies (EACS-25)

- “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)

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 *Pilú 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

Additional Trainings

Leiden Summer School in Languages and Linguistics (online)

Leiden University, 2025

- Introduction to Historical Linguistics (Niels Schoubben)
- Introduction to Syntax (Astrid van Alem)
- Diachronic Changes in the Morpho-syntax of Chinese (Barbara Meisterernst)

Intensive Seminar on Digital Humanities and their Applications in Buddhist Studies

Hamburg University, 2024

Languages and Skills

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

Teaching: Certified high-school Chinese language teacher