

KEYI YANG

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EDUCATION

Cornell University

NY, US

M.A., Psychological Sciences and Human Development (PSYHD)

August 2026 - Present

University of Pittsburgh (Pitt)

PA, US

B.S., in Psychology and B.A., in Philosophy

August 2023 – May 2026

- Honors and Awards: Summa Cum Laude, Dean's List, Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society
- Relevant Coursework: Cognitive Psych., Developmental Psych., Social Psych., Media Psych., Culture & Politics of Mental Health, Computing for the Humanities, Applied Statistics
- Certificate: CITI Social-Behavioral-Educational Course, CITI Responsible Conduct of Research, CITI GCP-Social and Behavioral Research Best Practices for Clinical Research

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Lab: Experience and Cognition Lab (Xcog) | Cornell

Researcher | Advisor: Dr. Daniel Casasanto

August 2026 - Present

Area of Research: Cognitive Psychology (Embodied Perceptions, Linguistics)

- Designed a spatial N-back experiment (0–3 back) to investigate whether verbal interference differentially affects memory for left–right versus up–down spatial relations.
- Developing and piloting the experimental paradigm in Inquisit, including stimulus design, interference conditions, response mapping, and study protocols to test the role of language in spatial representation.

Lab: Psycho-Linguistic Underpinnings of Multilingualism (PLUM) | Pitt LRDC

Research Assistant | Advisor: Dr. Natasha Tokowicz

July 2025 – May 2026

Area of Research: Cognitive Psychology (Psycholinguistics, Second Language Acquisition)

- Implemented behavioral experiments (grammaticality judgments, vocabulary recall) across four longitudinal sessions to evaluate second language (L2) learning patterns.
- Coded and analyzed data while supporting equipment setup and stimulus presentation for multilingualism protocols.

Project: Psychological Aspects of Human Sexuality | Pitt

Research Assistant | Advisor: Dr. Jennifer Cousins

January 2026 – May 2026

Area of Research: Social Psychology

- Designed and collected questionnaires on college students' sexuality via Qualtrics.
- Conducted literature reviews and ANOVA analyses on college student sexuality correlates.

Project: Feelings of Home, Homesickness, and Belongingness on Campus | Pitt

Individual Researcher | Advisor: Dr. Irene Frieze

April 2025 – Dec 2025

Area of Research: Social Psychology and Environmental Psychology

- Conducted literature reviews on belongingness correlates and designed mixed-methods studies (interviews/survey) assessing student home attachment and campus satisfaction.
- Analyzed open-ended responses facilitated by AI and drafted an APA-style research proposal.

Project: Framing and Memory Effect on Friendship Satisfaction | Pitt

Individual Researcher | Advisor: Dr. Rachael Harrison

January 2025 – May 2025

Area of Research: Cognitive Psychology and Social Psychology

- Designed and executed an original research protocol measuring college students' friendship evaluations using randomized controlled trials.
- Performed ANOVA and regression analyses on behavioral data to identify significant predictors of satisfaction dynamics.

Project: Effects of animal-assisted interventions on children's emotional and social development: Evidence from EEG | Southeast University

Research Assistant | Supervisor: Prof. Yue Leng

December 2021 – October 2022

Area of Research: Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience

- Operated EEG equipment and collected high-fidelity neural data from children during animal-assisted intervention sessions in a naturalistic zoo setting.
- Ensured rigorous experimental fidelity and provided attentive, empathetic care to child participants throughout all phases of the study.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Cornell University CHE

Ithaca, NY

Teaching Assistant

August 2026 – Present

- Teaching weekly seminars for the Cornell School of Human Ecology: Social Justice, Thriving, and Human Experience class, supervised by Dr. Kerri Alexander and Dr. Lauren Korfine.

Nanjing Outsider Art Center

Jiangsu, China

Art Therapist volunteer

December 2024 – Present

- Facilitated weekly art-therapy workshops for patient-artists aged 10–60 with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), intellectual disability (ID), or bipolar, improving emotional regulation.
- Interviewed 30+ outsider artists and built partnerships to refine therapeutic programming.

Floyd Philosophy Salon

Shanghai, China

Marketing Director and Activity Designer

March 2024 – Present

- Designed and taught philosophy workshops and PBL projects for 200+ students.
- Managed social media accounts and ran campaigns, growing 4,000+ followers.

EXCURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Academic Support Services for Student Athlete (ASSSA)

PA, US

Academic Mentor

August 2025 – December 2025

- Tutored student-athletes in individual and group settings, designing personalized learning plans to enhance academic independence per NCAA regulations.
- Collaborated on assessment and interventions to enhance cognitive development.

Chinese Undergraduate Student Association | Pitt

PA, US

Event Coordinator

August 2024 – May 2026

- Coordinated and executed campus-wide cultural events that facilitated social integration and academic engagement among Chinese undergraduates.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Language:** *Mandarin* (native), *English* (fluent), *Korean* (read and speak)
- **Technical & Analytical Skills:**
 - Statistical:** proficient in *SPSS* and *R*, *ANOVA*, regression modeling, and data visualization.
 - Programming:** skilled in integrating *Java* with statistical packages and producing outputs; experienced with *Inquisit* and *Qualtrics* for online experimental design.
 - Design/Multimedia:** experienced with *Adobe Photoshop* and *Final Cut Pro* for creating and editing visual and audiovisual experimental stimuli; familiar with *Shapr3D* and *AutoCAD* for simple apparatus design and experimental layout planning.
 - Productivity:** advanced user of *Microsoft Office* (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) and *iWork* for manuscript preparation, data tables, and professional presentations.
 - AI technologies:** experienced with *ChatGPT* in research and workplace, *Claude* in vibe coding, high familiarity with *Midjourney*