

# Monica Z.X. Ding

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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**A.O.S** Epistemology, Philosophy of AI, Philosophy of language  
**A.O.C** Philosophy of Medicine, Philosophy of Science  
Philosophy of Mind, Metaphysics, Ethics, Race,  
Classical Chinese Philosophy, History of Chinese Philosophy

## EMPLOYMENT

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2025-2026	<b>King's College London</b> <i>Lecturer</i> Philosophy of medicine, philosophy of race, and applied ethics
2023-2024	<b>London School of Economics and Political Science</b> <i>Graduate Teaching Assistant</i> Ethics, philosophy of mind, and political philosophy
2022-2023	<b>King's College London</b> <i>Graduate Teaching Assistant</i> Philosophy of medicine, metaphysics, and ethics
2019-2020	<b>The University of Hong Kong</b> <i>Graduate Teaching Assistant</i> Moral psychology in Chinese philosophy

## EDUCATION

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2021-2025	<b>King's College London</b> <i>PhD in Philosophy</i> Dissertation: "Understanding as Pattern-fitting Knowledge" Supervisor: Dr. Julien Dutant (1 <sup>st</sup> supervisor), Prof. Matthew Soteriou (2 <sup>nd</sup> supervisor), Examiners: Prof. Alexander Bird (Cambridge) Prof. Alison Hills (Oxford) Passed without corrections in Oct 2025
2018-2021	<b>University of Hong Kong</b> <i>M.Phil, Philosophy</i> Dissertation: Understanding in the <i>Xúnzǐ</i> and Contemporary Philosophy Supervisor: Prof. Chris Fraser Examiners: Prof. Herman Cappelen (HKU) Prof. Christoph Kelp (Glasgow) Passed without corrections in Jan 2021 (viva waived)

# Monica Z.X. Ding

2014-2018

**University of Hong Kong**

B.A. Majors in Philosophy and Comparative Literature

Thesis: Reasoning and Desire in the *Mòzǐ*

## PUBLICATIONS

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### **Under Review:**

Understanding and its non-factive counterpart. Submitted to *Mind and Language*, under review

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

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### **Epistemology and Language:**

The Gradability of Understanding, Unpublished manuscript

### **Chinese philosophy:**

*Ming* and *Tong* in the *Xunzi*: Understanding the Unified System of Names. Unpublished manuscript

Language and Assertion in the *Xunzi*: What is Beyond the Regularity is Beyond Words. Unpublished manuscript

## FUNDING

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HKSAR Government Scholarship Fund 2014-2015, HKU, 180000 HKD (ard 23000 USD)

HKSAR Government Scholarship Fund 2015-2016, HKU, 180000 HKD (ard 23000 USD)

HKSAR Government Scholarship Fund 2016-2017, HKU, 180000 HKD (ard 23000 USD)

HKSAR Government Scholarship Fund 2017-2018, HKU, 180000 HKD (ard 23000 USD)

## PRESENTATIONS

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### **Epistemology and Language**

JUNE 2025 "Does AI have understanding" The Philosophy of AI Summer School, the Institute of Philosophy, University of London

NOV 2024 "Non-factive understanding: evidence from English, Mandarin, and Cantonese." UK XPHI Autumn 2024 series seminars

OCT 2023 "Distinctions between Sheer Deference and Firsthand Insight: A Psychological point of View" COGITO/Seville Summer School on the Epistemology of Ernest Sosa. Universidad de Sevilla  
Sevilla, Spain

OCT 2022 "Linguistic uses of understand" The Epistemology of Understanding Workshop, The University of Zurich

### **Chinese Philosophy**

JAN 2025 "Understanding and the Unified Pattern in the *Xunzi*" the ACPA session at the 2025 Eastern APA. NY.

# Monica Z.X. Ding

- SEP 2023 "Regularity (cháng 常) in *Xunzi*: What is beyond the regularity is beyond words," Varieties of Ineffability in Ancient Philosophy, Online Conference, Oxford, Toronto and KCL.
- SEP 2022 "Understanding in the *Xunzi*," BIPPA Conference on the History of Hindu, South-Asian and Chinese Philosophy, Bush House, KCL,
- APR 2019 "The Role of Affective Attitudes in the Mohist Notion of Moral Judgment," Uehiro Philosophy Graduate Conference, The University of Hawaii.

## PRESENTATIONS AT HOME DEPARTMENT

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### Epistemology and Language

- SEP 2024 "Sayings are restricted if names are corrected: Xunzi on speech and assertion" Philosophy PGR Conference 2024. KCL
- FEB 2024 "Understanding as intelligibility," Advanced Research Seminar. KCL
- MAY 2023 "Corpus-based research on the linguistic uses of 'understand' in English, Mandarin, and Cantonese," Advanced Research Seminar. KCL
- OCT 2022 Understanding and Reasoning Advanced Research Seminar. KCL

### Chinese Philosophy

- SEP 2020 "Understanding as Construction," HKU Graduate Seminar Series. HKU

## HONOURS AND AWARDS

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Graduate Teaching Assistant Award 2022-23 – Honourable Mention, KCL

## REFEREES

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Dr. Julien Dutant (KCL) [julien.dutant@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:julien.dutant@kcl.ac.uk) (research referee)

Prof. Alexander Bird [ajb368@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ajb368@cam.ac.uk) (research referee)

Prof. Alison Hills [alison.hills@sjc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:alison.hills@sjc.ox.ac.uk) (research referee)

Dr. Liam Kofi Bright (LSE) [liamkbright@gmail.com](mailto:liamkbright@gmail.com) (research referee)

Prof. Matthew Soteriou [matthew.soteriou@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:matthew.soteriou@kcl.ac.uk) (research and teaching referee)

Prof. Chris Fraser (HKU) [cjfraser@gmail.com](mailto:cjfraser@gmail.com) (research and teaching referee on Chinese philosophy)