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The Netherlands

Self-directed language learning using mobile technology in higher education

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Citation

Lai, Y. (2024, July 3). *Self-directed language learning using mobile technology in higher education*. ICLON PhD Dissertation Series. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/3766290>

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Note: To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

Curriculum Vitae

Yuzhi Lai was born in Jincheng, China on August 22, 1992. Following her graduation from Zezhou No. 1 Middle School in 2011, she embarked on studying English language at Changzhi University and obtained her bachelor degree in 2015. Subsequently, she deepened her expertise by completing her MA in English Translation at Southwest University in 2017. Transitioning into the professional realm, Yuzhi commenced her career as an English teacher, where her interactions with students ignited her interest in self-directed learning and second language learning. Driven by this burgeoning curiosity, she made the pivotal decision to pursue a doctoral degree at Leiden University Graduate School of Teaching (ICLON) in 2019. Her research project focused on self-directed learning, technology-enhanced learning and second language learning.

Publications and presentations

Scientific publications

Lai, Y., Saab, N., & Admiraal, W. (2022). University students’ use of mobile technology in self-directed language learning: Using the Integrative Model of Behavior Prediction. *Computers & Education*, 179, 104413. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.compedu.2021.104413>

Lai, Y., Saab, N., & Admiraal, W. (2022). Learning strategies in self-directed language learning using mobile technology in higher education: A systematic scoping review. *Education and Information Technologies*, 1-32. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10639-022-10945-5>

Manuscripts under review

Lai, Y., Saab, N., & Admiraal, W. (2024). *Factors influencing university students’ persistence and satisfaction towards self-directed language learning using mobile technology*. Manuscript submitted for publication.

Lai, Y., Saab, N., & Admiraal, W. (2024). *A netnography study on self-directed language learning using mobile technology*. Manuscript submitted for publication.

Conference contribution

Lai, Y., Saab, N., & Admiraal, W (2022, August). *Factors influencing foreign language learners’ persistence in self-directed learning using mobile technology in higher education*. Poster presented at the European Conference on Educational Research (ECER), 22-26 August 2022, Yerevan Armenia.

Lai, Y., Saab, N., & Admiraal, W (2022, October). *Examining the factors affecting learning engagement in self-directed language learning using mobile technology in higher education*. Poster presented at The 21st World Conference on Mobile, Blended and Seamless Learning (mLearn), 10-12 October 2022, Heerlen, The Netherlands.

Lai, Y., Saab, N., & Admiraal, W (2022, June). *The impact of university students’ mobile learning readiness, teacher support and engagement on satisfaction and persistence in self-directed learning with mobile technology*. Poster presented at LTA Teaching festival, 7 June 2022, Leiden, The Netherlands.

Lai, Y., Saab, N., & Admiraal, W (2022, May). *Self-directed learning using mobile technology in higher education*. At the 16th European Association of Technology Enhanced Learning Summer School on Technology Enhanced Learning (EATEL), 21-28 May, Sani, Halkidiki, Greece.

Lai, Y., Saab, N., & Admiraal, W (2022, March). *The impact of university students' mobile learning readiness, teacher support and engagement on satisfaction and persistence in self-directed learning with mobile technology*. Paper presented at ICO National Spring School, 17-18 March, Online.

Lai, Y., Saab, N., & Admiraal, W (2021, March). *Predicting Chinese university students' use of mobile technology in self-directed learning*. Round Table at ICO International Spring School, 16-18 March, Online.

Acknowledgements

For me, the trajectory of PhD is about exploring the potential of the self, finding the light through darkness, and living with braveness and resilience.

First and foremost, I would like to thank my superb team of supervisors. Wilfried, your decision to take me on as a researcher remains a pivotal moment in my academic journey. I can vividly remember the excitement I felt when I first stepped into your office to discuss my proposal. Not only was I thrilled to receive the acceptance letter, but I encountered a supervisor who exuded kindness and warmth. Over time, I came to realize that your kindness was just one facet of your remarkable personality. Your invaluable expertise, insightful feedback, and prompt responses consistently guided me through moments of uncertainty. Your unwavering support, encouraging words, and sense of humor never failed to ease my anxieties during moments of self-doubt. As a supervisor, you are always open-minded and supportive. You also granted me considerable autonomy and respected my research interests, fostering my growth and independence. It is both an honor and a privilege to have you as my supervisor.

Nadira, I am immensely grateful for your guidance and encouragement throughout this journey. I fondly remember the countless times you challenged me with your probing "whys," particularly during the proposal-composing phase. Initially perplexed by these questions, I gradually came to understand that they were meant to deepen my understanding of the research questions I sought to address and how best to approach them. Thank you for nurturing my development as an independent researcher.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to all the members of ICLON. Our time together was marked by the exchange of ideas, the forging of friendships, countless moments of joy, and sharing of life experience. Special appreciation goes to Roeland van der Rijst and Ben Smit for their unwavering support and kind words. Xiaomei, your patience in addressing my academic queries, your presence in our intellectual discussions, and your reassuring guidance through moments of confusion have been invaluable.

To Inge Bork, Jingxian Wang, Pengyue Guo, Xiaohua Jia, Marga Harmanto, Yujia Hong, Luxi Wang, Luyao Huang, Cheng Hua, Linyuan Wang, Xu Liu, Errol Ertugruloglu, Simone Rijksen, Anja Schoots-Snijder, Max Kusters, Catur Wulandari, and others, your support has been

a cornerstone of my PhD journey. As I type out your names, your lovely faces appear vividly in my mind.

I would like to express my deepest appreciation to my parents for your always love, care, and trust. To Nan Pu, my husband, thank you for leading me to embark on this journey! Your gentle reassurance during moments of doubt, your loving presence through every challenge, your belief in my abilities and your constant words of encouragement have fueled my determination to see this endeavor through to completion. Without you, I could not have gotten where I am. Together, we are family, soul mates, lovers, friends, supporter of each other. As you always say, the best is yet to come. To Cony, my sweet angel, your arrival into this world has filled my life with a love and joy beyond measure. Mommy loves you endlessly!

Lastly, thank myself for being active, resilient and persistent, and for becoming determined, optimistic and confident throughout the journey. I believe I will continue to explore and realize my potential in the future.

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