



## **Brown Bag Lunch Presentation Series**

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*Teachers College, Columbia University Working Papers in TESOL and Applied Linguistics*  
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### **Attainability of a Native-Like Lexical Processing System in Adult SLA: A Study of Advanced L2 Chinese Learners**

Speaker:

**Yeu-Ting Liu**, Ed. D. candidate, Teachers College, Columbia University

When: Wednesday, February 28th, 12:00-1:00 pm

Where: 281 Grace Dodge Hall

Abstract:

To form a descriptive basis for establishing the learning potential in adult second language acquisition, many SLA researchers have urged that studies on L2 ultimate attainment should identify the domains in which adult L2 learners are or are not able to attain native-like proficiency levels. The presenter will report on a study that aimed to explore whether a native-like lexical processing system can be attained by advanced adult L2 learners. To this end, the study adopted the advanced-learner approach, recruiting 23 adult L2 Chinese learners, whose L2 reading skills were comparable to native Chinese speakers, and 23 native controls. Four online reading tasks involving semantic judgments and lexical decisions were administered to the participants. Analyses revealed that, while the two groups were comparable in terms of their overall Chinese reading ability, similarities and differences co-existed between them with regard to the underlying lexical processing and the nature of the activated lexical information. Implications for the L2 lexical processing system will be discussed and pedagogical implications for L2 Chinese reading instruction will be provided.

Ample time will be provided for questions and discussion.

This event is free and open to the public. Bring your own lunch; beverages and dessert will be provided.

For more information, contact Monika Ekiert at [me341@columbia.edu](mailto:me341@columbia.edu)