

SHARMAINE SUN

Linguist | Writer | Educator

sharmainesun@gmail.com (408) 627-9094

Academic Interests

Identity Construction • Postcolonialism • Multilingualism •
Sociolinguistics of Class, Race, and Gender •
New Formalism • Historical Fiction

Education

Jan 2025 – Dec 2026

Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing

San Jose State University

Primary track: Fiction; Secondary track: Poetry

Sep 2021 – May 2024

Master of Arts in Linguistics

San Jose State University

Sep 2015 – May 2019

Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics

Bachelor of Arts in International Relations

Boston University

Cum Laude

Experience

Mar 2023 – Present

Marketing & Communications Manager

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bay Area

- Lead marketing campaigns and external communications for nonprofit agency, serving both recruitment and fundraising.

May 2022 – Present

Linguistics Content Creator

TikTok

- Produce videos on various linguistics topics to educate audience on multilingualism, language acquisition, heritage languages, and more. Videos have reached 120k+ viewers and 20k+ likes.

Jun – Aug 2021

Writing Workshop Teacher

Independent

- Held nine-week summer writing workshop for middle-school students, teaching style, literary analysis, and research skills.

Sep 2017 – May 2019

Senior Writing Consultant

Boston University Writing Center

- Assisted students at every stage of the writing process in a variety of fields, helping with argumentative structure, phrasing, thesis direction, and tone.
- Took WR 598: Tutoring in ESL to prepare for in-depth work with ESL writers.
- Conducted Intensive Tutoring 6-week sessions with students who needed additional support.

Jun 2017 – May 2019

Research Assistant

Boston University Phonetics, Acquisition, and Multilingualism Lab

- Received funding grants for three consecutive terms.
- Conducted sociolinguistic interviews with participants, eliciting spontaneous speech and obtaining language background information.
- Transcribed interviews and booth speaking tasks with Praat.
- Investigated independent research project on th-stopping and its relation to the possible Asian American ethnolect in Chinese Americans. Presented e-poster at the BU Undergraduate Research Symposium (Oct 2017).
- Reviewed first-round orthographic transcriptions and helped create an extensive transcription manual.

Sep 2015 – Dec 2016

Tutor at Winship Elementary School

Boston University Initiative for Literacy Development

- Assisted elementary school teachers in classroom.
- Guided students with homework in before-school and after-school program.
- Created literacy and math activities for students to improve their skills.

Jun – Aug 2016

Assistant Teacher

The Harker School's English Language Institute

- Provided academic support in classroom.
- Led level 5 students in breakout sessions.
- Supervised students in activities and field trips.

Awards

Aug 2025

Dr. Jack E. Fink and Maxine Hunt Fink Scholarship

Sep 2024 – May 2025

Graduate Steinbeck Fellowship

Granted by the Martha Heasley Cox Center for Steinbeck Studies to exceptional incoming students in the Department of English & Comparative Literature.

May 2019

Barbara Argote Senior Award in Linguistics

One of three award recipients among linguistics graduates at Boston University.

Mar 2015

National Medalist in Scholastic Art & Writing Awards

One of 269 poetry medalists worldwide in the Scholastic Awards.

Mar 2015

Poetry Out Loud Monterey County Champion

County champion of national poetry recitation competition.

Languages

English

Native

Chinese

Native

Latin

Advanced