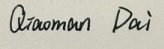




Undergraduate Dissertation coversheet & feedback form

PLEASE COMPLETE THE TOP SECTION OF THIS FORM AND SUBMIT ONE COPY WITH YOUR DISSERTATION

<i>For completion by student:</i>		
<i>Student Name:</i> Qiaoman Dai		
<i>Student University Email:</i> 2303886@student.uwtsd.ac.uk		
<i>Module code:</i> SICH6019	<i>Student ID number:</i> 2303886	<i>Educational support needs:</i> Yes/No
<i>Dissertation title:</i> Chia-Ning Chu		
<i>Supervisor:</i>		<i>Word count:</i>
I confirm that this is my original work and that I have adhered to the University policy on plagiarism.		
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<i>For completion by the first marker:</i>		
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Faculty of Humanities

BA Dissertation Approval Form

Student Name	Qiaoman Dai
Degree Scheme	BA Sinology
Start date	2026.2.16

Title of Dissertation:

A Comparative Analysis of Common Patterns of Sound Change in Chinese and Welsh

Aims and Objectives:

Chinese and Welsh belong to the Sino-Tibetan and Indo-European language families respectively. Although they do not derive from the same language family and differ significantly in terms of geography, culture, and historical development, they may nevertheless exhibit certain parallel patterns in phonological change. Such cross-linguistic comparison contributes to a deeper understanding of both the divergences and convergences among languages, as well as the general principles underlying human language evolution. Therefore, this study aims to fill a gap in the cross-linguistic understanding of certain sound change patterns in Chinese and Welsh.

Abstract (approximately 500 words):

With the increasing maturation of linguistic theory, contemporary research on language comparison has placed greater emphasis on identifying phonetic and

phonological commonalities across languages. This study focuses on the shared phonetic features observed in Welsh and Chinese. It first traces parallel trajectories of sound change, outlining the historical development of Welsh alongside the diachronic evolution of Chinese phonology. It then proceeds to a synchronic comparison of the modern languages, examining phenomena of phonetic weakening in connected speech and exploring their cross-linguistic similarities.

Chapter 1

(I) Research Motivation

(II) Literature Review

(III) Linguistic Background of the Two Languages

(IV) Research Methodology

Chapter 2

(I) Labialization Reduction in Welsh

From Brythonic to Middle Welsh

From Middle Welsh to Welsh

(II) Labialization Reduction in Chinese

From Old Chinese to Middle Chinese

From Middle Chinese to Early Modern Chinese

Chapter 3

(I) Connected-Speech Processes in Welsh

Vowel Alternations: a-affection and i-affection

Initial Consonant Mutation

(II) Connected-Speech Processes in Chinese

Chapter 4

Conclusion
Short Introductory Bibliography: 1.Chen Pengnian: <i>Xin jiao songben Guang yun</i>, Taipei: Hongye wenhua, 2001. 2.Zhu Jianing: <i>Yuyinxue zhi lv</i>, Taipei: Xin xuelin chubanshe gufen youxian gongsi, 2018. 3.Zhu Jianing: <i>Shengyunxue zhi lv</i>, Taipei: Wu-Nan Book Inc, 2015. 4.David Willis, <i>Old and Middle Welsh</i>, Cambridge: University of Cambridge, 2010. 5.Martin. J. ball and Nicole Müller, <i>Mutation in Welsh</i>, London: Routledge,1992. 6.Gareth Morgan, <i>Reading Middle Welsh</i>, Texas: University of Texas at Austin,1996. 7.Barry Lewis, <i>Middle Welsh Sounds and spellings</i>, 2022. 8.Brent Miles, <i>An Introduction to Middle Welsh</i>, Toronto: University of Toronto, 2023. 9.S. J. Hannahs, <i>The phonology of Welsh</i>, Cambridge: University of Cambridge, 2013.
Proposed Supervisor: 

Please indicate whether ethical approval for project is needed – NO

Please indicate whether sufficient resources are available for the project – YES

The above topic, proposal, and supervisor have been agreed:

Signed :  Programme Director

Date: ...25/02/2026...

Please return this form to your Programme Director