

Language Awareness > Volume 26, 2017 - Issue 1

906 7
Views CrossRef citations to date Altmetric

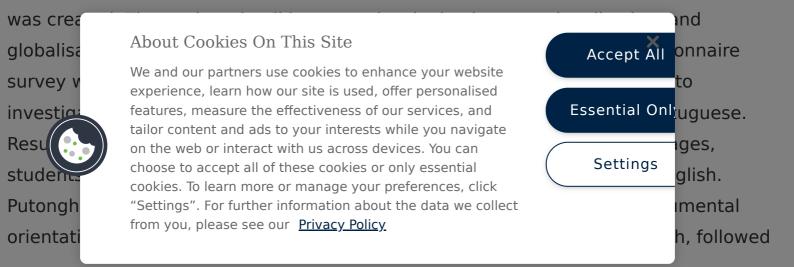
**Articles** 

# A study of Macao tertiary students' language attitudes after the handover



## **ABSTRACT**

This study investigates Macao tertiary students' language attitudes under the dynamic interplay of local, national, and global forces. The Portuguese established their settlement at Macao during the mid-sixteenth century and their colonial rule over Macao during the mid-nineteenth century. Macao's sovereignty was transferred to China at midnight on 19 December 1999 and the Macao Special Administrative Region



by Cantonese and Putonghua. Portuguese receives the lowest rating. Significant differences are found among students' attitudes towards the four languages.

Q KEYWORDS: Macao language attitudes decolonisation renationalisation globalisation

## Acknowledgements

I am deeply indebted to Professor Joanna White, Professor Leila Ranta, Professor Andrew Moody, and anonymous reviewers for their constructive criticisms of and valuable suggestions on earlier versions of this article. I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to Professor Joseph Sung-Yul Park, Professor Kinsley Bolton, Professor Peter Garrett, and Mr Kong Io Chun (Eric) for their support of various kinds. Special thanks go to all the teachers and students who helped me in my surveys and interviews. All errors and inaccuracies are exclusively my own.

## Disclosure statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the author.

# Notes

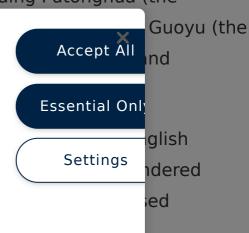
1. The term language is used in this study as a cover term for language, dialect, etc. Chinese dialects used in this study should be understood in the popular sense, that is vernacular dialects, such as Cantonese, Hokkien, but excluding Putonghua (the

commor national Mandari

2. Two documents according elsewhere

#### About Cookies On This Site

We and our partners use cookies to enhance your website experience, learn how our site is used, offer personalised features, measure the effectiveness of our services, and tailor content and ads to your interests while you navigate on the web or interact with us across devices. You can choose to accept all of these cookies or only essential cookies. To learn more or manage your preferences, click "Settings". For further information about the data we collect from you, please see our <a href="Privacy Policy">Privacy Policy</a>



- 3. In addition to the questionnaire survey, semi-structured interviews were conducted in July, 2013 among 17 UM freshmen.
- 4. The reliability of a psychometric instrument examines the extent to which a test produces consistent results when administered under similar conditions. In this study, reliability is measured by the Cronbach's alpha coefficient through SPSS, and an  $\alpha$  value of .60 and higher is considered a sufficient reliability.
- 5. Factor analysis is a common statistical method employed in language attitudes studies. Exploratory factor analysis (EFA) is commonly used to explore the underlying dimensions of a construct, and confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) allows for testing the fit of models to the data. SPSS and Amos are used in this study to conduct EFA and CFA, respectively.
- 6. Descriptive statistics provide simple summaries about the sample and the measures. They focus on three characteristics: the distribution, the central tendency, and the dispersion. The mean and the standard deviation are used in this study to describe the central tendency and the dispersion of each variable.

# Additional information

# Funding

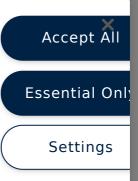
This research is supported by the Social Science Fund of Fujian Province [grant number FJ2015B247].

## Notes on contributors

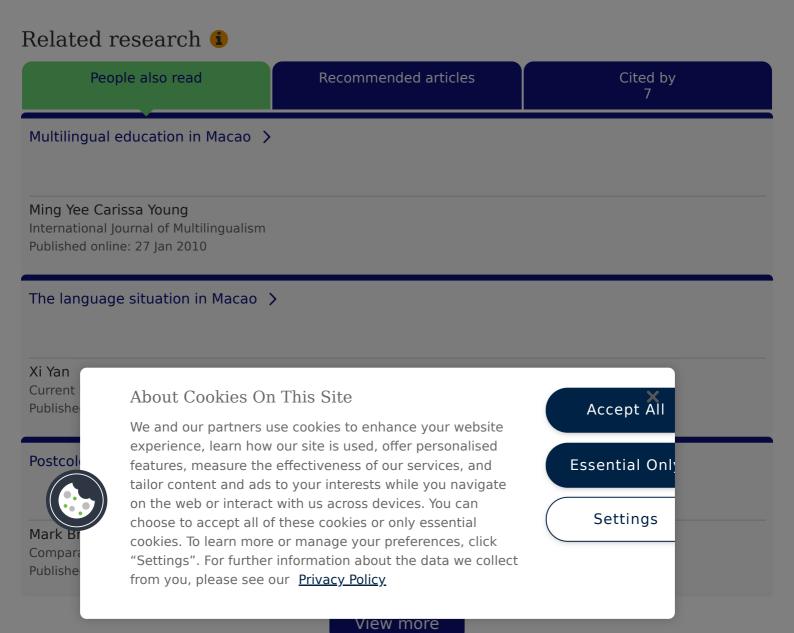


#### About Cookies On This Site

We and our partners use cookies to enhance your website experience, learn how our site is used, offer personalised features, measure the effectiveness of our services, and tailor content and ads to your interests while you navigate on the web or interact with us across devices. You can choose to accept all of these cookies or only essential cookies. To learn more or manage your preferences, click "Settings". For further information about the data we collect from you, please see our <a href="Privacy Policy">Privacy Policy</a>



Xi Yan obtained his Ph.D. in linguistics from the University of Macau and is currently an associate professor in the Faculty of Foreign Languages at the Huaqiao University. His research interests include language attitudes, language ideologies, language planning and language policy in Mainland China and Macao. His recent publications include English ants are digging holes in the Chinese levee: Language ideological debates in the Chinese media (Language Problems and Language Planning, 2013, 37/1), A metadiscursive analysis of online comments of Chinese netizens on Huang Xiaoming's appropriation of English (Language, Culture and Curriculum, 2014, 27/2), "Macao has died, traditional Chinese characters have died": A study of netizens' comments on the choice of Chinese scripts in Macao (Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development, 2016, 37/6), etc.



Information for

Authors

R&D professionals

Editors

Librarians

Societies

Opportunities

Reprints and e-prints

Advertising solutions

Accelerated publication

Corporate access solutions

Open access

Overview

Open journals

Open Select

**Dove Medical Press** 

F1000Research

Help and information

Help and contact

Newsroom

All journals

Books

### Keep up to date

Register to receive personalised research and resources by email



Sign me up











Copyright © 2024 Informa UK Limited Privacy policy Cookies Terms & conditions



Accessibility

Registered in England & Wales No. 3099067 5 Howick Place | London | SW1P 1WG

#### About Cookies On This Site



We and our partners use cookies to enhance your website experience, learn how our site is used, offer personalised features, measure the effectiveness of our services, and tailor content and ads to your interests while you navigate on the web or interact with us across devices. You can choose to accept all of these cookies or only essential cookies. To learn more or manage your preferences, click "Settings". For further information about the data we collect from you, please see our <a href="Privacy Policy">Privacy Policy</a>



Essential Onl

Settings