

Multiple Routes to Multilingualism: Conceptual and methodological considerations

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It is now widely accepted that the vast majority of the world's population are multilingual. Individuals become multilingual in many different ways and for many different purposes. To what extent is the language acquisition process and the outcome of multilingual language acquisition similar or different across the multilingual population? And what are the implications of multilingual language acquisition for cognitive representation and multilingual language processing? These are the questions that this presentation will focus on. Conceptual and methodological issues in the study of multilingual language acquisition will be discussed. Special attention will be paid to specific, under-studied populations.