

Special Issue on: “A cultural linguistic approach to multilingualism”

Journal: *International Journal of Language and Culture*

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Call for Abstracts

We cordially invite conference participants to submit abstracts for contributions to this special issue. Abstracts should focus on the intersections of cultural, cognitive, translation, and corpus linguistics in the context of multilingualism. Each abstract should not exceed one A4 page (including bibliography following APA style) and should clearly outline the research objectives, methodology, and expected contributions to the field.

Please submit your abstracts by **28 February 2025** to Wei-lun Lu <wllu@phil.muni.cz>.

We are looking forward to receiving your manuscript proposals!

Overview

To align with the goal of the *International Journal of Language and Culture* that focuses on the dynamic interplay between language and cultural contexts, this special issue aims to focus on the different dimensions of cultural linguistics in multilingualism. The issue seeks to investigate how multilingual communities use, negotiate, and embody cultural knowledge, underscoring how culture profoundly shapes language (and vice versa), conceptualization, and communication. This approach resonates with the journal's commitment to advancing our understanding of how language functions as both a cultural product and a medium of cultural expression. The term ‘cultural linguistics’ in lowercase encompasses all works on language and culture in a general sense. However, we also welcome contributions that align with Farzad Sharifian's approach of Cultural Linguistics.

Aims and Scope

This issue aims to illuminate how multilingual individuals reflect and enact cultural elements through their language choices, shaping multilingual identity and expression in diverse cultural settings. Key questions include: How does cultural context influence multilingual communication? In what ways do multilingual speakers adapt to cultural expectations across languages? How do translation influences shape cultural meanings that multilingual speakers inherit and reinterpret? By exploring these questions, the issue will offer insights into multilingualism as a space for cultural negotiation and identity construction, contributing to both linguistic and cultural research.

Theoretical Background

The special issue draws on cultural linguistics as its primary framework, supported by cognitive and corpus linguistics, along with translation studies. Cultural linguistics views language as a repository of shared cultural knowledge, encompassing schemas, metaphors, and categories that guide communication. Similarly, cognitive linguistics reveals how multilingual speakers adapt cognitive frameworks based on each language's cultural context, such as, for example, metaphorical interpretations of time, relationships, and emotions. Translation studies emphasizes the role of translation in bridging cultural meanings and linguistic forms, illustrating how these elements evolve through contact, migration, and exchange. To support data analysis, corpus linguistics offers empirical tools to analyze multilingual data on a large scale, revealing patterns in how multilingual speakers reinforce or transform cultural meanings. Together, these approaches deepen our understanding of multilingualism as an interaction of language, culture, and cognition.

Important dates

Abstract Submission Deadline: 28 February 2025

Manuscript Submission Deadline: August 2025

Peer Review Completion: November 2025

Revised Manuscript Submission: February 2026

Final Decision: May 2026

Planned Publication Date: Spring 2027 (Volume 14, Issue 1)