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978-1-107-05194-2 - Sociolinguistics and Deaf Communities

Edited by Adam C. Schembri and Ceil Lucas

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Sociolinguistics and Deaf Communities

How do people use sign languages in different situations around the world? How are sign languages distributed globally? What happens when they come in contact with spoken and written languages? These and other questions are explored in this new introduction to the sociolinguistics of sign languages and Deaf communities.

An international team brings insight and data from a wide range of sign languages, from the USA, Canada, England, Spain, Brazil, and Australia. Topics covered include multilingualism in the global Deaf community; sociolinguistic variation and change in sign languages; bilingualism and language contact between signed and spoken languages; attitudes toward sign languages; sign language planning and policy, and sign language discourse.

Sociolinguistics and Deaf Communities will be welcomed by students of sign language and interpreting, teachers of sign language, and students and academics working in linguistics.

ADAM C. SCHEMBRI is Associate Professor on the Linguistics program and director of the Centre for Research on Language Diversity at La Trobe University.

CEIL LUCAS is Professor Emerita in the Department of Linguistics at Gallaudet University.

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