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Diane Brentari
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Sign Language Phonology

A concise overview of key findings and ideas in sign language phonology and its contributions to related fields, including historical linguistics, morphology, prosody, language acquisition, and language creation. Working on sign languages not only provides important new insights on familiar issues, but also poses a whole new set of questions about phonology, because of the use of the visual communication modality. This book lays out the properties needed to recognize a phonological system regardless of its modality. Written by a leading expert in sign language research, the book describes the current state of the field and addresses a range of issues that students and researchers will encounter in their work, as well as highlighting the significant impact that the study of sign languages has had on the field of phonology as a whole. It includes lists of further reading materials, and a full glossary, as well as helpful illustrations that demonstrate the important aspects of sign language structure, even to the most unfamiliar of readers. A text that will be useful to both specialists and general linguists, this book provides the first comprehensive overview of the field.

DIANE BRENTARI is the Mary K. Werkman Professor in the Department of Linguistics at the University of Chicago. She is author or editor of six books including *Shaping Phonology* (co-edited with Jackson Lee, 2018), *Sign Languages: A Cambridge Language Survey* (Cambridge University Press, 2010), *A Prosodic Model of Sign Language Phonology* (1998) and *Foreign Vocabulary in Sign Languages: A Cross-linguistic Investigation of Word Formation* (2001).

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Key Topics in Phonology focuses on the main topics of study in phonology today. It consists of accessible yet challenging accounts of the most important issues, concepts and phenomena to consider when examining the sound structure of language. Some topics have been the subject of phonological study for many years and are re-examined in this series in light of new developments in the field; others are issues of growing importance that have not so far been given a sustained treatment. Written by leading experts and designed to bridge the gap between textbooks and primary literature, the books in this series can either be used in courses and seminars, or as one-stop, succinct guides to a particular topic for individual students and researchers. Each book includes useful suggestions for further reading, discussion questions and a helpful glossary.

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DIANE BRENTARI
University of Chicago

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