

September 11th, Sunday

9:30-10:30

Bilingualism: The Challenges for Language and Cognition and the Therapeutic Role of Bi-Literacy

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Bilingualism has been argued to be beneficial for some cognitive skills while having adverse or no effects on language abilities when examining language proficiency in each language separately. Moreover, the cognitive advantages have been challenged in recent work on bilinguals leaving little room for advocating clear benefits in bilingualism. My talk will address this debate by demonstrating language advantages in bilingual children's performance when a careful look at different levels of linguistic analyses are taken into account. I will also discuss the role of literacy in the two languages as a key facilitator for revealing cognitive and linguistic advantages in bilingual children.

