

## Special issue of *Critical Multilingualism Studies* ([cms.arizona.edu](http://cms.arizona.edu))

### Languages under Pressure and Pain

The most frequent opening prelude to discussions of multilingualism is a specification of the current age of globalization—and the traffics of resources, financial and human capital, and even meanings that define it. Less emphasized are the human bodies who move, relocate, or even stay put amid the particular pressures they experience as they navigate the emerging linguistic, symbolic, and affective landscapes that social phenomena of mass global migration and dissemination leave in their wake. Within the lives of people who move physically and virtually through these spaces, languages and acts of languaging play a variety of sometimes intersecting, sometimes clashing roles--as modes of therapy and negotiation, as gateways to citizenship and employment, as familial gifts and acts of friendship, as response cries and as silent absences in the throes of pain, as symbols of hegemony and hope.

This special issue of *Critical Multilingualism Studies* considers languages and multilingual subjects in contexts in which they are put under pressure and pain. Possible questions include but are not limited to the following:

- How can we describe and analyze the multilingual flow of mass migration on various social levels? How do people move between and through languages in the complex encounters of globalism today or in other historical moments?
- What frameworks are available for articulating the lived languaging experiences of refugees, migrants, and asylum seekers as they resettle and in what ways do contemporary circumstances push back on existing frameworks?
- In what ways do institutional, national and international language policies address or obscure experiences of pressure and pain?
- Can we posit an ethics of multilingualism or monolingualism in various contexts? What role does ethics play in decisions around language use and learning?
- What are the affective dimensions of doing multilingual research? How can we engage critically with linguistic shame in scholarly work?
- What alternate metaphors does scholarly work on multilingualism attuned to pressure and pain offer to fields such as second language and teaching, which have historically been dominated by resource metaphors including *lack* and *acquisition*?

**The Journal of Critical Multilingualism Studies (CMS)** is a peer-reviewed, transdisciplinary journal of scholarship on multilingualism, monolingualism, and their related social, cultural, historical, and literary/medial phenomena.

Contributions of 5000-8000 in any language and from any discipline or combination of disciplines welcome. To be considered for this volume, submissions should be received by May 1, 2015, through the CMS website [cms.arizona.edu](http://cms.arizona.edu). Chicago citation style recommended, multimedia components encouraged.

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