CO-ARTICULATION OF INDEPENDENT LINGUISTIC UNITS IN SIGN LANGUAGES

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In sign languages multiple articulators can work with a degree of independence that is not observed in spoken languages. This allows simultaneous expression of grammatical information that in spoken language must be expressed sequentially. In this talk, I will start considering cases where the two hands utter two different sentences at the same time and I will later switch to cases of co-articulation of two categories belonging to the same sentence, most notably cases of simultaneous articulation of subject and verb. I will analyze sign language phenomena like role shift and classifier predicates under this perspective.