

## Investigating the multilingual mental lexicon – single words and multiword units

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In this session, we will focus on research targeting the multilingual lexicon in adult speakers. We will start by looking at some key questions to do with lexical processing and representation, such as what is the mental lexicon, whether words in a speaker's two or more languages are stored separately or jointly, if there is selective or non-selective activation of words in the languages a speaker knows, and if one or more of the languages can be "turned off" during processing of an additional language. When doing this, we will have a closer look at some of the influential models proposed for lexical representation and processing in bilinguals and multilinguals. In addition to single word representation and processing, we will also discuss a selection of research focusing on multiword units (MWUs), such as collocations, binomials and idioms, and how phenomena like cross-linguistic influence and potential holistic storage can be investigated and explained. Various methodological approaches will be highlighted.