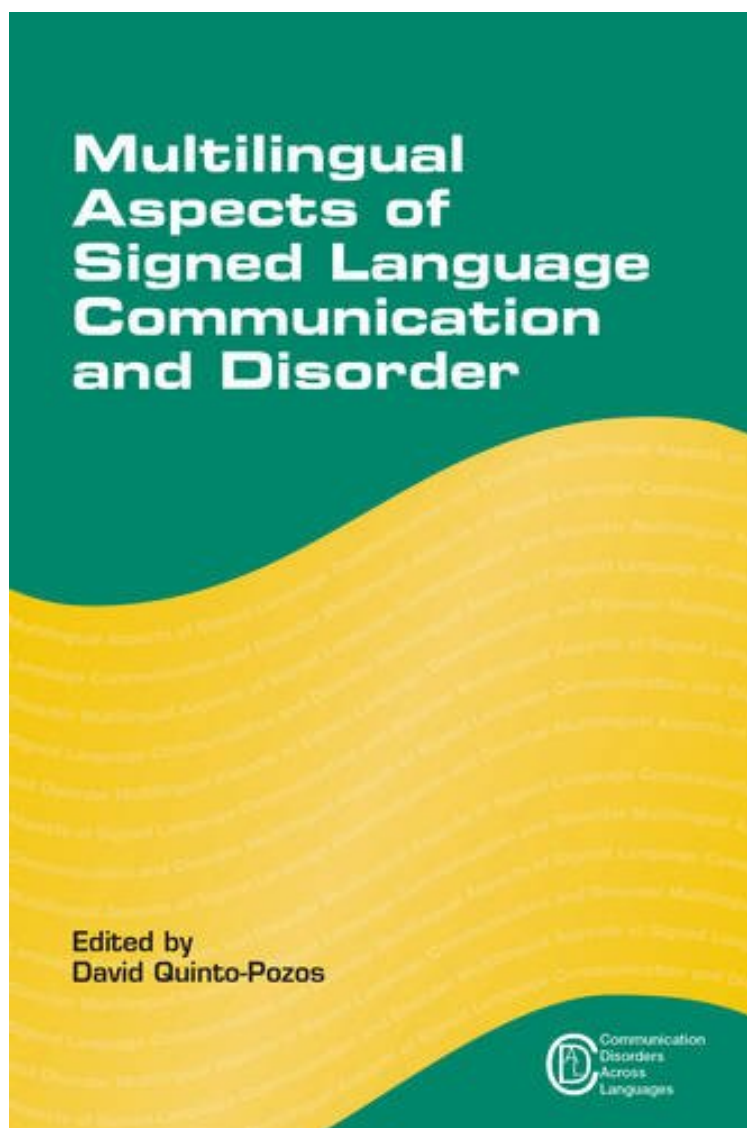


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Inquiry into signed languages has added to what is known about structural variation and language, language learning, and cognitive processing of language. However, comparatively little research has focused on communication disorders in signed language users. For some deaf children, atypicality is viewed as a phase that they will outgrow, and this results in late identification of linguistic or cognitive deficits that might have been addressed earlier. This volume takes a step towards describing different types of atypicality in language communicated in the signed modality such as linguistic impairment caused by deficits in visual processing, difficulties with motor movements, and neurological decline. Chapters within the book also consider communication differences in hearing children acquiring signed and spoken languages.

This book brings together an impressive group of contributors to present pioneering research on signed language and the manifestation of communication disorders in a visual-motor modality. Readers will undoubtedly appreciate the emphasis on bilingual considerations and the innovative recommendations for improving identification and future needs for treatment research. (Pamela A. Hadley, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA)This valuable volume provides a rich resource of tools and state-of-the-art methods for investigating signed language communication disorders across the life span. Each chapter fills a critical gap in our knowledge of communication differences and disorders in the visual-manual modality. Moreover, the findings presented in this book have significant implications for theories of language disorders that have been developed solely from spoken language data. (Karen Emmorey, San Diego State University, USA)About the AuthorDavid Quinto-Pozos is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Linguistics, University of Texas at Austin, USA. His research focuses on signed language, communication disorder, language acquisition and the interaction between language and gesture in the signed modality.