

Cross-language interactions in bilingual visual word recognition

How and to what extent the two languages of bilinguals are interconnected and interact is an important question for theories and models of bilingual word processing. In this talk I will focus on visual word recognition in bilinguals and I will present an overview of studies that have investigated cross-language interactions due to similarity between the words at the orthographic, phonological and/or semantic level. I will discuss models of bilingual word processing and in particular I will focus on the BIA+ model (Dijkstra & van Heuven, 2002) and evaluate the assumptions of this model using behavioural, functional magnetic resonance imaging and event-related brain potential data.