

# CHINA CROSSROADS

Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, 16:00 – 18:00

## Knowing Multiple Languages: What Multilingualism Means for the Mind, the City, and Your Life

**Luk Van Mensel**

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Co-Editor of [Minority Languages in the Linguistic Landscape](#)

Co-Editor of [Exploring the Multilingual Family Repertoire](#)

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Boxing Cat Sinan Mansions | 519 Fuxing Zhong Lu  
150rmb including drink ticket | FREE for members  
RSVP to Frank Tsai at [editor@shanghai-review.org](mailto:editor@shanghai-review.org)



People often ask what it means to research multilingualism. This talk will introduce three different areas of research: (1) Multilingualism and cognition: Does speaking multiple languages make you smarter? (2) Multilingualism and linguistic landscapes: What's going on with all the multilingual and multimodal signs in the streets? How do we read them, where do they come from, what do they mean? (3) Multilingualism in the lifespan: What does it mean to be multilingual? How do our languages relate to our identities?

[Luk Van Mensel](#) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Applied Linguistics at Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University (XJTLU). His research can broadly be subsumed under the header "language and society", with a specific focus on both individual and societal multilingualism. His work is situated at the crossroads between sociolinguistics, sociology, anthropology, and language acquisition research. He has published on a variety of subjects, including multilingualism in the family, linguistic landscapes, economic aspects of multilingualism, language education policy, socio-affective factors and language learning, and bilingual education (CLIL).

*[China Crossroads](#) hosts talks on all topics related to China, including business, foreign policy, and other areas as they relate to China, the idea being that China is both already a "crossroads" of the world and itself at a "crossroads" in terms of its future global influence. For more information, contact Frank Tsai at [editor@shanghai-review.org](mailto:editor@shanghai-review.org).*