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Dr. Li Wei is a Professor of Applied Linguistics at Birkbeck College, University of London, where he is Pro-Vice-Master and Director of the Birkbeck Graduate Research School. He worked for many years in the Department of Speech of Newcastle University where he received his PhD in Speech Sciences.

His main research interest is in the broad area of bilingualism and multilingualism, which includes Bilingual and Multilingual First Language Acquisition (BAMFLA), early second language acquisition (ESLA), speech and language disorders of bilingual and multilingual speakers, the pragmatics of codeswitching, bilingual education, and intercultural communication. His current work focuses on the creativity and criticality of multilingual and multimodal language users.

He is Principal Editor of the International Journal of Bilingualism (Sage), Editor of Applied Linguistics Review (De Gruyter) and Co-Editor of Chinese Language and Discourse (Benjamins). He is also book series editor of 'Research Methods in Language and Linguistics' (Wiley-Blackwell). Amongst his publications are Li Wei and Moyer, M. (eds), The Blackwell Handbook of Research Methods on Bilingualism and Multilingualism. Oxford: Blackwell, 2008, which won the British Association of Applied Linguistics Book Prize in 2009, Applied Linguistics (2014) Wiley-Blackwell, The Bilingualism Reader (1st edition, 2000, 2nd edition 2007), London: Routledge, and The Routledge Applied Linguistics Reader (2011) London: Routledge.

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