

## CONTENTS

---

*List of figures* page viii

*List of tables* xiii

*List of contributors* xv

*List of sign language abbreviations* xix

*Notational conventions* xxi

### 1 Introduction

*Diane Brentari* 1

## I HISTORY AND TRANSMISSION 17

### 2 Transmission of sign languages in Northern Europe

*Penny Boyes Braem and Christian Rathmann* 19

### 3 Transmission of sign languages in Latin America

*Claire Ramsey and David Quinto-Pozos* 46

### 4 Transmission of sign languages in the Nordic countries

*Brita Bergman and Elisabeth Engberg-Pedersen* 74

### 5 Transmission of sign languages in Mediterranean Europe

*Josep Quer, Laura Mazzoni and Galini Sapountzaki* 95

### 6 Transmission of sign languages in Africa

*Dorothy Lule and Lars Wallin* 113

### 7 Transmission of Polish sign systems

*Piotr Wojda* 131

## II SHARED CROSSLINGUISTIC CHARACTERISTICS 149

### 8 Notation systems

*Harry van der Hulst and Rachel Channon* 151

### 9 Verb agreement in sign language morphology

*Gaurav Mathur and Christian Rathmann* 173

- 10 Functional markers in sign languages  
*Sandro Zucchi, Carol Neidle, Carlo Geraci, Quinn Duffy and Carlo Cecchetto* 197
- 11 Clause structure  
*Ronice Müller de Quadros and Diane Lillo-Martin* 225
- 12 Factors that form classifier signs  
*Elisabeth Engberg-Pedersen* 252
- 13 Handshape contrasts in sign language phonology  
*Diane Brentari and Petra Eccarius* 284
- 14 Syllable structure in sign language phonology  
*Tommi Jantunen and Ritva Takkinen* 312
- 15 Grammaticalization in sign languages  
*Sherman Wilcox, Paolo Rossini and Elena Antinoro Pizzuto* 332
- 16 The semantics–phonology interface  
*Ronnie B. Wilbur* 355
- 17 Nonmanuals: their grammatical and prosodic roles  
*Roland Pfau and Josep Quer* 381

### **III VARIATION AND CHANGE 403**

- 18 Sign languages in West Africa  
*Victoria Nyst* 405
- 19 Sign languages in the Arab world  
*Kinda Al-Fityani and Carol Padden* 433
- 20 Variation in American Sign Language  
*Ceil Lucas and Robert Bayley* 451
- 21 Sociolinguistic variation in British, Australian and New Zealand Sign Languages  
*Adam Schembri, Kearsy Cormier, Trevor Johnston, David McKee, Rachel McKee and Bencie Woll* 476
- 22 Variation in East Asian sign language structures  
*Susan Fischer and Qunhu Gong* 499
- 23 Crosslinguistic variation in prosodic cues  
*Gladys Tang, Diane Brentari, Carolina González and Felix Sze* 519

- 24 Deixis in an emerging sign language  
*Marie Coppola and Anne Senghas* 543
- 25 The grammar of space in two new sign languages  
*Carol Padden, Irit Meir, Mark Aronoff and Wendy Sandler* 570
- Notes* 593
- References* 618
- Index* 670