

***Ph.D. Program in Speech-Language-
Hearing Sciences***

COLLOQUIUM

**WEDNESDAY, October 7, 2009
4:15 P.M., ROOM 7102**

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**“Multilingualism and cognitive states in the oldest
old”**

Abstract: In this talk Prof. Kavé will present research conducted by Kavé, Eyal, Shorek, and Cohen-Mansfield (2008). The research’s aim was to examine whether the number of language a person speaks predicts performance on cognitive screening tests after age 75. Data were drawn from a representative sample of the oldest Israeli Jewish population (N=814, mean age=83.0) that was first interviewed in 1989 and then twice more within the bilingual, trilingual, and multilingual individuals at each of the three interview waves. The number of languages contributed to the prediction of cognitive test scores beyond the effect of other demographic variables such as age, gender, place of birth, age at immigration, or education. Results are discussed in the context of theories of cognitive reserve.

Kavé, G., Eyal, N., Shorek, A., & Cohen-Mansfield, J.; (2008). Multilingualism and cognitive state in the oldest old. *Psychology and Aging*, 23(1), 70-78.

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