

# Classifier Handshape Choice in Sign Languages of the World



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## DESCRIPTION

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*Open Linguistics* invites manuscripts for the Special Issue on Classifier handshape choice in sign languages of the world.

Classifier predicates (also known as depictive verbs) are very important devices in sign languages around the world used to describe motion and location of referents in space. They are especially interesting theoretically because, on the one hand, they resemble classifier verbs in spoken languages, but on the other hand, they are similar to co-speech gestures due to their high degree of iconicity. In this special issue, we ask the question of what governs the choice of the handshape in classifier predicates when multiple different handshapes are compatible with the same referent. We invite empirical and theoretical papers discussing this issue for specific sign languages or comparing the factors influencing handshape choice across multiple sign languages.

## HOW TO SUBMIT

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The authors are kindly invited to submit their contribution via the online submission system Editorial Manager available at:

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Please select the Category “SI on Classifier handshape choice in sign languages” to ensure that the manuscript is processed by the Guest Editors.

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There are no specific length restrictions for the overall manuscript or individual sections; however, we urge the authors to present and discuss their findings in a concise and accessible manner. We recommend a length of 5,000–12,000 words, excluding the bibliography and figure captions and a maximum of 10 figures and tables.

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Submission of a manuscript does not necessarily imply approval for its publication in this *Open Linguistics* special issue. The manuscript will be subjected to a peer review procedure managed by our esteemed Guest Editors and its acceptance will depend on this assessment.

We are looking forward to your submission until **30 June 2024**. If you have any questions, please contact Vadim Kimmelman at [Vadim.kimmelman@uib.no](mailto:Vadim.kimmelman@uib.no) or Katarzyna Inga Michalak [katarzyna.michalak@degruyter.com](mailto:katarzyna.michalak@degruyter.com).