

Denis Weger

Postdoctoral Researcher



Contact

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About Me

I am an educational linguist and postdoctoral researcher working at the intersection of language education, teacher education, and multilingualism. My research supports future teachers in designing linguistically inclusive instruction for diverse classrooms.

Skills

- Leadership & Supervision
- Educational Research
- Teacher Education
- Multilingualism
- Curriculum Development
- Research Communication

Education

- **PhD in Linguistics**
University of Vienna | 2017-2022 (with distinction)
Dissertation: *Developing Professional Competence for Translingual Instruction*
- **MA in German as a Foreign Language**
University of Vienna | 2010-2014 (with distinction)
- **Teacher Education Degree: German & Russian**
University of Vienna & Moscow State University | 2004-2010 (with distinction)

Experience

- **Postdoctoral Researcher**
University of Vienna | 10/2023-today
 - Co-leading the Language Teaching and Learning Research Unit
 - Leading research on linguistically inclusive teacher education
 - Supervising student assistants and mentoring MA- and PhD-students
- **Project Researcher**
University of Salzburg | 08/2020-08/2022
 - Co-led design, implementation and empirical evaluation of an education program at the Salzburg Museum
 - Collaborated with museum educators and academic partners
 - Designed materials for inclusive German language learning
- **Pre-Doc Researcher**
University of Vienna | 10/2016-04/2022
 - Conducted PhD research on pre-service teachers' professional development for teaching in linguistically diverse settings
 - Taught BA courses for pre-service teachers of all subjects
 - Served as PhD student representative on the Governing Board of the Doctoral School of Teacher Education
- **Lecturer in German as a Foreign Language**
Academy of Fine Arts Vienna | 10/2012-09/2021
 - Taught German language courses from A1 to B1 level
 - Mentored DaF teaching interns from the University of Vienna
 - Coordinated the team of German language lecturers at the academy

Awards & Grants

Ars Docendi – State Prize for Excellence in University Teaching (2021)
Teaching Award – University of Vienna (2020)
Scholarships for Academic Excellence - South Tyrol (2008, 2009, 2011)
OeAD Mobility Grants – Russia (2008, 2011)

Selected Publications

- Weger, D. (2025): Dynamics in Pre-service Teachers' Beliefs about Multilingualism and Linguistic Diversity in Education: A Q Methodology Intervention Study. *Cogent Education*.
- Weger, D. (2025): Investigating the Development of Pre-service Teachers' Noticing for Inclusive Translingual Instruction in Secondary Education: An Intervention Study. *International Journal of Bilingual Education and Bilingualism*.
- Weger, D. (2025): Relating Pre-service Teachers' Language Biographical Experiences and their Prospective Teaching Practice in Linguistically Diverse Classrooms. *Linguistics and Education*.
- Weger, D. (2024): *Professionelle Handlungskompetenz für mehrsprachig-sprachbewussten Unterricht entwickeln* - Münster/New York: Waxmann.
- Weger, D. (2024): Sprachenbiographische Erfahrungen und professionelles Handeln im Spannungsfeld zwischen schulischer Einsprachigkeit und individueller Mehrsprachigkeit. *Erziehung & Unterricht*, 1-2/2024. S. 119-127.

Leadership & Teaching Experience

- Co-leader of the Language Education Research Unit: team coordination, supervision of student assistants, budget planning, and website management
- Lead of international teaching projects within ERASMUS+ Blended Intensive Programmes
- Supervision of BA, MA, and PhD students
- Coordination of teaching modules at the University of Vienna
- Design and facilitation of two-week training programs for international German teachers on behalf of the Austrian Ministry of Education
- Executive board member (Treasurer) of the Austrian Association for German as a Foreign and Second Language (ÖDaF)
- Curriculum development for linguistically inclusive teacher education
- Co-organizer of academic workshops and training programs

Academic Service & Engagement

- Postdoctoral mentor in the Doctoral School in Education, University of Vienna (2023-today)
- Member of the doctoral studies commission for Educational Sciences (2024-today)
- Curriculum working group member for new teacher education framework (Verbund Nord-Ost, 2025)
- National jury member *European Language Label* (2017-today)
- Host of the education podcast *Didaktik:Dialog* (05/2025-today)
- Member of the working group *Studying and Teaching – New Forms, Content and Competences*, nominated by the Vice-Rectorate for Teaching, University of Vienna (10/2021–06/2022)
- Member of the national selection committee for Austrian language assistants in Russia, Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (2016–2022)
- Organizer and panel chair at national and international academic conferences

Other Qualifications & Personal Background

- Languages:
German (native), English (C2), Italian (C1), Russian (B2), French (A1)
- Digital Competencies:
Windows & macOS | MaxQDA & SPSS | Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook)
Apple iWork (Pages, Numbers, Keynote) | Moodle & Blackboard | ZOOM, BigBlueButton, Skype for Business
CMS: siteswift, typo3
- Personal:
Parent of two children (ages 7 and 4): everyday multitasking, long-term planning, and resource management in action