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School of Social Sciences

College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences



Psychology

cordially invites you to the following seminar

**From percepts to concepts: Understanding
category selectivity for animals and objects**

by

Prof Olivia Cheung

Date: Thursday, 15 August 2019

Time: 14:00pm

Venue: HSS Meeting Room 5 (HSS-04-94)

Biography

Olivia Cheung is an Assistant Professor of Psychology at New York University Abu Dhabi. Her research aims to understand how we utilize multiple sources of knowledge to perceive the visual world. Olivia holds a Ph.D. in Psychology from Vanderbilt University. Before joining NYU Abu Dhabi, she did postdoctoral research at Harvard Medical School, at the Center of Mind/Brain Sciences (CIMeC) in Trento, Italy, and at Harvard University.

Abstract

We maintain stable representations of the world via interactions of incoming sensory input and existing conceptual knowledge about the world. Distinct concepts, such as animate and inanimate entities, often share vast and systematic differences in visual features. As the brain transforms percepts into concepts, to what extent the mental and neural representations contain visual vs. conceptual information? In this talk, I will present behavioral and neural evidence that the well-documented distinction between animal and object representations are unlikely merely due to differences in low-level visual or shape properties. Instead, the involvement of higher-level conceptual influences may play a critical role for interpreting visual input during categorization.

All are welcome!

Click [here](#) or scan QR code to register!

