We cordially invite you to our guest lecture within the colloquium

Empirisch forschen in der Psychologie

Dr. Veit Kubik
”Spatiotemporal Offloading in Multitasking”

Date and Location:
Tuesday, 23rd of May 2017
16:00 – 18:00 c.t.
Room M 201

Organizers

Prof. Dr. Diana Boer

Dr. Ayu Okvitawanli

Abteilung für Sozial- und Organisationspsychologie
Abstract:
With advancing technology, new forms of social media (e.g., smart phones, Skype, WhatsApp) constantly evolve and multiply the possibilities to communicate and to work wherever and whenever possible. As a consequence, we often need to plan, coordinate, and monitor multiple daily activities within relatively short time windows. While multitasking (MT) is a topic that receives growing attention in research and also in the media, most prior studies have focused on the cognitive bottlenecks of concurrent dual-tasking. However, the primary focus of my research is on how humans can handle more than two activities at the same time. In this talk, I will present two studies, in which I tested critical predictions of a conceptual framework, stating that multitasking performance reflects a combination of higher cognitive abilities, including executive-control functions, domain-specific expertise, and spatial processing. Critically, it is assumed that the temporal demands of MT to monitor and to coordinate several tasks can be offloaded by representing the temporal patterns of deadlines in spatial terms. In line with this spatiotemporal hypothesis, I predicted and observed that spatial ability incrementally contributes to individual differences in multitasking performance above and beyond executive functioning and independent of the task characteristics.

Bio:
I am a cognitive and developmental psychologist, specifically interested in the workings of memory, metacognition, and multitasking over the lifespan. I am enthusiastic about open and transparent science as well as integrating perspectives and methods across research domains. I have studied Psychology and Philosophy at Goethe University in Frankfurt am Main (Germany), at the University of Sussex in Brighton (UK), and at Stockholm University (Sweden). During my undergraduate years, I spent large parts of my time researching the effects of item order and social context on memory in 11-month-old infants, and prospective memory in adults, in collaboration with Monika Knopf (Goethe University) and Jenny Rusted (University of Sussex). In 2015, I received my PhD in Psychology at Stockholm University. In my doctoral thesis, I examined the effects of enactment and testing on memory, under the supervision of Lars-Göran Nilsson and Fredrik Jönsson together with Jonas Olofsson and Monika Knopf. During my doctoral studies, I visited and collaborated with Simon Farrell in Bristol (UK) on the serial position effects in episodic memory over the life course, and Robert Bjork in Los Angeles (USA) on the mnemonic and metamemorial effects of retrieval practice. My undergraduate and PhD studies were supported by scholarships of the German National Academic Foundation, the "Elisabeth and Herman Rodins Minne" foundation, and the "H S & Emmy Josephsons" foundation.

The lecture will be held in English.