

Social Cognition
Wintersemester 2012/13
Thursdays 16:15-17:45 P105

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Office Hour 14.00-15.00 Mondays,
and by appointment

In this class we will investigate the following question: how do we understand other minds? This question is especially rich because it can be investigated in a truly interdisciplinary manner, drawing insights from psychology, neuroscience, ethology, and philosophy. We will consider two well-established theories of social cognition: theory theory and simulation theory. Then we will investigate new approaches, including primary intersubjectivity and the narrative approach. One focus will be on the role that perception plays in social cognition.

Introduction

25 October

Sellars, W. "The Myth of Jones"

Theory Theory

8 November

Lewis, D. "Psychophysical and Theoretical Identifications"

Stich, S. "The Theory-Theory"

15 November

Gopnik, A. and Wellman, H. "Why the Child's Theory of Mind Really Is a Theory"

Baron-Cohen, S., Leslie, A., and Frith, U. "Does the autistic child have a 'theory of mind'?"

Simulation Theory

22 November

Gordon, R. "Folk Psychology as Simulation"

Gallese, V. and Goldman, A. "Mirror neurons and the simulation theory of mind-reading"

29 November

Gallese, V. Keysers, C. and Rizzolatti, G. "A unifying view of the basis of social cognition"

Goldman, A. "Precis of *Simulating Minds*"

Pretence and the Possible Worlds Box

6 December

Nichols, S. and Stich, S. *Mindreading* (selections)

Evolution and Ethology

13 December

Premack, D. and Woodruff, G. "Does the chimpanzee have a 'theory of mind'?"

Byrne, R. and Whiten, A. (eds.) *Machiavellian Intelligence* (selections)

Primary Intersubjectivity

20 December

Gallagher, S. *How the Body Shapes the Mind* (selections)

Trevarthen, C. "Communication and cooperation in early infancy: A description of primary intersubjectivity"

Phenomenology

10 January

Stein, E. *Zum Problem der Einfühlung* (selections)

17 January

Zahavi, D. *Subjectivity and Selfhood* (selections)

Smith, J. "Seeing Other People"

Embodiment

24 January

Spaulding, S. "Embodied Cognition and Mindreading"

Goldman, A. and de Vignemont, F. "Is social cognition embodied?"

The Narrative Approach

31 January

Hutto, D. "Folk Psychology as Narrative Practice"

Enactivism

7 February

De Jaegher, H. and Di Paolo, E. "Participatory sense-making: An enactive approach to social cognition"

De Jaegher, H., Di Paolo, E., and Gallagher, S. "Can social interaction constitute social cognition?"