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How to scientifically study the functions of consciousness: in search of the right paradigm

ELSC cordially invites you to the lecture given by:

Liad Mudrik

School of Psychological Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences, Tel Aviv University

On the topic of:

How to scientifically study the functions of consciousness: in search of the right paradigm

The lecture will be held on Thursday May 11th, 2017 at 17:00

at ELSC: Silberman Bldg., 3rd Wing, 8th Floor,

Edmond J. Safra Campus

Light refreshments served at 16:45

Abstract:

Generations of scholars of different disciplines have struggled with the mystery of conscious awareness. How does it come about? And, no less importantly, what does it do? To meet the challenge of scientifically operationalizing this question, different experimental manipulations have been developed. With these methods researchers managed to demonstrate surprisingly high-level forms of unconscious processing, like semantic integration, executive control, emotional judgments, reading and arithmetic operations. Consequently, some have suggested that consciousness may not hold any unique functional role. In this talk, I will present experiments which employ such methods, and point out their implications and limitations. I will then introduce our search for new means to probe unconscious processes, specifically targeting consciousness' role in integration of information and in voluntary control.

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