“Cognitive Neuroscience of Emotions in Older Adults: Theory of Mind and Self Conscious Emotions”

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ABSTRACT

Theory of Mind, the ability to evaluate and infer the mental state of ourselves and others affects many aspects of our everyday lives while disorders have been associated with dysfunctional ToM. Furthermore, self-conscious emotions, the emotions that form a self-representation, including guilt shame and self-disgust, when maladaptive have also been related to many disorders. Although there has been an increasing interest in literature focusing on either Theory of Mind or self-conscious emotions, the relationship between Theory of Mind and self-conscious emotions and how this relationship may develop with age has not yet been extensively addressed. This study aims to investigate whether Theory of Mind, and more specifically our ability to understand how others feel about us, affects self-conscious emotions, the formation of self-representation based on how we feel about ourselves, and how this relationship may be reflected in older adults.

The seminar series is open to all members of staff and students of CITY and to any externals that wish to attend.