

FED ERC Seminar

Learning about You and Me, Us and Them: Social Cognitive Development across Cultures

Date & Time: 2 Dec 2015, 13:00 – 14:00 (Light lunch begins at 12:30pm)

Venue: Room G021, Faculty of Education (E33)

Language: English

Audience: UM Staff / Postgraduate Students

Enquiries & Registration: Mr. Brendan LEI (FED_Event@umac.mo); Tel: 8822-4120

** Complementary light lunch will be provided.*

Abstract

Extensive research in psychology and other social science disciplines has demonstrated that humans are social beings, interacting with one another to weave the complex fabric of society. Even at an early age, children are sensitive to social norms and are quick learners about the society in which they live. Research on how people learn and think about social group information (i.e., information related to race and ethnicity, culture, gender, and other social groups) across the lifespan has formed a relatively new field within psychology known as social cognitive development. In my talk, I will present a series of my studies examining issues of social cognitive development across various cultures. Specifically, I investigate when children recognize social group differences and how this recognition impacts their preferences and decisions when learning and socializing with others. I will conclude my talk by discussing the insights social cognitive development research can offer for the education of our future generations.

Speaker



Eva E. CHEN received a B.A. in Psychology and an M.A. in Sociology from Stanford University, as well as an Ed.M. in Mind, Brain, and Education from Harvard. Prior to joining UST, Eva was a post-doctoral research fellow at The University of Hong Kong. Eva's research sits at the intersection of developmental, social, and cognitive psychology. She is interested in the learning processes of young children and adults across different social and cultural backgrounds; her studies have involved participants from a variety of racial groups in the U.S., Taiwan, and Hong Kong. She has also investigated early childhood education policies and its impact on young East Asian children's learning. In 2014, she was awarded an Early Career Scheme Fellowship from the Hong Kong Research Grants Council.