The School of Psychology invites you to a Special Seminar with

Dr. Anat Perry
Psychology Department
University of Haifa

on:

“Avoiding a "close talker": thoughts about interpersonal neuroscience from a social neuroscience perspective”

Tuesday, May 07th 2013, at 10:30
Faculty room, IDC Herzliya Campus

Despite the vast knowledge, both behavioral and neural, of the mechanisms defining space around a singular body, little is known about the neural mechanisms that encode space between bodies. Yet, the space between people creates and defines the social dynamics of our interactions with others. Although different between cultures, within each culture interpersonal distance is implicit but clearly felt, especially if one stands nearer or further than expected. To assess the neural dynamic of interpersonal distance preferences we used a revised version of the Comfortable Interpersonal Distance paradigm, in which participants imagine either a friend or stranger approaching (visualized on a computer screen) and are asked to stop the figure when feeling uncomfortable. Behavioral findings in 100 students indicated that preferred interpersonal distance is correlated with both measures of empathy and of social anxiety. I will present our ongoing work, in which we use the same paradigm to explore the neural dynamics of interpersonal distance using EEG, fMRI and hormonal studies in healthy and clinical groups. •