

# Psy2102 V15 Social Cognition

---

## Module 1: Nonverbal information and communication

### Lecture 1

- General introduction: What is social cognition? Overview of the four modules
- Questions for exam: How to prepare for the exam? How to read the articles?
- Schemas
- Automatic and controlled processes
- Nonverbal information about social category membership

### Lecture 2

- Behavioural mimicry
- Expression of emotions: Which emotions? Why do we express them?
- Facial mimicry

### 1<sup>st</sup> seminar: Appearance and social categorization

- Brief introduction to the texts
- Questions about them
- Discussing the answer drafts
- Empirical research: Research question, design and methods
  - o How to record EMG?
  - o Develop an empirical project about nonverbal information and communication

### References

Blair, I. V., Judd, C. M., Chapleau, K. M. (2004). The influence of Afrocentric facial features in criminal sentencing. *Psychological Science*, 15, 674–679.

Explain feature-based stereotyping!

Can you think of an example of the same process at work here in Norway?

Kurzban, R., Tooby, J., & Cosmides, L. (2001). Can race be erased ? Coalitional computation and social categorization, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science*, 98, 15387-15392.

What can we assess with the who-said-what paradigm and how can this be achieved?

Why is categorization by sex automatic, but categorization by race not, according to evolutionary psychology?

Unkelbach, C., Forgas, J. P., & Denson, T. F. (2008). The turban effect: The influence of Muslim headgear and induced affect on aggressive responses in the shooter bias paradigm. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 44, 1409–1413. doi:10.1016/j.jesp.2008.04.003

What is the shooter bias and how is it measured?

If we were to assess the shooter bias against Non-Caucasians wearing Muslim headgear what result would you expect? Explain!

# Psy2102 V15 Social Cognition

---

## 2nd seminar: Mimicry

- Brief introduction to the texts
- Questions about them
- Discussing the answer drafts
- Empirical research: Research question, design and methods
  - o How to record EMG?
  - o Develop an empirical project about nonverbal information and communication

### References

Heerey, E. A. & Crossley, H. M. (2013). Predictive and reactive mechanisms in smile reciprocity. *Psychological science*, 24(8), 1446–55. doi:10.1177/0956797612472203

What is anticipatory reciprocity? How does it emerge?

Neal, D. T., & Chartrand, T. L. (2011). Embodied Emotion Perception: Amplifying and Dampening Facial Feedback Modulates Emotion Perception Accuracy. *Social Psychological and Personality Science*, 2(6), 673–678. doi:10.1177/1948550611406138.

How convincing is the evidence for Botox reducing emotion recognition accuracy? (to answer this question, you should also do a search for other studies on the same issue!

Kouzakova, M., Van Baaren, R., & Van Knippenberg, A. (2010). Lack of behavioral imitation in human interactions enhances salivary cortisol levels. *Hormones and behavior*, 57(4-5), 421–6. doi:10.1016/j.yhbeh.2010.01.011

Why do people react with elevated cortisol to not being mimicked?

What is socially dependent cortisol reactivity?

What implications might the present findings have for health models and health interventions?

## 3rd seminar: rounding up

- Questions about the texts
- Discussing the answer drafts
- Empirical research: Discuss question, design and method
- Feedback on the module

### References

Chartrand, T. L., & Lakin, J. L. (2013). The antecedents and consequences of human behavioral mimicry. *Annual review of psychology*, 64, 285–308. doi:10.1146/annurev-psych-113011-143754

When do people tend to mimic each other behaviorally?

Explain what sorts of behavior can be mimicked! Should we train people to mimic?

Likowski, K. U., Muhlberger, A., Seibt, B., Pauli, P., Weyers, P. (2008). Modulation of facial mimicry by attitudes. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 44, 1065-1072.

How does having a negative attitude towards someone influence facial responses to facial emotional expressions of that person?