

“Gießener Abendgespräche Kognition und Gehirn“

Mittwochs, 18.00 bis 20.00 Uhr, Raum F009

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“It is not only words - Exploring instructed stimulus-response associations”

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Previous studies on item-specific priming have established the independence of two distinct components of acquired stimulus-response associations: Stimulus-Action (S-A) and Stimulus-Classification (S-C) associations. Here we show that merely instructing S-A and S-C mappings leads to associative learning and influences later behavior. More specifically, we demonstrate that item-specific switches in S-A and S-C mappings between a prime and a later corresponding probe trial independently affect reaction time and accuracy both when participants act upon prime stimuli as well as when participants are merely instructed about the correct action and classification associated with prime stimuli. In a number of experiments, we elaborate on the stability and durability of S-A and S-C associations instantiated by mere instruction.