

TGIF: The NTU Linguist Chatroom

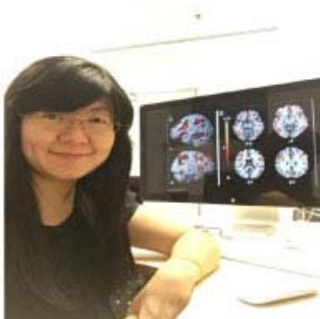


**Join us! Friday, 7 October 2016, 3.30pm
@ HSS Conference Room (HSS-05-57)**

Language, cognition, culture, and the brain

There has been growing evidence that demonstrates social cultural experiences, language background and other environmental factors may shape our brains and affect the way we see the world. In this talk, I will present neurophysiological and behavioral data that aim to investigate the interaction between language, culture and other human faculty in both the auditory and visual domains. In the auditory domain, I will show data from a series of behavioral and brain imaging studies that were tested on members from different cultural backgrounds (East-Asian and Western) to delineate culture-sensitive neural mechanisms of auditory perception. I will also present results of several studies that showed how knowledge in Chinese language translated into enhanced music pitch perceptual ability. In the visual domain, I will present two brain imaging experiments that employed rapid color discrimination paradigms suggested that language not only automatically engages during color perception but also potentially facilitates perception. I will discuss how this line of research challenges the existing assumption on cultural universality of sensory perception, and contributes to not only a more comprehensive understanding of how auditory and visual processing occurs in the real world, but will help in developing a new line of translational research on how diagnoses and treatments of language disorders should be appropriately contextualized to serve people of all cultures.

Speaker



Dr. Alice H.D. Chan is an Associate Professor in the Division of Linguistics and Multilingual Studies, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. Her research, utilizes behavioral measures and functional brain imaging methods, seeks to understand how experience such as language and social-cultural factors shape the brain and how these experience influence basic sensory perceptual patterns, learning, and cognition across the visual and auditory modalities

The TGIF seminar series is organised by
the Division of Linguistics and Multilingual Studies, HSS

