



Department of Psychology

The University of Hong Kong

香港大學心理學系

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Departmental Seminar

Unmasking the Inner World of ADHD: The Role of Temperament in Behavioural and Emotional Challenges



Ms. Kathy Kei Tsam Ling

PhD student

Department of Psychology

The University of Hong Kong

10:00a.m. – 11:00a.m.

Room 1103-1104, 11/F

The Jockey Club Tower

Centennial Campus

The University of Hong Kong

About the talk:

Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is commonly defined by its core symptoms of inattention, hyperactivity, and impulsivity. However, this diagnosis often tells only part of the story, as many children with ADHD also struggle with significant externalizing behaviours and internalizing symptoms. This leads to a critical question: why do some children with ADHD experience these difficulties while others do not?

This seminar presents research that moves beyond core symptoms to explore the fundamental role of temperament in shaping these diverse outcomes. We investigated two key temperamental pathways: Negative Emotionality and Self-Regulation. The presentation is structured around two innovative studies. Study 1 examined the relationships between temperament traits and children's difficulties, as well as the underlying mechanisms. Study 2 adopted a Virtual Reality (VR) paradigm to observe how children with ADHD react to challenging social situations and to explore the role of self-regulation in their behavioural and emotional responses.

Together, these studies demonstrate that a child's specific temperament profile is a critical mechanism underlying the diverse challenges associated with ADHD. This finding underscores the need for personalized assessment and interventions that target these individual differences.

About the speaker:

Kathy Kei is a final year PhD student supervised by Professor Kathy Shum. Her research interests lie in social and emotional functioning among children with ADHD.

Zoom Meeting (For participants who couldn't attend the Seminar in person)

<https://hku.zoom.us/j/6985555998?pwd=V05yTGJWNTIzazd2OFZ0Q3FReHVkdz09>

Meeting ID: 698 555 5998 | Password: Psyc

~ All are Welcome ~

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