

Understanding Behaviour – Why and How Psychologists Look at the Brain

By Prof Gina Rippon
Chair of Cognitive NeuroImaging in the School of Life and Health Sciences
Aston University

Date & Time Wednesday 2 June 18:30~20:00
Venue Event Space at the British Council Korea

ABSTRACT

The image of a psychologist is often of someone who uses questionnaires or personality tests to find explanations of behaviour, of how it changes from day to day, in different situations and at different times of our life. So it may be surprising to find that many psychologists are more like biologists and study brain structure and, more importantly, brain function.

This talk will look at how psychologists have 'got inside' the brain, from the early studies of bizarre changes in behaviour after brain damage to the role of exciting new developments in brain scanning in bringing us ever closer to understanding the relationship between brain and behaviour.

BIOGRAPHY



Professor Gina Rippon is Chair of Cognitive NeuroImaging in the School of Life and Health Sciences, Aston University. She is also Associate Dean of Postgraduate Taught Programmes and International Relations. The latter role has taken her to Korea, Vietnam and Singapore as well as the US and Australia.

She has a B.Sc. in Psychology and a PhD in Psychophysiology, both from the University of London. Her research interests are in applying brain imaging techniques, such as EEG, MEG and fMRI, to the study of normal and abnormal behavioural processes.

She has published on topics ranging from schizophrenia to developmental dyslexia and autism, as well as face processing and affective neuroscience. She teaches courses on Brain and Behaviour, Developmental Disorders and Clinical Neurosciences, as well as brain imaging research methods.

Professor Rippon is a past President of the British Association of Cognitive NeuroScience (previously British Psychophysiology Society) and a member of the Scientific Committee of the International Organisation of Psychophysiology.

Aston University

The International Office Aston University (www.aston.ac.uk/international)
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Aston, a research-led University, was founded in 1895. It has been recognised as a University since 1966 and is renowned for its excellent teaching quality and significant ties to industry, government and commerce. Based in the centre of Birmingham, it boasts a 40 acre-campus with academic, social and accommodation facilities. The University's student population of just over 8,800 comes from more than 120 countries.

This University, which is ranked 13th out of 113 UK Universities, is dedicated to superior education with innovative programmes.

The five main areas of study at the University are Aston Business School; the School of Engineering and Applied Science; the School of Languages and Social Sciences; the School of Life and Health Sciences; and Interdisciplinary Studies (for undergraduate studies).

Academic strengths

The University is committed to providing high quality, innovative programmes, which meet the needs of the professional world and prepare you for a challenging and rewarding career. Aston University is consistently highly ranked in various league/rankings tables.

The following subject areas have been assessed by the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) as Excellent (marks over 22 out of 24): business and management; biological sciences; French; German; optometry; pharmacy; and psychology.

Most of our bachelor's degrees offer you the choice to study on sandwich courses, which include a paid work placement or a study year at a partner institution. The work placement provides the opportunity to put knowledge into practice whilst gaining valuable professional experience to enhance your employment prospects.

Aston Graduates are highly sought after by many major international companies, and the University is consistently at the top of the league tables for graduate employment. 83 per cent of our students find graduate level employment within six months of graduation, compared to a national average of less than 70 per cent (2007 graduates).

Key facts

2008 League table rankings:

- The Times: 15th overall
- The Good University Guide: 12th overall

2009: League table rankings:

- The Guardian: 18th overall

2008 National Student Survey (NSS) confirmed that the overall student satisfaction levels on Aston's undergraduate programmes were 89 per cent.

Shortlisted for the Sunday Time University of the Year 2008.