

Joint Seminar

Departments of Linguistics and Translation (LT), Neuroscience (NS), and Social and Behavioural Sciences (SS)

10:30 - 12:00 PM
28 April 2025
(Monday)

Location

Room 2610, 2/F, Li Dak
Sum Yip Yio Chin
Academic Building (LI)

Register **NOW**



Enquiry

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Emotional Well-Being in Aging: Insights from resting fMRI Research

Speaker



Dr. ZHU Yiyi

Assistant Professor, Department of Social and Behavioural Sciences, CityUHK

Yiyi Zhu received his Ph.D. in social psychology from the University of Texas at Dallas in 2023 and is now a faculty member in the Department of Social and Behavioural Sciences. Before joining CityU, he was a postdoctoral research associate at the Institute on Aging at the University of Wisconsin–Madison

His research integrates health psychology, social and behavioral sciences, and neuroscience to examine the relationships among emotional well-being, health, and sociocultural influences—particularly in older adults.

Abstract

Aging is an inevitable process that influences various aspects of well-being, with brain aging serving as an important biomarker of this process. This presentation focuses on how aging affects resting-state functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) properties and how these neural changes are linked to emotional well-being. It will highlight preliminary findings from three ongoing projects that examine the brain's role in emotional well-being during the aging process. First, we examined age-related differences in hippocampal resting-state functional connectivity and explored whether these differences were further associated with a sense of purpose in life—an essential component of psychological well-being in older adulthood.

Second, we investigated how aging relates to amygdala connectivity and how such changes may influence emotional processing. Finally, we explored how accumulative stress and environmental factors, such as area deprivation, contribute to variability in both inter- and intra-network connectivity. Together, these research efforts aim to enhance our understanding of the brain as a dynamic marker of aging and its implications for emotional well-being across diverse social and environmental contexts.