

DIALOGUES

THU
4/27

one book
partner
event

Dan Simons

Signal & Noise in Science

4-5:30pm, Swift Hall 107

The primary purpose of science is the search for robust and consistent patterns in the noise. Yet, scientists are fallible, subject to the same biases, flawed intuitions, and statistical errors that affect everyday reasoning. Professor Daniel Simons (University of Illinois) will discuss how these reasoning errors have led to a reproducibility 'crisis' and how improved scientific

practices can better filter the signal from the noise. His talk will be followed by a panel of three Northwestern faculty: Jennifer Tackett, Blake McShane, and Eli Finkel.



WED
5/17

one book
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event

Niko Kriegeskorte & Tom Griffiths

Is the route to human level intelligence paved with Big Data?

4-6:15pm, Location TBA

Will new advances in machine learning combine with Big Data to produce a better understanding of the human mind and brain? What do the successes and limitations of these new

techniques tell us about human thought? Join experts Niko Kriegeskorte (UCL) and Tom Griffiths (Berkeley), and a panel of Northwestern faculty: Mitra

Hartmann, Jennifer Cole, Ken Forbus, and Bryan Pardo.



TUE
1/10

Ernest Davis, NYU

Simulation in Cognitive Models: Scope and Limits

4-5:30pm, Swift Hall 107

Representing commonsense knowledge requires that we take basic knowledge about the real world that is common to all humans, and express it in a form that is systematic enough to be used by a computer program.



TUE
1/17

one book
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Allison McCann, VICE News Tonight

Against Boring Charts

2-3:00pm, Swift Hall 107

Allison McCann is a data reporter at Vice News Tonight, a nightly news show on HBO, and an adjunct professor at Parsons The New School in the Master of Science in Data Visualization program. She previously worked at FiveThirtyEight as a visual journalist; analyzing data, reporting, writing, designing and developing both static and interactive graphics.



TUE
2/7

Tony Ro, CUNY

4-5:30pm, Swift Hall 107

Tony Ro's work examines the cognitive and neural basis for attention, perception, and consciousness. This talk will focus on his research on unconscious and conscious perception using transcranial magnetic stimulation and electrophysiological recordings.



WED
2/15

one book
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Hilary Fung, Quartz

Data stories on the go

11-12:15pm, Tech LR4

Hilary Fung (Medill '13) is editor of Atlas, a platform for charts and data, at Quartz. She previously was a visual editor at The Huffington Post, where she used data and visuals to tell news and enterprise stories.



TUE
2/28

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Sara Grady, HELIX

TUTORIAL: Telling the stories of your analysis

4-5:30pm, Swift Hall 107

Neuroscience, psychology, and learning design researchers keep confirming what may seem obvious: storytelling is a key way human minds remember and make sense of information. Sara Grady – editor of HELIX magazine and science writing instructor at Northwestern – will unpack successful science stories and explore the nuts and bolts of narrative.



TUE
3/7

one book
partner
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Steve Franconeri, Northwestern

TUTORIAL: Now they see it... Visual communication of the patterns in your data

4-5:30pm, Swift Hall 107

Psychology Professor Steven Franconeri will combine an overview of data visualization techniques with hands-on exercises to illustrate how to clearly present your data to both your research colleagues and to non-technical audiences.



TUE
5/2

CogSci Fest

4-5:30pm, Swift Hall 107

Hear about the work of graduate Cognitive Science Advanced Fellowship winners and senior thesis students.



TUE
5/9

Michael Strevens, NYU

Conceptual Innovation in Science without Definitions

4-5:30pm, Swift Hall 107

Dr. Strevens will give a new account, about one-half philosophy and one-half psychology, of how novel scientific concepts -- such as 'magnetism', 'phlogiston', 'phylum', 'gene', 'general intelligence', 'symbolic capital' -- are introduced into science.



TBA

Elissa Newport, Georgetown University Medical Center

4-5:30pm, Swift Hall 107

Dr. Newport runs the Pediatric Stroke Research Project and the Learning and Development Lab. She studies the relationship between language acquisition and language structure.



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Amanda Cox, Editor, NYT Upshot

Amanda Cox is a statistician, data visualization expert, and visual journalist. She is the editor of the New York Times' Upshot, where her team creates clear explanations of data-driven analyses.



Cognitive Science SPEAKER SERIES '16-17