**Proseminarium 3 BA: Psychology of Language and Cognition**

**dr Agata Dymarska**

The course offers an introduction to psychological theories of cognition, with a focus on the intricate relationship between language and mental processes. Students will explore foundational concepts such as language processing, object recognition and categorisation, forming and maintaining memories. We will examine how language supports these processes and identify additional information sources that humans (and machines) rely on in order to make sense of the world and carry out mental tasks.

We will also examine situations where language alone is insufficient and investigate other sources of information that humans rely on—often referred to as embodied experiences. These experiences, rooted in physical and sensory interactions with the world, play a crucial role in complementing language for fully performing cognitive tasks. In light of recent technological developments in large language models, we will evaluate language-based performance of artificial intelligence and discuss ways to bridge the gap between language-based artificial intelligence and human intelligence.

Additionally, students will have an opportunity to explore a selected topic from behavioural science, applying psychological insights to real-world contexts (e.g., environmental psychology, consumer behaviour, social norms, stereotypical thinking).