

Department of Economics – Neuroeconomics Seminar

May 16, 2024 - 17:00 - 18:00

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The neuroscience of multiple decision systems: From rats to neuroeconomics and psychiatry

I will start with our work putting deliberative (planning through episodic future thinking) and procedural (habit, cached-action) systems into conflict, which allowed us to open up the neurophysiological mechanisms underlying their computations. We will explore interacting circuits of prefrontal cortex, hippocampus, dorsolateral striatum, and nucleus accumbens. Then I will show how this computational perspective provides a new microeconomic model and suggests consequences of that new microeconomic model. I will show that the treatment of addiction through contingency management works better than expected and, using that computational understanding of the neurophysiology of decision making, provide a hypothesis as to why.