



**University of  
Zurich** <sup>UZH</sup>

## Department of Economics – Neuroeconomics Seminar

**March 26, 2026 - 17:00 - 18:00**

Yael Niv  
Princeton University

### **Latent cause inference and mental health**

No two events are alike. But still, we learn, which means that we implicitly decide what events are similar enough that experience with one can inform us about what to do in another. We have suggested that this relies on parsing of incoming information into “clusters” according to inferred hidden (latent) causes, and in a presentation 5 years ago in Zurich, I detailed how latent causes can illuminate the structure of memory. In this talk, I will focus on individual differences in latent cause inference, and how these may be related to mental health conditions and to the capacity to benefit from cognitive behavioral therapy.