

Psychology Research Seminar

**Speaker:** Associate Professor Guillermo Campitelli

**Title:** A Bayesian interlude with an expertise touch

**Where:** [Kim Beazley Lecture Theatre \(351.1.001\)](#)

**When:** 12:30 – 14:30, Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2019

**Host:** Dr Matthew Thompson

**Abstract**

The 21<sup>st</sup> century has witnessed an exponential increase on scientists' interest in Bayesianism. The Bayes theorem is a simple equation in probability theory that gave rise to new theoretical and methodological approaches in philosophy of science, statistics, psychology and neuroscience. Although the simplest version of the Bayes theorem is computationally relatively easy to solve, we humans are very bad at doing so. After introducing the general ideas underlying Bayesian approaches, in this seminar Associate Professor Guillermo Campitelli will show research in Bayesian reasoning, depict his expertise approach to explain results, and present his research inspired by that approach. In the second part of the seminar, he will introduce Bayesian approaches in statistics and his view on how they could help psychologists improve their research practices.

**Biography**

Associate Professor Guillermo Campitelli obtained a degree in psychology at the University of Buenos Aires (Argentina) in 1999, a PhD in Psychology in The University of Nottingham (United Kingdom) in 2003, and held postdoctoral positions in Brunel University London (UK), Argentine Research Council and Edith Cowan University, and lectureship positions at University of Buenos Aires, Open Interamerican University (Argentina), Edith Cowan University, and he joined Murdoch University in February 2019.

His main areas of research are the psychology of expertise, and the psychology of judgement and decision making. His research on chess expertise led to the alleged refutation of the deliberate practice framework (popularised as the 10,000 hours rule). The goal of his research is to understand the nature and acquisition of expertise and also general cognitive processes such as learning, memory, imagery, judgement and decision making. In 2018, together with Prof. Zach Hambrick (Michigan State University), launched the open access *Journal of Expertise*, and it is currently its co-editor.

In recent years his research has taken a Bayesian twist, with interests on the use of Bayesian principles in statistics and on how people solve Bayesian reasoning problems. The ultimate goal of this research is to develop training tools to help people improve their understanding of



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probabilities, which would allow them to make better judgements and decisions.

**Meeting the presenter:**

To arrange a meeting with the presenter, please contact the host.