UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Functional MRI Laboratory

Functional MRI Laboratory Speaker Series

When: Tuesday, March 19, 3:30 – 5:00
Where: East Hall, Room 4448

Speaker: Russell Poldrack, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Psychology and Department of Neurobiology
Director, Imaging Research Center
University of Texas at Austin

Specialization: Dr. Poldrack's research uses functional neuroimaging to understand the neural bases of adaptive behavior, working at the intersection of learning and memory, decision making, and executive function. He is also interested in new methods for neuroimaging analysis as well as foundational questions about what kinds of questions neuroimaging can answer.

Presentation Title: Relating Neural and Mental Representations Using fMRI

ABSTRACT

Dr. Poldrack will discuss a set of studies that have examined how the activity patterns, evoked by specific stimuli, relate to one another, in order to understand how mental representational spaces are instantiated neurally. Analyses of the similarity of neural patterns show that global similarity computations, which have long been central to psychological theories of memory and categorization, are predictive of behavior across multiple task contexts. He will further discuss how representational similarity approaches can be used to directly test psychological theories.