

# Psycho Club

Multi-modal synchrony  
in dyadic interactions

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Victoria University of Wellington

Guest lecture hosted by Prof.  
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Padova

September 24th 2025,  
11.00 a.m. - 12.00 p.m.  
Room 2B (100 seats)  
via Venezia, 12 Padova

Attendance Event

<https://www.psicologia.unipd.it/psycho-club-program>



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DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY,  
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AND APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY

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Human social interactions hold a lot of potential, with both positive and negative effects. Especially in person, a dyadic (two people) interaction involves multiple modes of communication: Speech, including spoken words and vocal characteristics, as well as behaviour, including body movements and facial movements. Given their visible and audible dominance, variations in speech and behaviour come to mind when trying to understand what characterises interactions with positive outcomes. In fact, synchrony and reactivity on the level of speech and behaviour show that dyadic interactions can be related to better health or performance. But there is yet another mode involved in social interactions: Physiological activity, which might not only reflect reactivity to the experience of the interaction or drive behaviour during interactions, but might also interact or synchronise. Based on a study in which two people shared life events with each other (eMotion project), we investigated the way that behavioural and physiological synchrony interact to predict feelings of closeness, depending on the emotional valence of the shared events as well as on interindividual differences in traits like empathy and psychopathy. Increasing our understanding of the fluctuations of behavioural and physiological synchrony might have limitations, but will contribute to the understanding of the role of constructed emotions in social interactions.

