

The University of Hong Kong
Department of Psychology

Departmental Seminar

***Unpacking the Creative Benefits of
Multicultural Experience***

Date: November 3, 2014 (Monday)

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Venue: Room 8.13, 8/F The Jockey Club Tower, Centennial Campus,
HKU

Speaker: Dr. Angela K.Y. Leung, Ph.D.

School of Social Sciences, Singapore Management University

With increased connectivity among different nations, individuals encounter unprecedented opportunities to meet with foreign cultures that are strikingly different from their own. Emerging empirical evidence has lent support for the positive relationship between multicultural experience and creativity. In this talk, I will present my research concerning the roles played by cognitions, emotions, and motivations underlying the relationship between multicultural experience and creativity. Inspired by the creative cognition paradigm, I first studied the cognitive mechanisms, a “cool” system accounting for the creative benefits of multicultural experiences. Next, going beyond the “cool” creative cognition approach, I gained new insights into the link between multicultural experience and creativity by examining the “hot” emotional and motivational systems. These findings help illuminate the psychological underpinnings of why simultaneous exposure to diverse cultures would promote one’s creative bandwidth.