

Lecture 3 - Cultural Evolutionary Psychology.

15th December 2017. 5.30pm – 7.00pm

Evolutionary psychology was an important advance in understanding human origins. Previously, bodies, brains and behaviour had been subjected to evolutionary analysis while the mind sat on a shelf. Now, in the light of new evidence, evolutionary psychology needs to be extended to embrace cultural as well as genetic inheritance; the profound effects of social interaction in shaping the mind. What are the priorities for this new approach? Is it really 'evolutionary' in the Darwinian sense? What does it imply about human nature, and our capacity to meet radically new social and technological challenges? In this final lecture, I will consider the prospects for 'cultural evolutionary psychology'.