

The influence of temporal information associated with verbs on understanding, imagining, and remembering

Speaker Todd Ferretti, PhD Wilfrid Laurier University

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Abstract

In this talk, I discuss recent advances from my lab on the mental representation of events during the crucial cognitive processes of understanding, imagining, and remembering. The main goal of this research is to examine how temporal information associated with verbs (grammatical and semantic) combine to constrain these processes. A second goal is to examine the neurocognitive correlates of these processes by employing Event-Related Potential methodology. I will present evidence that the inherent temporal semantics of verbs interact differentially with grammatical inflections to constrain the ease of representing events and also the content of those representations. These results have important implications for our understanding of how people mentally represent events denoted by verbs.

Brief bio

Dr. Todd Ferretti is an associate professor in the Department of Psychology and Centre for Cognitive Neuroscience at Wilfrid Laurier University. He received his Ph.D from the University of Western Ontario and held a Post Doctoral Fellowship at the University of California, San Diego. His primary research interests include the neurocognitive basis of language comprehension, the mental



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representation of events, and autobiographical memory retrieval.

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Please note that light refreshments will be served after the talk. For more information, contact Prof. V. Dwivedi at 905-688-5550 x5389 or email vdwivedi@brocku.ca

Department of Applied Linguistics Speaker Series

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