



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI PALERMO

DIPARTIMENTO DI SCIENZE POLITICHE E
DELLE RELAZIONI INTERNAZIONALI - DEMS

Via Maqueda 324, PALERMO

Bando CORI 2022, referente prof. Alessandra Riccobene

The Psychology of False Beliefs in Sport Management and Athletic Performance

Prof. Eric Ruthruff

Department of Psychology – University of New Mexico - USA

Humans have evolved to become by far the smartest species on the planet, yet we are easily fooled. Despite unprecedented access to information, false beliefs continue to plague society. Examples include wrongful convictions, overconfidence, bad science, and belief in unrealistic things. False beliefs heavily affect our performance in sports, at work, and in every other aspect of our life. We are easily deceived not only by others (e.g., coaches, team members, colleagues, employees, politicians) but also by ourselves. Intellectuals, even Nobel laureates, are not immune. So why exactly are we so prone to false beliefs and how can we prevent or correct false beliefs? The focus of this seminar will be on empirical research studies showing the main sources of false beliefs in sport management and athletic performance and the most effective tools to prevent and correct them. Specific topics covered will include the following:

Lunedì 29 Aprile ore 10:00/12:00 - Aula 2

The biases that blind sports managers and athletes to the truth
Reasoning is merely a slave to our intuitions

Martedì 30 aprile ore 16:00/18:00 - Aula 2

False memory and the satanic panic
Self-delusion and overconfidence in sport

Giovedì 2 maggio ore 11.30/13:30 - Aula 2

Individual differences in susceptibility to false beliefs
The replication crisis – bad science and how to fix the problem

Lunedì 6 maggio ore 10:00/12:00 - Aula 2

Research on correcting cognitive errors of athletes and sports managers
Conclusions

Le lezioni si terranno nei locali di Via U.A. Amico, n. 2.