

From Vulnerability to Psychological Resilience: Focusing on Individual Differences to Promote High-Quality Preschool Education

Date: 15 November 2024 (Fri)

Time: 11:00-12:00

Venue: E33-2036, Faculty of Education

Language: English

Registration: Online Registration (<https://go.um.edu.mo/36exw2zc> or )

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Speaker:

Prof. Ni YAN is a Professor at the Faculty of Psychology, Southwest University. She is a key researcher at the Ministry of Education's Key Laboratory of Cognitive and Personality Research. Prof. Yan was awarded with Chongqing Young Talent Program in 2022. Her research aligns with the national “Healthy China” strategy, focusing on the biological-psychological-social framework of early childhood development. Her work centers on understanding and intervening in preschoolers’ problem behaviors, developing a research and intervention system that transitions from “healthy children” to “healthy families.” Prof. Yan has published in top-tier journals such as *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, *Child Development*, *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, and *Developmental Psychology*. She will join the editorial boards of *Developmental Psychology* and the *Journal of Research on Adolescence* in 2025 and is currently on the editorial boards of *Early Education and Development* and the *Journal of Pacific Rim Psychology*.

Abstract:

High-quality preschool education is closely associated with children’s social-emotional skills, mathematical abilities, and language development, and it has the potential to predict brain development and social adaptation during adolescence and adulthood. This talk addresses whether children exhibit different responses to identical educational interactions and parenting environments, focusing on their differential susceptibility to environmental influences. It will present three theoretical models that elucidate how and why children may display varying degrees of vulnerability, sensitivity, and resilience to early environmental factors. The discussion will be supported by a series of studies conducted both in Prof. Yan’s lab and internationally. The goal is to shed light on how to foster optimal child development in the face of current global changes and challenges, with a focus on leveraging individual differences to enhance the quality of preschool education.