

The Body-Project: interdisciplinary investigations on bodily experiences

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The body, as the subject or the object of our experience, mediates all our interactions between our mind and the world. Not surprisingly, both the human experience of the body itself and the concepts used to depict it are steeped in cultural and intellectual history. However, the experience of the body is rarely invoked in a unanimous manner in life sciences, mind sciences and the humanities. Could the experience of one's body be conceptualized as a straight physiological process, a psychological structure, or an essentially private, scientifically inaccessible, subjective event? The project prototypical combines different components of bodily experience: the sense of body-ownership ("this my body"); the sense of agency ("this is my action"); the bodily first-person perspective (e.g. "the pen is to my left"). Eight focused and interrelated research projects will investigate the complex interdependent relations between body and actions, body and self, and body and world.

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