

## **Seminar IRH-ICUB**

### **Consciousness and Cognition: An Interdisciplinary Approach**

<https://irhunibuc.wordpress.com/2016/04/05/new-seminar-consciousness-in-philosophy-and-neuroscience/>

**convenor Dr. Diana Stanciu**

<https://irhunibuc.wordpress.com/associated-members/>

**Date: Tuesday, 6 June 2017, 17h**

**Place: IRH-ICUB (1 D. Brandza Str.), conference room**

## **Dr. Violeta Caragea**

**Institute of Educational Sciences, Bucharest**

**Violeta Caragea** obtained her BA (2006), MA (2008) and PhD (2011) in Education at the University of Bucharest. Since 2016 she has also been studying Neurobiology (MSc) at the University of Bucharest, Faculty of Biology. She is currently employed as a researcher at the Institute of Educational Sciences, where she coordinates the pilot project called *Neurosciences' Valences for Improving Educational Practice*. As a first step, this pilot project aims to review the literature in educational neuroscience investigating the influence that the school environment has on primary and secondary school students' learning performance. Violeta's main research interests are related to cognitive enhancement, while approaching this from two perspectives – one of the education sciences (with a focus on self-directed learning techniques) and one of the neurobiology (with a focus on long-term potentiation mechanisms).

### ***The Emergence of Educational Neuroscience – New Perspectives on Learning Enhancement***

Educational neuroscience is an emerging research field aiming to bridge new discoveries in neuroscience with educational research and practice. From the initial investigation of the effects of handwriting experience on the developing brain to the attempt to find the best mathematical training approach for adolescents or to the use of mindfulness techniques to enhance students' metacognitive skills, this new field of research seems to promise valuable input for improving both educational practice and policy. Educational neuroscience theorists consider that, just as various scientific discoveries revolutionized the medical practice in the last few centuries, neuroscience could also bring critical changes for education in the near future. Considering learning as a key element both for cognition and consciousness, I consider that facilitating better learning could consequently lead to a more advanced interplay of these two phenomena. In my talk, I will summarize the preliminary findings of our pilot project regarding the emergence of the educational neuroscience research in its quest for better learning.