Implicit bias is an automatic reaction we have towards other people. These attitudes and stereotypes can negatively impact our understanding, actions, and decision-making. The idea that we can hold prejudices we don’t want or consciously believe was quite radical when it was first introduced, and the fact that people may discriminate unintentionally continues to have implications for understanding disparities in so many aspects of society, including but not limited to health care, policing, and education, as well as organizational practices like hiring and promotion.

We will be hosting a virtual session on implicit bias presented by Sylvia Perry, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Psychology at Northwestern University from Project Implicit. The objectives of the Education Session are to raise awareness of our biases; to explore how researchers measure and understand identity-based biases; and to provide actionable steps that we can take to prevent and mitigate the impact of biases. We invite you to join us for this important discussion about how hidden biases we carry from a lifetime of exposure to cultural attitudes and stereotypes may be influencing our decisions and leading to unintended consequences.

Join us Wednesday, Jan. 26  
noon to 1:30 p.m. EST

Sylvia Perry, Ph.D., investigates how bias awareness develops, and the implications of bias awareness for prejudice reduction, intergroup contact, and health disparities. She has over 30 publications on these topics and has received numerous awards for her teaching and research, including an award for the best paper by the Association for Medical Education in Europe. Dr. Perry’s work has been featured by several national and international media outlets, including The Washington Post and National Public Radio. She currently serves on the editorial board for Social Psychological and Personality Science and serves as a reviewer for the National Science Foundation and the Russell Sage Foundation. Dr. Perry is an investigator on the Medical Student CHANGE Study, a team of medical practitioners and researchers conducting a large scale, longitudinal project on medical student trainees’ judgement and decision-making. She has provided educational consulting services for organizations such as Paradigm, the Einstein Montefiore Center for Continuing Medical Education, and the Mayo Clinic.

Dr. Perry earned a B.A. in Psychology from the University of North Texas and her Ph.D. in Social Psychology from the University of Illinois at Chicago. She was a National Institutes of Health postdoctoral associate at Yale University and served on the faculty of the University of Vermont.

Register Now! We will provide a free copy of the book, “Blindspot: Hidden Biases of Good People”, by Mahzarin R. Banaji and Anthony G. Greenwald for the first 100 WMU staff, students, faculty or emeriti registering for the Project Implicit event.

Complimentary copies of the book will be available to pick up in the College of Arts and Sciences Dean’s Office, located in 2304 Friedmann Hall. You will receive an email with further instructions regarding pick-up when the books arrive. If you have questions, contact the CAS Dean’s Office at: (269) 387-4169