



Emotion Explained (Series in Affective Science)

By Edmund T. Rolls

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What produces emotions? Why do we have emotions? How do we have emotions? Why do emotional states feel like something? This book seeks explanations of emotion by considering these questions. Emotion continues to be a topic of enormous scientific interest. This new book, a successor to 'The Brain and Emotion', (OUP, 1998), describes the nature, functions, and brain mechanisms that underlie both emotion and motivation. 'Emotion Explained' goes beyond examining brain mechanisms of emotion, by proposing a theory of what emotions are, and an evolutionary, Darwinian, theory of the adaptive value of emotion. It also shows that there is a clear relationship between motivation and emotion. The book also examines how cognitive states can modulate emotions, and in turn, how emotions can influence cognitive states. It considers the role of sexual selection in the evolution of affective behaviour. It also examines emotion and decision making, with links to the burgeoning field of neuroeconomics. The book is also unique in considering emotion at several levels - the neurophysiological, neuroimaging, neuropsychological, behavioural, and computational neuroscience levels.

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Editorial Review

Review

I would strongly recommend this book to any neuroscientist or psychologist interested in emotion ... it should be required reading for all students in behavioural neuroscience, and has sufficient breadth that many of its chapters will be of interest also to experts in neurology, psychology or philosophy. Brain

About the Author

Edmund T. Rolls is Professor of Experimental Psychology at the University of Oxford, and a Fellow and Tutor of Corpus Christi College, Oxford. He read preclinical medicine at the University of Cambridge, and now performs research in neuroscience at Oxford. His research links neurophysiological and computational neuroscience approaches to human functional neuroimaging and neuropsychological studies in order to provide a fundamental basis for understanding human brain function and its disorders. He is author of The Brain and Emotion (1999, Oxford University Press), with A.Treves of Neural Networks and Brain Function (1998, Oxford University Press), and with G.Deco of Computational Neuroscience of Vision (2002, Oxford University Press).

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