Prior research in the area of metacognition has demonstrated evidence of the stable and reliable metacognitive construct of Self-confidence across cognitive domains in adults and children (see Stankov, Kleitman, & Jackson, 2015 for a review). Prof. Sabina Kleitman will provide an overview of her research on the Self-Confidence trait (captured by confidence judgments following each item on a variety of measures capturing cognitive abilities, opinions and life events) and its powerful role in decision-making and learning (overall N’s > 8,000). She recently ventured into the development of new methodologies focused on capturing important, yet difficult to measure human traits (e.g., mental adaptability/resilience) in objective quantitative ways, without utilising traditional psychological surveys that are open to response distortion, self-deception and faking, especially in high-stake situations. She will present her most recent research (conducted in collaboration with the Australian Defence Science and Technology Group) on the development of a novel methodology to capture adaptable decision-making using simulation-embedded cognitive metrics. A demonstration of the simulation will be shown along with the results (N=109). The implications for theory and assessment practices will be discussed. Finally, she will briefly present the results of two recent studies on individual differences in deception: face-to-face (lie detection, NAustralian=126, NGerman=117) and cyber (susceptibility to phishing, N=150).
Bio: Prof Sabina Kleitman’s principle areas of interest and expertise are metacognition, decision-making, and differential psychology. Her focus is on the psychological trait of Self-confidence (and its bias) and its powerful role in: learning; decision-making; one's ability to adapt to novel and unpredictable events; and well-being. Her current research examines the ability to adapt to unpredictable changes in task demands. Understanding and managing this ability offers global benefits. Her research is multi-disciplinary and end-user driven (focusing on the development of new methodologies and tools). She has published 46 research outputs and has been cited more than 2,000 times with an h-index of 19. Some of her papers have been recognised as key publications in the area of Metacognition.