

2018 Una Ridley Lecture

Gam(bl)ing realities in the new digital era: Epistemological shifts and challenges for public health



With the digitalization of gambling and gaming, the lines of inquiry are more likely to cross over various systems raising questions about their distinctive natures and overlaps. The impact of the translation of gambling and gaming onto the Internet might be multiple with several points of convergence and differences. This presentation will discuss the implication of the hybridization process between gambling and some forms of games in the digital space, and the challenges that we are confronted by with the emergence of new forms of games. It will 1) address the epistemological and methodological shifts that have been occurring with the overlapping of gambling and pay-to-win games; 2) present an epidemiological analysis of the profile of users of traditional gambling activities and new emerging pay-to-win games; and 3) investigate the harms associated with forms of games using a public health approach.

Dr. Sylvia Kairouz is an associate professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Concordia University. She has published extensively in sociology, social epidemiology and public health journals and won the Brain Star Award of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research for her innovative work on the role of social contexts in addictive behaviors. She is currently engaged in funded research examining comprehensive multilevel models of determinants of gambling behaviours. She has piloted six large population surveys in Quebec over the last five years and collaborates with

scholars and key institutions in Quebec, Canada and internationally. She holds an FQRSC research chair on the study of gambling and is the head of the Lifestyle and Addiction Research Lab at Concordia University.





Tuesday, November 20, 3:00 pm – AH100 (Andy's Place)