

Colorado

# CAFÉ SCIENTIFIQUE

Tuesday 10 April 2012

at the Wynkoop Brewing Company

<http://www.wynkoop.com/>

Corner of 18<sup>th</sup> and Wynkoop in LoDo, Denver

*About a block from Light Rail. Thirteen minutes by foot from Auraria.*

## ***THOUGHTS AS THINGS:***

*Placebo effects and brain systems that regulate pain and emotion*

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It is widely believed that the contents of thought, and in particular the meaning ascribed to situations and events, can influence health in important ways. But how, and where, are such thoughts formed in the brain, and what are their effects? Can simply believing in a treatment reduce pain, or even change your physiology? Would it be ethical to fool patients, even if it meant a possible benefit to them? I will discuss the emerging neuroscience of belief and its effects on brain and body.

***EVERYONE IS WELCOME.*** The discussion starts at 6:30 in the Mercantile Room (no food service there). Come before 6 PM to leave yourself time to get something to eat, or stay and eat afterwards. We end around 8 PM.

There's no charge. The Wynkoop is generously providing the facility; we buy our own drinks. It is first come, first seated, and **seating is limited** so that everyone can take part in the discussion.

The Colorado Café Scientifique is organized by an informal group of faculty from CU and institutions up and down the Front Range, as well as science fans from industry, government and elsewhere. We welcome your input, including ideas for speakers and topics. Bring them with you to the next Café, or e-mail them and any questions to [John.Cohen@UCDenver.edu](mailto:John.Cohen@UCDenver.edu)

**Essential information about the topic and the event on our Web site at:  
<http://CafeSciColorado.org>**