

# **CHYS Colloquium Series**

Fall 2012

**Wednesday, October 3, 1:00 – 2:00**

Location: CRN - 336

Politics, Participation & Power Relations – Transdisciplinary Approaches to Critical Citizenship in the Classroom and Community.

**Dr. Richard Mitchell**

*Department of Child and Youth Studies, Brock University*

Coffee and refreshments will be served

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**Monday, October 29, 9:30 – 11:00**

Location: CRN - 336

Relationships and Child Stress in Rural Dominica (tentative title)

NOTE: A graduate student talk will also be scheduled for this CRISS-sponsored speaker

**Dr. Mark Flinn**

*Department of Anthropology, University of Columbia, Missouri*

Coffee and refreshments will be served

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Winter 2013

**Monday, February 25, 10:00 – 11:00**

Location: CRN – 336

Reading, Comprehension and the Quality of Learning

**Dr. John Kirby**

*Department of Education, Queen's University*

Coffee and refreshments will be served

Winter 2013

**Monday, March 4, 10:00 – 11:00**

Location: CRN – 336

Evidence of Functional Specialization in Social Cognition

Abstract:

In this talk I will describe a programme of research exploring social cognition that is motivated by evolutionary psychology. Evidence of functional specialization is of central interest to evolutionary psychologists: When we observe and describe a trait, evolution minded scientists want to know what that trait was designed for. This is no less true in psychology, where evolutionary psychologists describe psychological processes in terms of their function: How is the mind designed to perceive, store and use available information? My particular focus is social cognition, and I will describe evidence that the Theory of Mind Mechanism is dissociable, evidence that the cheater detection mechanism is indeed specialized for cheater detection, and work that explores functional specialization in the relationship between emotion categories.

**Mel Rutherford**

*Department of Psychology, McMaster University*

Coffee and refreshments will be served