



**Carleton**  
UNIVERSITY

## **Forensic Psychology Research Centre (FPRC)**

### **Brown Bag Lunch Series**

**2013-2014**

**Dr. Joseph Eastwood, UOIT**

*“You Have the Right to Remain Confused: Comprehension of Legal Rights in Police Interrogations”*

Individuals facing a police interview in Canada are made aware of various legal rights (e.g., right to silence) through the delivery of a passage of text known as a police caution. It is imperative that interviewees understand the legal rights contained in those cautions for the dual purpose of protecting their rights and ensuring the admissibility of their statements. The current presentation will outline findings from a series of recent studies that demonstrated (a) people struggle to understand the legal rights afforded to them in police interviews, and (b) this lack of comprehension may relate to the complex wording and structure of the documents used to deliver these rights. The implications of these findings for the administration of justice, as well as suggestions for improving the current state of affairs, will be discussed.

**Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

**12:00-1:00pm**

**Loeb D780**

