



## COLLOQUIUM SERIES

### **“Uptake, Testimony, and Content Preservation”**

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Following Tyler Burge, some epistemologists of testimony have assumed or avowed that an audience is rationally entitled to the assumption of *content preservation* in a chain of testimonial exchanges leading up the audience's being testified to. Applying some empirical results of social psychology and some conceptual tools of language pragmatics to the case of *oral traditions*, I argue that testimonial chains tend to aggregate the effects of successive audience's uptake on their content. Content preservation is not easily viewed as a rational entitlement, in light of these reflections. A more richly informed view of the interplay between pragmatics and cognition, I argue, sheds a somewhat different light on the epistemology of testimony than the literature otherwise reflects.

**Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014**

**Room: 3202 River Building**

**Time: 3:00 pm**

***All are welcome!***