

## COLLOQUIUM SERIES

### Introducing a broad metatheory of behavior: Initial tests in the domains of intimate partner violence and overeating

**Date: March 25, 2011**

**Location: 3M Centre, Room 3250**

**Time: 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm**



**Dr. Eli Finkel**  
Northwestern University  
Department of Psychology

#### **ABSTRACT:**

This talk introduces a novel metatheory,  $I^3$  Theory (pronounced “I-Cubed Theory”), to impose theoretical coherence on the various predictors of behavior. It then presents two lines of research designed to test the metatheory. The first line examines intimate partner violence, investigating predictors such as provocation, dispositional anger, and executive control (Stroop performance). The second line examines overeating, investigating predictors such as social anchoring, hedonic habituation rate, and depletion. Results from all studies demonstrate that the propensity to enact a given behavior (e.g., violence or externally triggered overeating) is strongest when the three processes implied by  $I^3$  Theory—Instigation, Impellance, and (low) Inhibition – are present than when even one of them is absent. In short, these three processes appear to be both necessary and sufficient to account for behavior across a broad spectrum of domains and contexts.

Please email: [webpsych@uwo.ca](mailto:webpsych@uwo.ca) if you require information in an alternate format, or if any other arrangements can make this event accessible to you; website: <http://www.psychology.uwo.ca/>

