

Psychopathy and Socio-legal Studies: Disorder of Language and Language of Disorder

Dr William Watson

Woodsworth College, University of Toronto

Institute of Criminology Public Seminar Series

Thursday 3rd February 2011, 5.30pm Seminar Room B3, Institute of Criminology, Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge, CB3 9DA

A drinks reception in the basement foyer will follow this seminar for attendees

Critical socio-legal studies and forensic psychology are usually viewed as inhabiting radically incomensurable epistemological paradigms, with socio-legal studies framed as a form of discourse wholly separate from, and able to critically analyze forensic psychology. Dr Watson challenges this separation, using the example of contemporary research on psychopathy to show how forensic psychology can call into question some of the founding intuitions of critical socio-legal studies.

Dr William Watson has an undergraduate degree in Sociology from the University of Leicester and completed his doctorate at Cambridge in Social and Political Sciences, but was closely associated with the Institute of Criminology. He teaches on the criminology programme at the University of Toronto. His criminological research focuses on psychiatric issues in criminal justice.