

The University of Hong Kong
Department of Psychology

Departmental Seminar

Neuroticism Is The Way Home

Date: November 13, 2014 (Thursday)
Time: 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Venue: Social Sciences Chamber, 11/F Jockey Club Tower, Centennial Campus, HKU
Speaker: Dr. Mark Egit
Clinical Psychologist and Psychoanalyst
Melvin Medical Centre, Toronto

This presentation examines the nature and sequelae of attachment. How in spite of our best efforts, our ingrained need for contact with early objects gives shape to our longing. This longing manifests sometimes as unremitting unhappiness; as acts against the self. The impossibility of shedding the profile of our earliest affective contact is viewed clinically, as an exquisite and unique carving of the shape of our experience with the object. A dynamic description is provided of how we imbibe and live out an “encoded metaphor”. We cling to this metaphor throughout life as a way of continuing that early relationship. This is a subtle process, an unconscious necessity. Here, symptoms, are viewed as attempts at continuing to “live with” and enliven the mourned object. The importance of therapy as a new self-object connection is explored and clinical examples provided.