

What's so Funny?: Studying the Psychology of Humour"

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Humour and laughter are ubiquitous human activities, occurring in many types of social interactions in all cultures of the world. Most of us laugh at something funny numerous times during the course of a typical day. Despite its prevalence in our daily lives, however, humour receives only limited attention in psychological research, and it is rarely mentioned in psychology courses, textbooks, or scholarly writings. Rod Martin is a professor in the Department of Psychology at UWO who has been studying humour for many years, and has recently published a book entitled *The Psychology of Humour: An Integrative Approach*. In this colloquium presentation, he will provide an overview of current theory and research findings, addressing such questions as: What is humour? What are the functions of humour and laughter in human psychology? Is humour beneficial for health and well-being? This will include a discussion of recent research that he and his students have conducted on the role of positive and negative humour styles in emotional well-being and social relationships.

Please email: 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/>

