



Department of Psychology Colloquium

Relapse following Behavioral Treatment: Possible Etiology and Prevention

Claire St. Peter, Ph.D.
West Virginia University
Associate Professor



4:00 p.m., Friday, September 12, 2014
Room 1728 Wood Hall

Behavioral interventions are highly efficacious at suppressing problem behavior when they are implemented consistently. However, less is known about the maintenance of these treatment effects, particularly when the treatment is challenged or disrupted. A growing body of evidence suggests that treatments based on differential reinforcement may be likely to produce relapse, or “resurgence,” when the treatment is disrupted or discontinued. In this presentation, I’ll discuss the laboratory and clinical literature on resurgence of problem behavior after successful treatment, and will describe some recent research from my laboratory suggesting ways that we might prevent or attenuate resurgence when using differential reinforcement.