

Thursday 7th December 4pm – Maynooth University Psychology Department

Dr. Philip Hyland (National College of Ireland)

The Evolution of PTSD: Towards a New Understanding of Trauma in ICD-11



Dr. Philip Hyland is a Senior Lecturer in psychology at the National College of Ireland, and an Adjunct Associate Professor at the Centre for Global Health at Trinity College Dublin. Philip's research primarily focuses on studying the nature of psychological responses to traumatic life events, and the psychosocial factors that can influence risk of negative responses to trauma. Much of this work focuses on assessing the validity of psychiatric stress-related disorders such as Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Complex-PTSD (CPTSD). Philip is extensively published in this area and is a member of the measurement development team for stress-related disorders for the International Classification of Diseases, 11th Version (ICD-11) produced by the World Health Organisation (WHO). Philip has received a number of international awards for his research and has been funded by the European Commission's Horizon 2020 initiative. Philip is the Research Coordinator for The Collaborative Network for Training and Excellence in Psychotraumatology (CONTEXT), an EU-funded international, interdisciplinary doctoral training programme involving nine European partner organisations spanning the academic, non-governmental, voluntary, and public sectors. Philip is also an Associate Statistical Editor for the Journal of Traumatic Stress.

Abstract:

Posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is arguably the most controversial diagnosis within the fields of psychiatry and clinical psychology. PTSD was formally recognised by the psychiatric community in 1980, however descriptions of psychological responses to traumatic life events have a much longer history. Since its introduction to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders in 1980, researchers have debated the best way in which to describe the disorder, and consequently, the most appropriate way in which to diagnose the condition. This has given rise to a problematic state of affairs in the field of psychotraumatology. Unlike any other psychiatric disorder, the two primary diagnostic manuals (the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual and the International Classification of Diseases) outline two different models of what is purportedly the same psychiatric disorder. In this talk, Philip will describe the current controversy in the field of psychotraumatology, and provide a discussion his research work which has evaluated the validity of the new proposals for PTSD and Complex PTSD as outlined within the forthcoming 11th version of the International Classification of Diseases.