

Dr. Susi Ferrarello

January 19th, 2023

3:30–5 p.m.

COB1 320

The Problem of Idealization in Empathy and Ethics

Abstract: In this lecture I seek to disclose how empathy and ethics have been constructed to idealized forms through the process of naturalization in science and professional practice. ...As a contrast, I argue for a return to our fundamental relation to others as interpersonal understanding and a reflection of empathy that would open for the development of professional ethics as a reflective human activity, instead of a set of guidelines and principles that are, more often than not, sophisticated, bureaucratic processes thought to prevent unethical action and issues of liability. My belief is that only reflection on our being with others will lead us to meaningful connection.