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Interdisciplinary School of
Psychology (ISOP)

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Invitation: ISOP Seminar Series

The Interdisciplinary School of Psychology (ISOP)

Tuesday, 13 May 2025

In-person: Merensky Library Auditorium; or

Hybrid: BlackBoard Collaborate

Prof David Maree, Head of the Interdisciplinary School of Psychology (ISOP) invites you to join him for the first ISOP Seminar titled “*The mystery of consciousness: you are your brain, you are without your brain, or you have a brain*”

Date: Tuesday, 13 May 2025
Time: 09:30 to 12:00 (arrival from 09:00 & light lunch @ 12:05)
Venue: Merensky Library Auditorium, Hatfield Campus, University of Pretoria
RSVP by: Monday, 05 May 2025 by completing the [Registration Link](#)
BlackBoard Link: The session will also be hosted as a hybrid session at [ISOP BlackBoard](#) (click on the link to join)
Enquiries: Prof David Maree (Head of ISOP) at david.maree@up.ac.za

About the Presenter:

Pieter F. Craffert, is Professor in New Testament and Early Christian Studies at the University of South Africa. He is author of *The life of a Galilean Shaman: Jesus of Nazareth in Anthropological-Historical Perspective* (Eugene, OR: Cascade Books: 2008), and *The fabric(ation) of consciousness: A neuro-ecological perspective* (Cape Town: Aosis: 2024). His research focuses on the study of alternate states of consciousness and the neuroscience of consciousness.

Abstract of the Topic:

The seminar's discussants explore the critical analysis of consciousness research by Pieter Craffert, highlighting its central role in understanding the human condition and the nature of reality. Despite a consensus on the importance of consciousness, significant disagreements persist regarding its theoretical frameworks. The book argues for a crisis in consciousness research, drawing on a comprehensive review of existing theories and concepts, including the hard problem of consciousness, neural correlates, and dualistic thinking. By framing the discussion within a neuro-ecological perspective, this work presents an innovative approach that encompasses the diverse landscape of consciousness research, aiming to stimulate dialogue and reflection on the future directions of the field.

Invitation to a Book Discussion:

You are thus invited to join Prof Craffert during [this](#) seminar for his book discussion titled “*The fabric(ation) of consciousness: A neuro-ecological perspective*”. The book is available through open access at <https://doi.org/10.4102/aosis.2024.BK500>

Respondents during the Seminar:

- **Prof David Maree** Emeritus Professor in Psychology & Head Interdisciplinary School of Psychology
- **Prof Werdie van Staden** Director of the Centre for Ethics & Philosophy of Health Sciences, UP
- **Prof Danie Veldsman** Emeritus Professor in Dogmatics & Ethics, UP
- **Prof Pieter Craffert** Professor, Department of Biblical & Ancient Studies, UNISA

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