

PUBLIC LECTURE

Suffering, Dialogue & Narrative Research

Reception to follow to launch Western's new
Critical Qualitative Health and Equity-oriented Research Group

Wednesday, June 12, 2019

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Room 35, Health Sciences Building
Western University**



Arthur Frank is professor emeritus of sociology at the University of Calgary, where he taught from 1975 until 2013. He currently is professor at VID Specialized University, Oslo, Norway. He is the author of *At the Will of the Body* (1991; new edition 2002); *The Wounded Storyteller* (1995; expanded edition, 2013); *The Renewal of Generosity: Illness, Medicine and How to Live* (2004); and *Letting Stories Breathe: A Socio-narratology* (2010). Dr. Frank is an elected Fellow of The Hastings Center and the Royal Society of Canada. He was the 2008 recipient of the Abbyann Lynch Medal for Bioethics, awarded by the Royal Society of Canada, and the 2016 recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Canadian Bioethics Society.

This lecture updates two previous journal articles: "Can We Research Suffering?" published in 2001, and "What is Dialogical Research, and Why Should We Do It?" published in 2005. Each questions and implicates the other. The idea of *dialogue* offers the best opening Dr. Frank has found to doing research on suffering, or put the other way around, the problem of researching suffering requires a conception of and commitment to dialogue as both an ethic and a method of research. The lecture explores how those ideas develop in narrative research specifically.