

Bureau of Educational Research
2007-2008 Seminar Series
with the Department of Educational Psychology
and the Department of Physics
Present

**ATTENDING AND RESPONDING
TO STUDENT EPISTEMOLOGIES
IN PHYSICS INSTRUCTION**

TUESDAY, APRIL 29
10:30AM-12:00PM, RM 242

Dr. David Hammer
Professor of Physics
and Curriculum & Instruction at the
University of Maryland at College Park



Research on student learning in physics has raised awareness of students' intuitive "epistemologies," which is to say the students' sense of what knowledge and learning in physics entail. For many students, that sense is problematic: They approach learning as if the material is made up of facts and formulas to memorize, with little connection to each other or to what they know about the world from everyday experience.

Dr. Hammer will show examples from students' work in college physics classes that illustrate the role of intuitive epistemologies, as well as examples from students' work at younger grades, and discuss some ways instruction can have an influence.

