

## Using Illusions to Study the Brain

Ian M. Thornton

*Department of Cognitive Science*

As well as being entertaining, visual illusions have a long history as useful probes into the functioning of the visual system, and the brain more generally. In this talk, I'll start out by showing some illusions that clearly demonstrate the way our brains "construct" the world around us. I'll then briefly describe two research projects where we've used illusions to measure aspects of visual and motor function. I will also provide a quick introduction to the Department of Cognitive Science, and the type of neuroscience research we conduct. For those interested, there will also be a brief tour of the Cognitive Science Lab at the end of the session.