



WAKE FOREST
UNIVERSITY

Department of Philosophy

welcomes

Fred Dretske

Senior Research Scholar, Duke University, Durham, NC

**“What We See: The Texture of
Conscious Experience”**

“How much of the detail, the texture, in the world is in our conscious experience of the world? The subjective impression of being aware (in a brief glance) of great detail--of all the people in the room, of all the players on the floor, of all (or at least a great many) of the leaves on the tree--is overwhelming. Yet, this has been challenged. The claim (supported by psychological experiments on change blindness) is that there is very little of the detail in the world that makes its way into our conscious experience of the world. According to this view, it is an illusion to think our experience contains anything like the texture in the outside world. The illusion that we consciously experience, at one given moment, all this detail is fostered by our ability to see (by moving our eyes) as much of this detail as we choose to look at. I will argue that our experience is, indeed, much richer and more textured than this view recognizes.”

Tribble Hall B316 Philosophy Library

September 11, 2008 4:30 p.m.

For special assistance please call 336-758-5359 so reasonable accommodations can be made.

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