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## Prof. em. Dr. Arthur W. Frank

### Lecture: “Selves, Their Guidance System, and Narrative Fallibility”

The lecture demonstrates the importance of literature to the three professional practices of narrative medicine, narrative ethics, and narrative therapy. I propose a reading of Dickens’ *Great Expectations* based on these practices, especially narrative therapy. My question is how humans of necessity use stories to guide their actions, the fallibility of that narrative practice, and how narrative can remedy problems that narrative creates.

Arthur W. Frank is professor emeritus in the Department of Sociology, University of Calgary, Canada. He is the author of *At the Will of the Body*, *The Wounded Storyteller*, *The Renewal of Generosity*, and *Letting Stories Breathe: A Socio-Narratology*. He has been visiting professor at universities including University of Toronto, University of Sydney, Keio University, Tokyo, and VID Specialized University, Norway. He is an elected Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and was the 2016 recipient of the Canadian Bioethics Society’s Lifetime Achievement Award. His work explores intersections between narrative ethics, narrative medicine, and narrative therapy.

**November 7, 2016 (11.30-1 pm)**

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[www.grk.lifesciences-lifewriting.uni-mainz.de](http://www.grk.lifesciences-lifewriting.uni-mainz.de)