

Leading political psychologist to give lecture at Alfred University

3/27/18

ALFRED, NY Dr. Drew Westen, a leading political psychologist and expert on political messaging, will present a lecture at Alfred University on Wednesday, March 28, at 5:15 p.m. in Holmes Auditorium, Harder Hall.

Westen, professor of psychology and director of the Clinical Psychology Program at Emory University, will deliver a talk titled “The Psychology of Political Persuasion in American Politics.” The lecture, sponsored by the Honors Program and Psychology and School Psychology programs at Alfred University, is free and open to the public.

Westen is considered one of the world’s leading political psychologists and one of the most prominent psychologists alive today. His reputation as an expert on political messaging has earned him the attention of national media outlets such as CNN, the New York Times and the Washington Post. He has been an invited speaker for the Democratic Caucus of the U.S. Congress, and his 2007 book, “The Political Brain: The Role of Emotion in Deciding the Fate of the Nation,” was described by former President Bill Clinton as “one of the most important books of the decade.”

Westen earned a BA degree in psychology from Harvard; an MA degree in social and political thought from the University of Sussex (England); and a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Michigan. He taught at Michigan and in the Harvard Medical School and served as chief psychologist at Cambridge Hospital in Massachusetts before becoming director of the Clinical Psychology Program at Emory University in Atlanta.