Many neurological disorders (e.g., aphasia, TBI, Tourette Syndrome) result in excessive and/or uncontrolled cursing. Much remains to be learned about the cognitive and neural underpinnings of cursing, and there are no known behavioral treatments. In this talk I will present an overview of cursing in American English. Listeners will learn about cursing and the complex interplay cursing invokes between language, emotion regulation, and inhibitory control. I will also present data from a non-invasive brain stimulation study among neurotypical adults showing that cathodal (inhibitory) stimulation of the right frontal cortex dampens arousal during cursing. We will discuss therapeutic applications of this technique to disorders of arousal and inhibitory control.

This lecture can be followed online from your computer, tablet or smartphone, via a link that will be provided on the C-STAR website: http://cstar.sc.edu/lecture-series/