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INSIGHT PHILOSOPHY

Der Newsletter des Instituts für Philosophie Bonn

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15th International Summer School in German Philosophy: The Problem of Skepticism

Date: 11.-22. August 2025

Location: Tagungsraum IZPH

Registration and further information: Alex Englander (alexeng@uni-bonn.de)

Both Kantian and post-Kantian Idealism emerged out of an engagement with problems of skepticism. Kant was famously led to develop his critical philosophy after being awoken from his ‘dogmatic slumbers’ by Hume’s empiricist skepticism, whilst his practical philosophy continually wrestles with the problem of how to respond to skeptical demands to prove the validity of the moral law – and of whether we need to. His idealist successors then worried that Kant’s own philosophy itself entailed skeptical consequences: a restriction of cognition to appearances, the relegation of metaphysical truths to the realm of faith and a banishment of moral worth from the realm of the knowable. These problems, they thought, were symptomatic of Kant’s remaining within a framework shaped by the problematic of modern skepticism. To be a true science, they thought, philosophy had to confront and overcome the radical challenge of ancient skepticism. Assessments of their success or failure to do so went on to determine the course of German philosophy.

This year’s summer school engages with this complex of issues, which will be explored through a series of workshops and keynote lectures. The summer school will be led by Markus Gabriel and Michael Forster, with keynote speakers including Karl Schafer (UT Austin), Jessica Berry (Georgia State), Dietmar Heidemann (Luxembourg), Nick Stang (Toronto), and others.

Sommerschule “Plato’s Political Philosophy – *The Statesman*”



Das Institut für Philosophie veranstaltet vom 15.–19. September 2025 eine Sommerschule zu Platons Dialog *Der Staatsmann* am IUC in Dubrovnik (Kroatien). Teilnehmen können alle Philosophiestudierende der Uni Bonn (also BA-, MA-Studierende sowie Promovierende). Für BA- und MA-Studierende wird die Sommerschule als reguläres Seminar anerkannt (BA: Modul MP, PG I, PP; MA: PG, PP). Die Teilnahme von Studierenden und Promovierenden wird durch ein Erasmus+-Kurzstipendium gefördert (letztes Jahr ca. 700 Euro).

Leitende Dozenten: Prof. Christoph Horn, Dr. Simon Weber

Interessierte nehmen bitte möglichst umgehend Kontakt auf mit Dr. Simon Weber (simon.weber@uni-bonn.de)



13th Ernst Robert Curtius Lecture of Excellence by Wiebke Denecke (MIT)

Wiebke Denecke is S. C. Fang Professor of Chinese Language and Culture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Founding Editor-in-Chief of The Hsu-Tang Library of Classical Chinese Literature, Oxford University Press.

1. Lecture: 16.07.2025 16-18 Uhr c.t. ERC Lecture "Humanities and Social Sciences 2.0: A User Guide"

What are the root causes of the undesirable futures we currently keep creating? To tackle today's daunting challenges, we need critical self-awareness and courage to dare to reimagine and reanimate our communal spaces of research, learning, and personal growth, and of our collective diplomacy and communication, purpose and action. Only a strategic boost of the Humanities and Social Sciences can accomplish this in our STEM-and-Business-driven world. But how can we redesign our Humanities and Social Science disciplines, which are still deeply rooted in the 19th century European nation state, to serve human flourishing in the 21st century?

This lecture sketches a user guide for Humanities and Social Sciences 2.0, proposing a vision that radically expands the study of the human experience on our planet in deep space and deep time, proposes blended STEMAH (STEM & Arts & Humanities) research and pedagogy design, reimagines our disciplines' pertinence to the grand challenges of today's world, and develops a methodology of



practice that reaches across all sectors of our world's communities and societies and catalyzes planetary flourishing.

<https://www.izph.de/ernst-robert-curtius-lecture-2025-humanities-and-social-sciences-2-0-a-user-guide-2/>

2. Workshop zur Lecture: 17.07.2025, 11-13 Uhr c.t. "How Can I Transform My Humanities or Social Sciences Field?"

Please join us for a conversation and hands-on experimenting with how to transform your academic discipline. You can read at your leisure across a collection of recent work by Wiebke Denecke, ranging across East Asian Studies, Classics, Middle Eastern Studies, Philology, Literary Studies, World Literature, Translation Studies, Information Studies, Philosophy, Heritage Studies, Sociology, and a recent manifesto-style special issue on Comparative Global Humanities. We invite you to bring along stimulating materials, questions, and ideas for upleveling your discipline to 2.0!

<https://www.izph.de/workshop-mit-wiebke-denecke-how-can-i-transform-my-humanities-or-social-sciences-field-a-conversation-and-makerspace/>

If possible, please register for the event in advance with sieverding-beck@uni-bonn.de.



Abschlusskonferenz zum Projekt

‘Zertifizierte KI’

“Standardization of AI Ethics: Stakeholders, Values, and Profit”, 10.09.-12.09.2025

Ein Konferenzprogramm gibt es bislang noch nicht, aber Augen und Ohren offen halten!

<https://www.cst.uni-bonn.de/en/research/standardization-of-ai-ethics-final-conference>

Tucano Project won First Place in Most Interesting Results Competition

The Tucano project by our team member Nicholas Kluge Corrêa and colleagues has won 1st place in the Most Interesting Results Competition at Bonn University's High Performance Computing (HPC) services. The competition occurred during the 1st anniversary event of Marvin, the university's state-of-the-art Tier 3 HPC cluster, where, after welcome remarks by Prof. Dr. Maren Bennewitz, Prof. Dr. Petra Mutzel, a review by the HPC@HRZ Team and a keynote by Timothy Mattson, researchers gathered to showcase their work powered by Marvin's computational capabilities. Tucano, a series of natively pre-trained large language models for Portuguese, is fully open-source and was developed at the University of Bonn with the support of Marvin. We are grateful to the High-Performance Computing Team and the HPC Analytics



Foto: Sophia Falk

Lab for organizing this fantastic event and to everyone who voted for our work.

https://www.cst.uni-bonn.de/en/en_news/tucano-projekt-ge-winnt-1-platz-in-der-most-interesting-results-competition

Seminar Series *Cross-Cultural Approaches to Desirable AI* receives AI ELSI Award (Perspective Division) from the Japanese Society for Artificial Intelligence



Foto: Barbara Fommann / Uni Bonn

Find more information here:

https://www.cst.uni-bonn.de/en/en_news/seminar-series-cross-cultural-approaches-to-desirable-ai-receives-ai-elsi-award-perspective-division-from-the-japanese-society-for-artificial-intelligence

or

https://www.uni-bonn.de/en/news/052-2025?set_language=en

Auszeichnung für Bachelorarbeit im Fach Philosophie: Gender Studies Prize für Marlene Siverdingbeck

Am 23. Mai 2025 wurde der diesjährige Gender Studies Prize des zentralen Gleichstellungsbüros für herausragende Abschlussarbeiten, die sich mit einer Fragestellung aus den Gender und/oder Queer Studies auseinandersetzen, vergeben.

In der Kategorie Bachelor wurde Marlene Sieverdingbeck für die beste Abschlussarbeit mit dem Titel: "Kritische Perspektiven auf Consent Theorien – Eine intersektionale Analyse liberal- und radikalfeministischer Ansätze zu sexuellem Consent" ausgezeichnet. Der Preis ist mit 500 € dotiert.

Marlene Sieverdingbeck ist als Wissenschaftliche Hilfskraft in der Geschäftsführung des Internationalen Zentrums für Philosophie NRW sowie am Center for Science and Thought beschäftigt. Die Bachelorarbeit diskutiert Consent als moralischen Maßstab für Sex unter patriarchalen Strukturen, und formuliert ein hybrides Konzept von sexuellem Consent, das die Stärken liberal- und radikalfeministischer Ansätze unter Einbezug intersektionaler Aspekte vereint und die theoretische Grundlage für einen nuancierten wissenschaftlichen Diskurs über Sex schafft. Diese Rekonzeptionierung sexuellen Consents bietet eine neue Perspektive auf seine Notwendigkeit, Validität und Ontologie sowie seine Einbettung in den patriarchalen Kontext, und ermöglicht so eine intersektionale und feministische, philosophische Auseinandersetzung mit der Moralität von Sex.



Foto: Barbara Fommann / Uni Bonn

Das Institut für Philosophie gratuliert Marlene Sieverdingbeck zu dieser ausgezeichneten Bachelorarbeit!