

HUMBOLDT CONVERSATIONS IN PHILOSOPHY

15:15-18:00
GWZ H2 1.16

MAY 16



Irina Schumski (Eberhard Karls University Tübingen) studied Philosophy, German Literature, and Linguistics at the University of Mannheim, Goethe University Frankfurt and the University of Cambridge (MPhil in Philosophy, 2013). She obtained her PhD in Philosophy from the University of Warwick in 2017. Her research focuses on Kant's practical philosophy and on issues in metaethics, including the role of principles in practical reasoning, metaethical constructivism and thick concepts. In July 2017 Irina took up a post as a fixed-term assistant professor in Philosophy at Eberhard Karls University Tübingen.

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THE PARTICULARIST CHALLENGE TO KANTIAN ETHICS - A TRILEMMA

Kant and Kantians have often been accused of rigorism: of failing to do justice to the fact that our moral obligations vary with circumstances. When trying to respond to this criticism, Kantians face a trilemma: if they want to evade the problem of rigorism, they have to either deny that principles of duty are universally valid, or posit rather cumbersome principles with countless unless-clauses. Existing attempts to escape this trilemma are fraught with inconsistencies, as a critical discussion of Korsgaard's and Herman's accounts confirms. My aim is to tackle the problem at its root by correcting the misunderstanding of Kant's notion of practical universality on which the trilemma is based.

For more information, additional reading and registration please contact:
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ANALYTIC GERMAN IDEALISM


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