Title: Epistemic Injustice

Instructors: Tove Pettersen, Ingvild Torsen, Sebastian Watzl

Meeting Times: Tuesdays, 14:00-16:00 (every other week, starting Aug. 25th)


Contents: This is a semester long discussion and reading group that doubles as a PhD course. The course deals with topics that sit at the intersection of epistemology, political philosophy, and feminist philosophy. We will focus on one crucial text, Miranda Fricker’s book on Epistemic Injustice (we may decide to also draw on background reading in some sessions). Fricker’s book deals with distinctively epistemic kinds of injustice. “Its overarching aim is to bring to light certain ethical aspects of two of our most basic everyday epistemic practices: conveying knowledge to others by telling them, and making sense of our own social experiences.” (p. 1f). Fricker carves out two types of epistemic injustice: testimonial injustice, which “occurs when prejudice causes a hearer to give a deflated level of credibility to a speaker's word” (ibid.) and hermeneutical injustice, which occurs when “a gap in collective interpretive resources puts someone at an unfair disadvantage when it comes to making sense of their social experiences.” (ibid). We will meet seven times, and each time discuss one of the book’s chapters.

Requirements:

- Attendance of 6 meetings

- An essay of approximately 7000 words on a topic relevant to the topic of the course (topics are to be agreed by one of the course instructors)

- In order to receive credit for this course, PhD Fellows need to ensure that the PhD Coordinator (Sebastian Watzl) receives written confirmation by the course instructor that the course requirements have been fulfilled.

Credits: 3 ECTS