Philosophische Reihen an der Universität Potsdam

Sommersemester 2019



Di 16.15 – 18.00 Uhr Universität Potsdam – Am Neuen Palais 10 – 14469 Potsdam Raum 1.08.0.59

Dienstag, 4. Juni 2019

Dr. Anton Kabeshkin (Universität Potsdam)

"Hegel and Methodological Naturalism"

Abstract: The extent to which Hegel may be considered a methodological naturalist and, in particular, the extent to which his account of nature is determined by the results provided by natural sciences, is usually discussed in relation to the method of Hegel's philosophy of nature: whether it is a priori or a posteriori. In this paper, I would like to approach this issue from a different angle, namely by way of reconstructing Hegel's position with respect to the issues raised in the contemporary debates between scientific realism and scientific anti-realism. I will argue that, on the one hand, Hegel is critical of the reductionist metaphysics that is often uncritically presupposed in sciences and propagated by mechanicist philosophers. On the other hand, he does not restrict the relevance of scientific theories merely to prediction of observable phenomena or to empirical adequacy, as various forms of anti-realism tend to do. Ultimately, Hegel's position in his philosophy of nature is characterized by anti-reductionism and by the primacy of the sort of objects that populate what Sellars called the manifest image of the world, while philosophically reinterpreted scientific results help him articulate the structure of those objects.