

DIENSTAG, 10. NOVEMBER 2026

**«GOVERNING KNOWLEDGE» –
THE POLITICAL EPISTEMOLOGY
OF BUREAUCRACY**
DR. SONJA RIEGLER (UNIVERSITÄT GREIFSWALD)

DIENSTAG, 17. NOVEMBER 2026

THE DIALECTICS OF NOSTALGIA
DR. JASPER FRIEDRICH (UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD)

DIENSTAG, 24. NOVEMBER 2026

**EPISTEMIC INJUSTICES IN
CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH**
PROF. DR. JULIE JEBEILE (UNIVERSITÄT BERN)

DIENSTAG, 1. DEZEMBER 2026

**NEEDS AS DEEDS: ON THE
PERFORMATIVE POLITICS
OF NEEDS-CLAIMS**
DR. GEORGE BOSS
(QUEEN MARY UNIVERSITY OF LONDON)

Dienstag, 10. November 2026, 16:15 Uhr, Raum 3.B57

«Governing Knowledge» – The Political Epistemology of Bureaucracy

Dr. Sonja Riegler (Universität Greifswald)

ABSTRACT

Bureaucracies are among the most pervasive institutions of modern governance, serving as the primary interface between individuals and the state. This talk establishes bureaucracy as a central site of political-epistemic analysis, examining how administrative procedures function as epistemic practices that render lived realities administratively legible. It also investigates how bureaucratic knowledge is produced through processes of classification, how it generates forms of ignorance and epistemic injustice, and under what conditions bureaucratic encounters can become epistemically just.

ZUR PERSON

Sonja Riegler is a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Greifswald, where she advances a project on the critical epistemology of bureaucracy. Her research lies at the intersection of political philosophy, feminist, political epistemology, empirically-informed philosophy, feminist philosophy of science, and Critical Race Studies.

Dienstag, 17. November 2026, 16:15 Uhr, Raum 3.B57

The Dialectics of Nostalgia

Dr. Jasper Friedrich (University of Oxford)

ABSTRACT

This is a chapter from a book manuscript on how negative emotional reactions ground our ability to question and transform the social world. This chapter looks at nostalgia as an emotion that rejects the present in the name of the past. I argue that this backward-looking character does not necessarily make nostalgia a reactionary emotion; on the contrary, its idealization of the past can be seen as an expression of what we yearn for in the present, and this longing can be creatively channeled into emancipatory critique and progressive political movements.

ZUR PERSON

Jasper Friedrich is a Postdoctoral Prize Research Fellow in Politics at Nuffield College, University of Oxford. His work spans social philosophy and political theory, with a special interest in social critique and political emotions. He is currently writing a book about the role of negative emotions in enabling critique and resistance.

Dienstag, 24. November 2026, 16:15 Uhr, Raum 3.B57

Epistemic Injustices in Climate Change Research

Prof. Dr. Julie Jebeile (Universität Bern)

ABSTRACT

In facing climate change, societies need locally relevant knowledge about current and future impacts, as well as adequate mitigation and adaptation solutions. This talk argues that producing knowledge and designing climate technologies raise intertwined epistemic and ethical challenges, including epistemic and climate injustices. Drawing on the debate on values in science and technology, it suggests that the key issue is no longer how to distinguish legitimate from illegitimate values, but how to prioritise among different and potentially conflicting ones.

ZUR PERSON

Julie Jebeile is a philosopher with an initial background in physics and engineering. She is an SNSF Professor at the University of Bern. She leads the SNSF project «Climate Change Adaptation through the Feminist Kaleidoscope». Her research in philosophy of science focuses on climate science, uncertainty, values, justice and usability.

Dienstag, 1. Dezember 2026, 16:15 Uhr, Raum 3.B57

Needs as Deeds: On the Performative Politics of Needs-claims

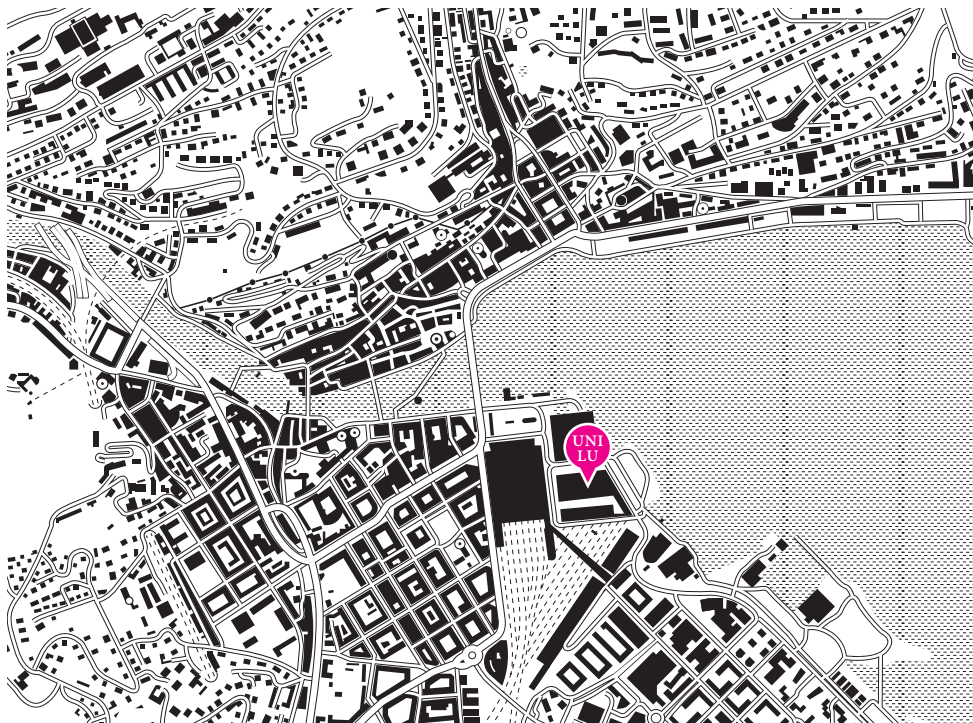
Dr. George Boss (Queen Mary University of London)

ABSTRACT

Those in need often struggle to be heard. Examining why, this paper argues for a radical reconceptualization of the language of need. Usually, needs-claims have been understood referentially: they are taken to refer to independent realities that precede the claim, fix its meaning, and give it its significance. Against that trend, this paper reimagines needs-claims as performative speech acts. This pivot moves the discussion over needs away from intractable debates about their nature, and towards the ability of different speakers to bring about and control discursive effects using needs-talk.

ZUR PERSON

George Boss is a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow at Queen Mary University of London. His research focuses on contemporary political theory, the philosophy of language, and the work of Karl Marx, with an emphasis on the concept of human needs. His first monograph – *Marx and the Politics of Need* – was published by Routledge in 2026.



Im Forschungskolloquium präsentieren eingeladene Referent:innen philosophische Themen und stellen sie zur Diskussion. Die Veranstaltungen richten sich an Forschende, Studierende und an ein fachlich interessiertes Publikum.

Die Teilnahme ist kostenlos. Eine Anmeldung ist nicht nötig.

INFORMATION UND KONTAKT

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