

Previous colloquia - for website archive

Spring 2026

Abstracts are available to read [via PDF](#).

Title	Speaker	Institution	Date
Human and Machine in Spaceflight's Second Century	Matthew Hersch	History of Science, Harvard University	30 January
Nutritional Imperialism: How Science Turned Difference into Sickness in China	Hilary Smith	Department of History, University of Denver	6 February
Remembering as Inverse Causal Inference	Felipe De Brigard	Department of Philosophy, Department of Psychology and Neuroscience, Duke University	13 February
Countering Official Ignorance on State-Sanctioned Murder from Lynching to George Floyd and Renee Nicole Good	Jay Aronson	Department of History, Carnegie Mellon University	20 February
Comprehensive Literature Searching for Evidence Synthesis Methods	Amy Riegelman	Social Sciences and Evidence Synthesis Librarian, University of Minnesota	23 February
Science under attack: US research funding in the political crossfire	Christine Leuenberger	Science and Technology Studies, Cornell University	27 February

Sea Change: The Squid Giant Axon and the Transformation of Neurobiology in the 20th Century	Kathryn Maxson Jones	History, Purdue University	20 March
What Counts as Behavior? AI and Behavioral Ontology in Neuroscience	Nedah N. Nemati	Center for Science and Society, Columbia University	27 March
Salience traditions as a theme in the pedagogical epistemology of science: The case of genetics	Gregory Radick	School of Philosophy, Religion and History of Science, University of Leeds	3 April
TBC	Michael Reidy	History and Philosophy, Montana State University	10 April
Separate but Dead: Mapping Disease & Segregation in New Orleans, 1880-1915	S Wright Kennedy	Department of History, University of South Carolina	17 April
Cyclones, Forecasts, and Uncertainty: How Model-Ensembles Can Be an Effective Guide to Anticipatory Action	Roman Frigg	Department of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method, London School of Economics	24 April
Malady of Monoculture: Pellagra, Public Health, and the Pathologies of Cotton's Capitalism	Dana Landress	Department of Medical History and Bioethics, School of Medicine and Public Health, University of Wisconsin, Madison	1 May

Autumn 2025

Title	Speaker	Institution	Date
Island Tinkerers and Incompatible Computer Dreams: Contested Computer Exports from Taiwan to the United States in the 1980s	Honghong Tinn	History of Science and Technology, University of Minnesota	12 September
Kuhn's speciation metaphor and the birth of biochemistry	William Goodwin	Philosophy, University of South Florida	19 September
Imaginative Mechanism: Elements, Fluids, Engines, and the role of Analogical Reasoning in Robert Boyle's Natural Philosophy	Victor Boantz	History of Science and Technology, University of Minnesota	26 September
What's Wrong with Innovation?: A History of the Rise and Fracture of Innovation Culture	Matthew Wisnioski	Science, Technology, and Society, Virginia Tech	3 October
In and Out of Place	Lukas Rieppel	History, Brown University	10 October
What makes philosophy-STEM collaborations successful and why do they matter? Perspectives from scientists and engineers	Katie Plaisance	Knowledge Integration, University of Waterloo	17 October
Embodiment and Mobility in Online Technologies: From Computerized Conferencing to Tablets	Elizabeth Petrick	History, Rice University	24 October

Natural kinds for psychology: A multi-level mechanistic proposal	Jasmin Özel	MCPS, University of Minnesota	31 October
Invisible Anatomy: Meridians and Math in Chinese Medicine	Lan Li	History of Medicine, Johns Hopkins University	7 November
AI and the Nature of Science: Concepts and Controversies	Carl Bergstrom, Cameron Buckner, Thomas Byrd, Lisa Messeri, Claudia Scarlata	University of Washington, University of Florida, University of Minnesota, Yale	14 November
Carl Sagan, The Encyclopedia Britannica, and the Meaning of “Life” in the Mid-Twentieth Century	Vassiliki Betty Smocovitis	Biology and History, University of Florida	21 November
Reanimating the Dead in the Nineteenth Century	Renee Fox	Literature, UC Santa Cruz	5 December

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Spring 2025

Abstracts for the 2025 series. Seminars will not be held on the following dates: 2/28/25; 3/7/25; 3/14/25

January 24, 2025, 3:35PM

This colloquium has been cancelled.

January 31, 2025, 3:35PM

The Anonymous Animal: Naming and Knowing in the Anthropocene

Whitney Robles, History, Dartmouth College

Co-sponsored by the Program in History of Science, Technology, and Medicine

February 7, 2025, 3:35PM

Ruff Love: Puppies, Toddlers, and B.F. Skinner

Henry Cowles, History, University of Michigan

Co-sponsored by the Program in History of Science, Technology, and Medicine

February 14, 2025, 3:35PM

This colloquium has been cancelled.

February 21, 2025, 3:35PM

Disability, Representation, and the British Military

Jared Richman, Colorado College

Co-sponsored by the Program in History of Science, Technology, and Medicine

February 28, 2025, 3:35PM

No colloquium

March 7, 2025, 3:35PM

No colloquium

March 14, 2025, 3:35PM

No colloquium - Spring Break

March 21, 2025, 3:35PM

The Promise and Perils of Polygenic Scores: A Critical Examination for Social Science Research

Callie H. Burt, Criminal Justice & Criminology; Center for Research on Interpersonal Violence (CRIV), Georgia State University

March 28, 2025, 3:35PM

Lee Harvey Oswald and American Child Psychiatry, 1963-1983

Laura Hirshbein, University of Michigan

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April 4, 2025, 3:35PM

TBC

Sarah Cameron, History, University of Maryland

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April 11, 2025, 3:35PM

Open Peer Review and Transparency in Science|
Haixin Dang, Philosophy, Case Western University

April 18, 2025, 3:35PM

[Now is the Time to Collect: Museums & Salvage Zoology at the Turn of the Twentieth Century](#)

Paul Brinkman, North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences
Co-sponsored by the Program in History of Science, Technology, and Medicine

April 25, 2025, 3:35PM

TBC

Mary Brazelton, University of Cambridge
Co-sponsored by the Program in History of Science, Technology, and Medicine

Fall 2024

September 13, 2024, 3:35PM

Informative for Whom? The Concept of Information in Neuroscience
JP Gamboa, Minnesota Center for Philosophy of Science

September 20, 2024, 3:35PM

*****Room 35 216 Pillsbury Drive*** room change**

In the Shadow of Diagnosis: Psychiatric Power and Queer Life
Reg Kunzel, Yale University
Co-sponsored by the Program in History of Science, Technology, and Medicine

September 27, 2024, 3:35PM

‘Englishing’ Natural Knowledge: Antiquarianism and Exceptionalism in Elizabethan Science.

Melissa Reynolds, History and Sociology of Science, University of Pennsylvania
Co-sponsored by the Program in History of Science, Technology, and Medicine

October 4, 2024, 3:35PM

Building a coastline: The Texas Coastal and Marine Council Artificial Reef Program, 1971-1985

Samantha Muka, STS, Stevens Institute of Technology

Co-sponsored by the Program in History of Science, Technology, and Medicine

October 11, 2024, 3:35PM

Types of Causation in the Life Sciences

Lauren Ross, Logic and Philosophy of Science, UC Irvine

October 18, 2024, 3:35PM

"The Great Forgetting" --or the one thing that everyone should know about the history of medicine--

Shigehisa Kuriyama, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Harvard University

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October 25, 2024, 3:35PM

README: Exploring a Bookish History of Computing

Patrick McCray, History, UC Santa Barbara

Co-sponsored by the Program in History of Science, Technology, and Medicine

November 1, 2024, 3:35PM

Communities of Community Science

Aleta Quinn, Department of Philosophy, University of Idaho

November 15, 2024, 3:35PM

The Tone That Makes Life: Fibre Vibrations in Early Modern Medicine

Edward Halley Barnet, History, St John's College, Annapolis

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November 22, 2024, 3:35PM

Doctor's Order: Managing Medical Information in the Twentieth Century

Andrew Lea, Brigham and Women's Hospital & Harvard Medical School

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December 6, 2024, 3:35PM

Reframing “Guatemala’s Tuskegee”: Revolution, Eugenics, and Experimentation in the Ten Years of Spring

Lydia Crafts, History, Manhattan College

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