Department of Philosophy Colloquium

Sara Aronowitz



University of Toronto will present a talk entitled

"What goes into the division of possibilities?"

Abstract: Most work on rational action has focused on how we should decide, given a set of options. But setting up the options is often decisive in whether we act well or poorly, even assuming a perfectly rational decision-making procedure. In this talk, I'll consider three answers to the question of what makes a division of the world into coarse-grained states and options good. Each of these measures is insufficient as a full account of what makes a division of possibilities good. I end by considering a way in which the measures might be combined. Asking this question about ideal rationality may also give us insight into how and why animals, including humans, divide up the world in the ways we do.

October 20, 2023 @ 3:30pm Room #6191 H.C. White Hall