

Mary Tiles  
(University of Hawaii, Manoa):  
**Is Historical Epistemology  
Part of the „Modernist  
Settlement“?**

Martin Kusch  
(University of Cambridge):  
**Reflexivity, Relativism,  
Microhistory: Desiderata for  
Historical Epistemologies**

Barry Stroud  
(University of California, Berkeley):  
**The Value of a Historically  
Oriented Epistemology**

Commentator:  
Catherine Wilson  
(City University of New York)

**\* Panel: What Have We  
Learned? Anything Historical?  
Anything Epistemological? \***

Chairs:  
Uljana Feest (TU Berlin)  
Thomas Sturm (MPIWG Berlin)

Panelists:  
Jean-Francois Braunstein  
(University of Paris),  
Wolfgang Carl  
(University of Göttingen),  
Daniel Garber  
(Princeton University),  
Robert J. Richards  
(University of Chicago)

## What (Good) Is Historical Epistemology?

Epistemology traditionally seeks to identify principles for the evaluation of knowledge claims, while the history of science has as one of its aims the investigation of the contexts of knowledge production. A recent alternative beyond this divide, appealed to mostly by historians of science, has been named „historical epistemology“. This project raises two basic questions: What kind of historical enterprise is historical epistemology? Conversely, in what sense is it a form of epistemology? These questions will be addressed at the conference, which is structured around issues of (1) epistemic concepts and practices, (2) epistemic objects, and (3) the dynamics of scientific research.

Organizers:

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Institut für Philosophie TU Berlin  
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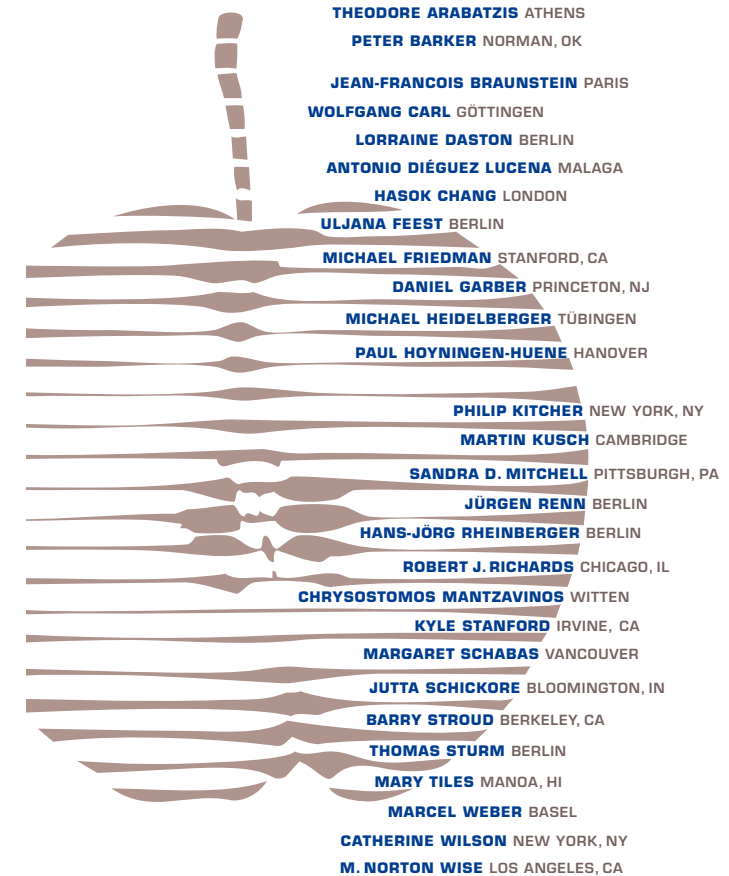
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MAX-PLANCK-INSTITUT FÜR WISSENSCHAFTSGESCHICHTE  
MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE FOR THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE

**International Conference,  
Max Planck Institute for the History of Science  
Berlin July 24–26, 2008**



# WHAT (GOOD) IS HISTORICAL EPISTEMOLOGY?

**What (Good) Is Historical Epistemology?  
International Conference  
Max Planck Institute for the History of Science,  
Berlin  
July 24-26, 2008**

Organizers: Thomas Sturm (Max Planck Institute for the History of Science)  
Uljana Feest (Technische Universität Berlin)

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**Thursday, 24 July**

9.30 a.m.

**Welcome and Introduction**

Hans-Jörg Rheinberger  
(Executive Director, MPIWG  
Berlin)  
Uljana Feest (TU Berlin)  
Thomas Sturm (MPIWG Berlin)

10.00 -  
12.00 a.m.

**(I) Epistemic Concepts and  
Practices**

Chair: Michael D. Gordin  
(Princeton University)

Jutta Schickore  
(Indiana University, Bloomington):  
**Experimental Practice in  
Historical Perspective**

Thomas Sturm (MPIWG Berlin):  
**Perception and Judgment -  
Historical Epistemology or  
History of Epistemology?**

Commentator:  
Lorraine Daston (MPIWG Berlin)

1.30 -  
3.30 p.m.

Chair: Peter McLaughlin  
(University of Heidelberg)

M. Norton Wise  
(University of California,  
Los Angeles):  
**On the Historicity of Scientific  
Explanation**

4.30 -  
6.30 p.m.

Michael Heidelberger  
(University of Tübingen):  
**Plurality and/or Historicity of  
Causes**

Commentator:  
Sandra Mitchell  
(University of Pittsburgh)

**(II) Epistemic Objects**

Chair: Ursula Klein (MPIWG Berlin)

Theodore Arabatzis  
(University of Athens):  
**The Historicity of Scientific  
Objects: From Cathode Rays to  
Electrons**

Hasok Chang  
(University College London):  
**The Persistence of Epistemic  
Objects through Scientific  
Change**

Commentator:  
Hans-Jörg Rheinberger  
(MPIWG Berlin)

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**Friday, 25 July**

10.00 -  
12.00 a.m.

**(II) Epistemic Objects (cont'd)**

Chair: Marcel Weber (University of Basel)

Margaret Schabas  
(University of British Columbia,  
Vancouver):  
**The Economy as an Epistemic  
Object**

Uljana Feest (TU Berlin):  
**Remembering Memory:  
The Death of an Epistemic  
Object?**

1.30 -  
3.30 p.m.

Commentator:  
Chrysostomos Mantzavinos  
(Witten-Herdecke University)

**(III) The Dynamics of Scientific  
Research**

Chair: Kyle Stanford  
(University of California, Irvine)

Michael Friedman  
(Stanford University):  
**Extending the Dynamics of  
Reason: Generalizing a Post-  
Kuhnian Approach to the  
History and Philosophy of  
Science**

Peter Barker  
(University of Oklahoma, Norman):  
**The Cognitive Structure of  
Scientific Revolutions**

Commentator:  
Jürgen Renn (MPIWG Berlin)

6.00 -  
8.00 p.m.

Chair: Antonio Diéguez Lucena  
(University of Malaga)

Keynote Address:  
Philip Kitcher  
(Columbia University, New York):  
**Epistemology without History  
is Blind**

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**Saturday, 26 July**

9.30 -  
10.45 a.m.

**(IV) Reflections:  
Historiographical and  
Epistemological**

Chair: Paul Hoyningen-Huene  
(University of Hanover)