EXAMINING HEGEL’S IDEA OF SELF-DETERMINATION: FROM ACTUALITY TO CONCEPT

A three-day conference on June 6-8, 2019 at the University of Warwick

Organized by Filip Niklas, Edmund Smith, Mert Can Yirmibes and Ahilleas Rokni

Confirmed speakers: Richard Dien Winfield (Georgia), Friedrike Schick (Tübingen), Claudia Wirsing (Braunschweig), Michela Bordignon (UFES), David Merrill (Hertfordshire), Susanne Herman-Sinai (Oxford).

This conference aims to philosophically examine the ideas of actuality and concept, as it features in Hegel’s seminal work, *The Science of Logic*. Actuality is the final section of the Doctrine of Essence from the *Logic*, and it concerns key concepts of modality, substantiality, necessity, causality. It is on the basis of these, Hegel argues, that the logic of concept, freedom or self-determination emerges. Hegel is in an important sense a realist since causal connections or structures of necessity are logically necessary for what will become the subjective logic. And yet, how does one precisely understand the subjective logic without reducing it simply to relations of the objective logic, whilst doing justice to the latter’s concepts of necessity and causality?

Following its predecessor the year before, the conference aims to closely examine the logical structures that are developed in the last part of Hegel’s Doctrine of Essence—Actuality—and the structures developed in the first part of the Doctrine of the Concept. Special attention will be given to the crucial transition between these two domains. As before, exegetical papers are principally preferred, but we also welcome contributions that engage Hegel’s notion of essence, actuality, and concept, jointly with other philosophical theories and systems.

Possible topics may include, but are not limited to:
- The Absolute
- Actuality
- Formal, real and absolute modal distinctions
- Contingency
- Necessity
- Substance
- Causality
- Relations of Actuality
- Transition from Actuality to Concept
- Dualism or monism
- Concept
- Judgment
- Syllogism

If you would like to present a talk, please submit an abstract of no more than 500 words, specifying broadly what your talk will focus on and what its strategies are, by no later than 1st January 2019 to: hegelwarwick(at)gmail.com

Please note that we ask that your presentation should be no longer than 25 minutes long.

Lodging and travel bursaries may become available. We ask that you please indicate in your e-mail whether you would like to be considered for bursaries.

We aim to give our decision within the first few weeks after the deadline for abstract submissions.

Please don’t hesitate to e-mail us if you have any further questions.

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Website: https://hegelwarwick.wordpress.com/