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PHD AND POSTDOCTORAL COURSE & CONFERENCE  
JUNE 15-16, 2022

# EPISTEMIC VIRTUES AND THE PRACTICE OF DIALOGUE

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Luca di Blasi (University of Berne)

Menachem Fisch (Tel Aviv University)

Elad Lapidot (University of Lille)

Heiko Schulz (Goethe-University Frankfurt)

Registration by June 9th at  
<https://au.phd-courses.dk/CourseCatalog/ShowCourse/832>

Everyone is welcome!



AARHUS  
UNIVERSITY

# PROGRAM

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

Place: Studenterhuset, Richard Mortensenstuen, Fredrik Nielsens Vej 2, 8000 Aarhus

- 9.00-9.15 **Welcome**
- 9.15-10.30 **Reading session 1**  
*10.30-10.50 Coffee break*
- 10.50-11.30 **Keynote lecture** by Luca Di Blasi (University of Bern):  
"Questioning One's Own Epistemic Superiority"
- 11.30-12.10 **Keynote lecture** by Elad Lapidot (University of Lille):  
"On the Ethics of Not Speaking"
- 12.10-12.30 **Dialogue** between the keynote speakers
- 12.30-13.00 **Questions** from the audience and discussion  
  
*13.00-14.00 Lunch*
- 14.00-15.30 **Postdoctoral and PhD papers:**  
14.00-14.30 Essi Ikonen (Aarhus University):  
"Learning Epistemic Virtues through Dialogue with Imaginary Others"  
14.30-15.00 Jonas Henau Teglbjærg (University of Southern Denmark):  
"Deliberative Democracy as Quality in Social Studies: Epistemic Virtues under Construction?"  
15.00-15.30 Marianne Secher (Roskilde University):  
"Is it Possible to Include Negative Certainties as a Situational Form of Knowledge in Social Pedagogy and Research?"
- 15.30-15.45 **Summary of the discussion** so far, collecting open questions  
*15.45 Coffee*  
  
*18.00 Dinner*

## THURSDAY, JUNE 16

Place: Studenterhuset, Mogens Zielerstuen, Fredrik Nielsens Vej 2, 8000 Aarhus

- 9.00-10.00 **Reading session 2**  
*10.00-10.20 Coffee break*
- 10.20-11.00 **Keynote lecture** by Menachem Fisch (Tel Aviv University):  
"The Epistemic and Other Virtues of Non-Socratic Dialogue"
- 11.00-11.40 **Keynote lecture** by Heiko Schulz (Goethe-University Frankfurt):  
"Transition, Emotion and Reason: Kierkegaard on the Rationality of Becoming a Christian"
- 11.40-12.00 **Dialogue** between the keynote speakers
- 12.00-12.30 **Questions** from the audience and discussion  
**Rounding off**  
  
*12.30-13.30 Lunch*





# DESCRIPTION

The topic of ‘epistemic virtues’ has received a great deal of attention in the past decades. Epistemic virtues such as Aristotelian *phrônesis*, intellectual humility, open-mindedness, and the willingness to correct one’s own mistakes and misperceptions are fundamental for both academic discourses and every-day life. Moreover, epistemic virtues are essential for a peaceful coexistence of people with differing convictions and ways of life in multicultural societies. However, although epistemic virtues are indispensable, they are hard to conceptualize. The following questions need to be investigated more closely:

- How to define the relation between cognitive and affective aspects of epistemic virtues?
- Is it possible to change one’s mind and one’s framework of beliefs on the basis of one’s own reflections, or does that require a dialogical encounter with another person and his or her conflicting beliefs, and if so, why?
- How can we peacefully handle competing accounts of reality in intercultural and/or -religious dialogue, and what kind of epistemic virtues and ‘mindsets’ are most relevant?
- In what ways does the practice of dialogue respond to the development of epistemic virtues?

This course and conference seeks to offer an interdisciplinary approach to these questions, inviting a discussion with scholars not only from philosophy and theology, but also from, for instance, psychology, anthropology, cultural and educational studies, and the arts.

# READINGS



## READING SESSION 1

Martin Heidegger: "Aus einem Gespräch von der Sprache" in: *Unterwegs zur Sprache*, Pfullingen: Verlag Günther Neske 1959, 83-155 (and translation)

Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak: "Can the Subaltern Speak?" in: Cary Nelson/Lawrence Grossberg (eds.): *Marxism and the Interpretation of Culture*, University of Illinois Press: Urbana 1988, 271-313

## READING SESSION 2

Menachem Fisch's 4th Dagmar Westberg Lecture (Dialogues of Reason – Science, Politics, Religion, Goethe-University Frankfurt 2020): "Reflective Emotions and the Politics of Love"

Schulz, Heiko. "Changing one's mind: Reconsidering Fisch's idea of framework transitions in (partly) Kierkegaardian fashion" *Open Philosophy*, vol. 3, no. 1, 2020, pp. 750-769. <https://doi.org/10.1515/opphil-2020-0144>

