

# INSTITUT FÜR PHILOSOPHIE UNIVERSITÄT LEIPZIG

## HUMBOLDT GUEST PROFESSOR WS 2021/2022



Patricia Kitcher is Roberta and William Campbell Professor of the Humanities and Professor for Philosophy at Columbia University.

She is the author of a book on Freud, *Freud's Dream* (MIT 1992), and two books on Kant's conceptions of cognition and the self, *Kant's Transcendental Psychology* (Oxford University Press, 1990) and *Kant's Thinker* (Oxford University Press, 2011).

She is currently editing a volume of essays on the history of the self-concept (for OUP) and also working on two book projects, *Kant on the Self* (in the Cambridge elements series), and *Kant's Ordinary Moral Agent*.

## PATRICIA KITCHER

### INTENSIVE SEMINAR

## Kant's Ordinary Moral Agent

The aim will be to explore a fuller account of Kant's theory of agency than those currently available. Among others, we will try to answer the following questions:

What are the similarities and differences between Kant's claims about cognitive subjects and moral agents?

How should we understand Kant's claim that humans take two standpoints on themselves, when, as self-conscious creatures, they know very well that they are not in the grip of mechanistic laws?

Does Kant develop a theory of moral agency from a theory of agency—or does his account run in the opposite direction?

How does Kant think that humans understand others as moral agents?

Kant admired Smith's *Theory of Moral Sentiments*. Do Smith's views, as well as Rousseau's shed light on Kant's views of interpersonal relations in, e.g. the *Anthropology*?

How do humans give laws to themselves?

If the human will is subject to the moral law, how does Kant think that bad actions are possible?

What is the relation between Kant's theory of moral agency and his *Anthropology* project of showing what free humans can make of themselves? How can the study of anthropology, or culture more generally, help?

For further information visit:  
[fagi.uni-leipzig.de](http://fagi.uni-leipzig.de)

### DATES & LOCATIONS

Tuesdays

3 - 6 pm:

October 12, 19, and 26

GWZ Room 2 1.16

Wednesdays

10 am - 1 pm & 3 - 6 pm:

October 13, 20, and 27

GWZ Room 4 1.16

Thursdays

3 - 6 pm:

October 14, 21, and 28

GWZ Room 4 1.16