

Online lecture: Critical Thinking in Research and Education

Prof. Dr. Dr. Norman Sieroka

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*As part of the strategic cooperation between the University of Bremen and the University of Guelph in Ontario (CA), the **Bremen-Guelph Lecture Series** has been launched in 2017 to deepen the academic exchanges between the two universities. Each semester, a guest lecture takes place alternately in Guelph and Bremen.*



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Abstract

The title of this talk may sound like a truism. Research and education, it seems, are always about thinking critically. They are always about inquiring and questioning things rather than taking them simply at face value. Or might this just be an ideal? What exactly do we expect from a “critical” researcher, and how do we facilitate the education of “critical” students? The lecture will address these questions in a rather broad manner; first, by putting the term “critical thinking” into relation with other important concepts such as appropriateness and responsibility; second, by emphasizing the fact that (in science as well as in daily life) means, ends, and even concepts are subject to change. The last part of the lecture will be about concrete examples from teaching; that is, about different interactive and interdisciplinary formats meant to facilitate students’ ability to reflect critically upon their own work and discipline.

Prof. Dr. Dr. Norman Sieroka has been full Professor for Theoretical Philosophy at the University of Bremen since 2019. After earning his doctorate in physics at the Institute for Theoretical Physics at Heidelberg in 2004, Professor Sieroka worked at the ETH Zurich from 2004 to 2019. As a lecturer Norman Sieroka has been developing and teaching interdisciplinary courses together with colleagues from different academic discipline. The group is interested in questions about “how science works” and what values are pursued in science. Professor Sieroka is also the author of several books, including *Philosophie der Physik – Eine Einführung* (C.H.Beck Wissen, 2014), *Leibniz, Husserl and the Brain* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2015), and *Philosophie der Zeit – Grundlagen und Perspektiven* (C.H.Beck Wissen, 2018).

Wednesday, 30th September 2020 | 5:00 p.m.- 6:30 p.m.
(Bremen time)

Online - Registration on Evenbrite [here](#)