Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin

INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

The Ethics of Concept Use: Philosophy, Sociology, and Public Life

Program

Thursday, October 22, 2026

10:00–10:15	Welcome and Introductory Remarks Gabriel Abend (Universität Göttingen, Fellow 2021/2022) David Plunkett (Dartmouth College, Fellow 2023/2024)
10:20–11:50	Session 1 Maria Lasonen (University of Helsinki) *Thick Concepts and the Scaffolding of Moral Thought* Comments: Sebastian Köhler (Frankfurt School of Finance and Management)
12:30–14:00	Lunch
14:00–15:30	Session 2 Sebastian Kohl und Jayme Gomes (Freie Universität Berlin) *Decline of Sociological Theory? New Empirical Evidence* Comments: Matthew Chrisman (University of Edinburgh)
16:00–17:30	Session 3 David Plunkett *Topic Continuity, Realism, and the Objects of Philosophical Inquiry (co-authored with Tristram McPherson)* Comments: Delia Belleri (Spanish National Research Council, Madrid)

Friday, October 23, 2026

10:00–11:30	Session 4
	Gabriel Abend *What's Sociology Got to Do with It?*
	Comments: Daniela Dover (Rutgers University)
11:40–12:50	Walk
13:00–14:30	Lunch
14:30–16:00	Session 5
	Monika Krause (London School of Economics and Political Science) *The Symmetry Principle and the Ethics of Concept*
	Comments: Matteo Santarelli (University of Bologna)
16:30–18:00	Session 6
	Steffen Koch (Universität Bielefeld) *Changing Linguistic Conventions: Why It Is So Difficult – and How to Do It Anyway*
	Comments: Irina Schumski (Universität Tübingen)