

# Announcement

RESEARCH SEMINAR  
WINTER SEMESTER 2024/25



Thomas Reydon, Leibniz Universität Hannover

MONDAY, 9 DECEMBER 2024, 10.15–11.45am s.t.

Thomas Reydon is Professor of Philosophy of Science and Technology at Leibniz Universität Hannover. He is a Co-Editor-in-Chief of the Springer book series *History, Philosophy and Theory of the Life Sciences*, as well as the *Journal for General Philosophy of Science*, and a Fellow of The Linnean Society of London.

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## Conceptual shifts in the 'New Biology'

Recently, several authors have announced the arrival of a 'New Biology'. This New Biology consists in the addition of explanatory factors and novel concepts to existing biological theory, a refocusing from genes towards organisms as the central units of biological analysis, and the development of an (at least to some extent) new perspective on life and evolution. The New Biology still is very much under development: the main ideas have not settled yet and are sometimes vehemently debated among biologists, making it a moving target for philosophical examination. In this talk I will take a closer look at some of the conceptual shifts and innovations in the New Biology with a focus on how these might change our understanding of evolutionary phenomena. I will also (very tentatively) explore what implications such a changed understanding of evolution may have for practice, for instance in evolutionary psychology and evolutionary medicine.

**ROOM 1930.A001 (Otto-Brenner-Str. 1)**