

## Interdisziplinäres MA- Blockseminar “The History and Politics of Ignorance”

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### **Abstract**

*Social hierarchies between different groups influence our epistemic practices. How one is positioned in such hierarchies affects what one knows or remains ignorant about, whether one's testimony is considered believable by others, and so on. This seminar takes an interdisciplinary approach, investigating the history of ignorance as well as its philosophical and political implications. It looks particularly at ignorance and epistemic injustice produced by hierarchies of race and gender, engaging with the work of Charles W. Mills, Patricia Hill Collins, and Miranda Fricker. The seminar's aim is to offer insight into particular historical and contemporary examples of ignorance and take lessons from these for a philosophical and theoretical analysis, as well as applying philosophical tools of analysis to them. It extends the range of analysis by studying ignorance both as the lack of knowledge but also as a specific kind of knowledge, thereby opening up for an analysis of the power of ignorance, of being ignored or being ignorant.*

### **Projektziele**

*Ziel ist es, MA-Studierenden der Philosophie, des Rechts, der Theologie, der Geschichte, der Sozialanthropologie und der Gender Studies (sowie interessierten Studierenden weiterer Fächer) ein interdisziplinäres Lehrangebot zu machen, im Rahmen dessen sie sich in Gruppen vertieft mit bestimmten Fällen von «Ignorance» befassen können.*

### **Interfakultäre Kooperation**

*Es handelt sich um eine Kooperation zwischen der juristischen und der philosophisch-historischen Fakultät (Rechtswissenschaft und Philosophie). Das Phänomen «Ignorance» wird dabei aus unterschiedlichen disziplinären Perspektiven beleuchtet.*