Causal Reasoning: Insights from Feminist Social Science

Helen Longino argues that different research programs in the sciences carve out alternative causal spaces. These spaces are defined by differing assumptions about the objects of inquiry, including assumptions about what properties are relevant for investigation, the level of aggregation of the phenomena, and population levels. Feminist social science provides a rich source for understanding the origins of alternate causal spaces and the role of causal pluralism in research. Looking at several examples of feminist social science, I develop in this talk an account of two varieties of causal pluralism: ontological and conceptual.

March 2, Monday, 2015, Sakamaki Hall C-308, 2:30 pm.

Everyone is welcome. For disability access, please call 956-8649.