

Tuesday, 22 November 2:00-4:00pm

POPPER SEMINAR

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Emergence and Individuation

Abstract

Intractable problems associated with the concept of emergence result from a view of individuation that makes emergence impossible from the outset. This talk criticizes Jaegwon Kim's characterization of individuation, before considering the available alternatives. I suggest that the overlap between the metaphysical debate and the literature on emergence in the philosophy of science provides a way of rethinking our view of individuation and of really making sense of emergence.