

## Reading Group in Philosophy of Economics

**General Description:** The reading group in philosophy of economics aims to provide an open space for discussing ethical, epistemological, and political issues related to research in economics. At the outset, the group will focus on two main topics, with the intention of expanding the discussion based on participants' interests and the natural progression of debate: the ethical issue and the epistemological issue. The interconnection between these two will also be explored, particularly the tension between epistemic and non-epistemic values embedded in economic modeling. The discussion seeks to foster a deeper reflection on methodology and the broader context of economic research—how our work engages with human life and influences real-world outcomes, whether through policy design or the recommendations that emerge from economic theory.

**Organizers:** Annalisa Fabretti, Alessandra Pelloni, Roberto Pezzuto

**Timing:** The first meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2025, at 3 PM, and the group will convene monthly throughout the spring term.

The first meeting is also meant to serve as an introduction, where all interested participants can join and propose future discussion themes.

The discussion will start, though not exclusively, with the following list of papers:

- Dupré, J. (2007). *Fact and Value*. In H. Kincaid, J. Dupré, & A. Wylie (Eds.), *Value-Free Science? Ideals and Illusions*. Oxford University Press.
- Sober, E. (2007). Evidence and Value Freedom. In H. Kincaid, J. Dupré, & A. Wylie (Eds.), *Value-Free Science? Ideals and Illusions*. Oxford University Press.
- Marchionni, Caterina. "What is the Problem with Model-based Explanation in Economics?" *Disputatio*, vol. 9, no. 47, Sciendo, 2017, pp. 603 - 630. <https://doi.org/10.1515/disp-2017-0020>
- Cartwright, Nancy. 2009. If no capacities then no credible worlds. But can models reveal capacities? *Erkenntnis* 70: 45–58.

Proponents will present a comprehensive overview of the papers to equip participants with key concepts and foundational knowledge, fostering collective reflection. Participants are encouraged to read the assigned papers and suggest additional readings for future meetings.

Those interested in participating may contact [annalisa.fabretti@uniroma2.it](mailto:annalisa.fabretti@uniroma2.it)