Summer Institute on *Practical Normativity: Rationality*
Berlin, 8-19 June 2020
Call for Applications

**OVERVIEW**

*Practical Normativity: Rationality* is the third of three Summer Institutes taking place at Princeton (2018), at ANU (2019), and at Humboldt University Berlin (2020), funded by grants from the Princeton-Humboldt Strategic Partnership and the Australian National University.

These Summer Institutes bring together faculty and students from all three participating institutions. They cover problems in the general area of practical normativity, the first having focused on *Reasons* and the second on *Morality*. The overarching topic of the 2020 Summer Institute is *Rationality*, which we take to be a heading for all of the following and more: the relationship between rationality and morality; the relationship between rationality and reasons; the relationship between rationality and conceptions of agency; the relationship between rationality and conceptions of what it is to be a human being; Aristotelian, Humean, Kantian, and other historical conceptions of rationality; theoretical vs practical conceptions of rationality; individual vs collective conceptions of rationality; and substantive vs structural conceptions of rationality; deliberation under conditions of uncertainty.

*Practical Normativity: Rationality* will take place at Humboldt University 8-19 June 2020. Participation will be by application.

**PARTICIPANTS AND FUNDING**

There are places for up to six students from ANU, six from Humboldt, and six from Princeton. All students accepted are expected to attend the entire Summer Institute. Those eligible to apply will be either MA or PhD students, or, in exceptional circumstances, undergraduates. Those eligible to apply from Humboldt will additionally be HU students of ‘Philosophie’ or ‘Philosophie/Ethik’.

For ANU students, participation in the Summer Institute will count towards PHIL8011 *Foundations*. For HU students, participation will count as attending a ‘Hauptseminar’. For students from Princeton, participation will count as taking a PHI 500 level course.
All ANU and Princeton students will have their travel and accommodation costs fully covered and will have their meals subsidized. There will be a number of meals for all participants and the cost of these will also be fully covered.

STRUCTURE

The Summer Institute will be convened by Thomas Schmidt (Humboldt), and Michael Smith (Princeton), and Nic Southwood (ANU). A number of visiting faculty will present one-off sessions.

The aim is to have the Summer Institute focused on topics and readings that are of most interest to the participating students and faculty. The program will be divided between student presentations on literature; student presentations of their own research; faculty presentations of their own research; mentoring sessions; and one-on-one meetings.

After a welcome event in the evening on Sunday 7 June, there will be two full five-day academic programs (Monday 8 June – Friday 12 June, and Monday 15 June – Friday 19 June) with a free weekend in between. The schedule will be as follows:

Sunday 7 June 2020  WELCOME EVENT IN THE EVENING
Monday 8 June 2020  DAY #1
Tuesday 9 June 2020  DAY #2
Wednesday 10 June 2020  DAY #3
Thursday 11 June 2020  DAY #4 ONE-ON-ONE STUDENT-FACULTY MEETINGS
Friday 12 June 2020  DAY #5
13-14 June 2020  WEEKEND BREAK
Monday 15 June 2020  DAY #6
Tuesday 16 June 2020  DAY #7
Wednesday 17 June 2020  DAY #8
Thursday 18 June 2020  DAY #9 ONE-ON-ONE STUDENT-FACULTY MEETINGS
Friday 19 June 2020  DAY #10
Saturday 20 June 2020  STUDENTS FREE TO DEPART

In the week after the Summer Institute, on 23-25 June 2020, there will be the third edition of the Humboldt Normativity Conference. Students who wish to stay on at Humboldt to attend this and other events may do so at their own expense.

APPLICATIONS

Applicants must submit: (a) a proposal – half a page single spaced maximum – for a talk about any aspect of Rationality that they would be willing to present if selected; (b) the titles and publication details of 3-4 important papers on any aspect of Rationality from the current literature about which they would be willing to give a presentation; (c) a letter of motivation – one page single spaced maximum – describing their background and interest in the topic and explaining how they would expect to profit, with regard to their own interests, from participating in the Summer Institute.

These materials must be submitted by email to all three convenors: Nic Southwood, Thomas Schmidt, and Michael Smith. Their email addresses can be found in the letterhead.
On the basis of these proposals, and after consultation with all participating faculty from the three institutions, students will be chosen to participate in the Summer Institute, and a detailed program will be put together. The program will reflect the specific research interests of participating students and faculty.

Applications must be received by Sunday 5 January 2020. Successful applicants will be notified on or shortly after Sunday 26 January 2020.

Please do not hesitate to contact one of us if you have any questions.

Nic Southwood  
21 November 2019

Thomas Schmidt  
21 November 2019

Michael Smith  
21 November 2019