

Call for Abstracts

Cognitive Capacities, Cognitive Acts, and Forms of Cognition in Kant

Dates: May 15-16, 2025

Venue: Trier University, Germany

Submission deadline: 14 February 2025

Notification of acceptance: 28 February 2025

We invite submissions for the workshop *Cognitive Capacities, Cognitive Acts, and Forms of Cognition in Kant*, which will take place at Trier University. This workshop, organized by Kristina Engelhard (Trier) and Lorenzo Sala (Milano), seeks to bring together scholars to explore Kant's conception of cognitive capacities, their relation to cognitive acts, and the forms of cognition that characterize them.

In recent Kant scholarship, especially within discussions between conceptualists and non-conceptualists, considerable attention has been given to delineating the kinds of cognitions Kant deemed possible. However, much of this debate has centered on epistemology, with relatively little attention to its metaphysical foundations—the capacities underlying these cognitive acts. The metaphysics of capacities was a debated topic in Kant's time, yet Kant's own position within this discourse remains insufficiently examined, despite the foundational role cognitive capacities play in his critical philosophy.

This workshop will investigate key questions at the intersection of Kant's philosophy of mind and mental capacities: What is Kant's conception of various cognitive capacities? How do these capacities relate to the cognitive acts they perform? And how are they connected to the different forms of cognition? We welcome contributions that approach these questions from both systematic and historical perspectives.

Invited Speakers:

- Dietmar Heidemann (Luxembourg)
- Markus Kohl (Chapel Hill)
- Thomas Land (Victoria)
- Karl Schafer (Austin)
- Stephen Howard (Freiburg)
- Andrew Stephenson (Southampton)

We encourage submissions on topics including, but not limited to:

- Kant's account of cognitive capacities and faculties
- The relation between cognitive capacities and cognitive acts
- The distinction and interaction between forms of cognition
- Metaphysical foundations of Kant's theory of cognition
- Comparative studies on capacities in Kant and his contemporaries

Submission Guidelines:

Please submit an abstract of no more than 500 words, formatted for double-blind review at engelhard@uni-trier.de or lorenzo.sala@unimi.it. Abstracts should include the paper's title but must omit any identifying information.

Presentation Details:

Accepted papers will be allocated 30 minutes for presentation, followed by 30 minutes for discussion.

We look forward to receiving your submissions and to the opportunity to engage with new perspectives on Kant's philosophy.