

Center for Philosophy of Science Zentrum für Wissenschaftstheorie

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Structure and Cooperation

Currently, the ZfW is supported by ten departments of WWU. It strives to establish and enhance an interdisciplinary network with as many departments at the WWU as possible as well as with national and international academic institutes.

Participating Departments at WWU

Protestant Theology	History/Philosophy
Roman Catholic Theology	Philologies
Economics	Mathematics and Computer Sciences
Medicine	Physics
Education and Social Studies	Biology

Cooperating Centers and Departments

Centrum für Bioethik (WWU Münster)
Zentrum für Logik, Wissenschaftsgeschichte und Wissenschaftstheorie (Universität Rostock)
Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte (Berlin)
Institut für Wissenschafts- und Technikforschung (Universität Bielefeld)
Centro de investigaciones lingüísticas, Instituto Universitario de Estudios sobre la Ciencia y la Tecnología, Departamento de Didáctica de las Matemáticas y de las Ciencias Experimentales (Universidad Salamanca, Spanien)

Membership at the Center for Philosophy of Science (ZfW)

Students and scholars interested in a membership at the ZfW can approach the executive board at any time. The ZfW's general meeting will then decide about the acceptance of new members.

Information about the ZfW

If you wish to receive information about the ongoing activities and events of the ZfW, we will gladly include you in our electronic mailing list. Please send us an email.

The Center for Philosophy of Science (Zentrum für Wissenschaftstheorie/ZfW)

The ZfW is an interdisciplinary teaching and research association founded at Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität (WWU) Münster in 2006. One of its main aims is the interdisciplinary exchange on general and specific questions in the field of history and philosophy of science. The ZfW's activities currently involve scholars from ten departments at the WWU.



Aims and Ends

Research Projects

The ZfW aims at establishing an interdisciplinary network and intensifying research in the field of philosophy of science at WWU. Moreover, it is engaged in receiving externally funded research projects.

Events

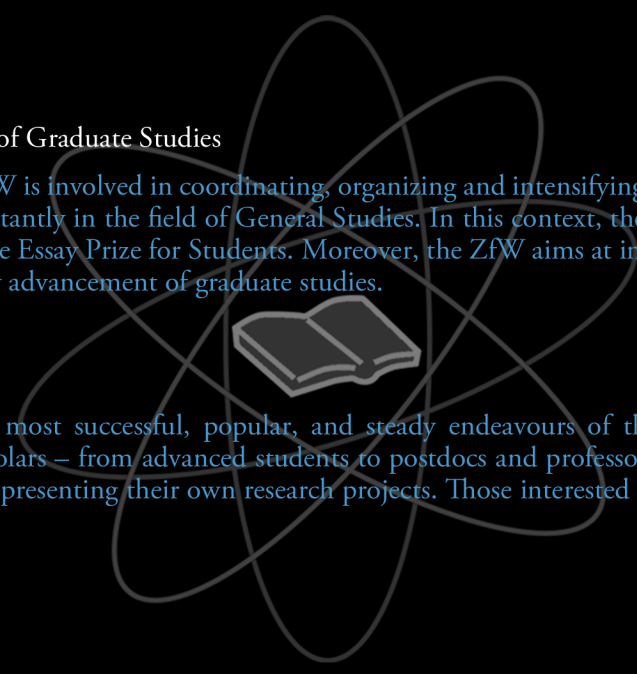
In addition to the members' ongoing research projects, the ZfW regularly organizes and conducts innovative events on current debates in philosophy of science. In the past years, these have mostly been national and international workshops and conferences as well as lectures and lecture series.

Teaching and the Advancement of Graduate Studies

As one of its main pillars, the ZfW is involved in coordinating, organizing and intensifying a wide range of courses in philosophy of science at WWU, most importantly in the field of General Studies. In this context, the ZfW has developed new instruments such as the Student's Day and the Essay Prize for Students. Moreover, the ZfW aims at including and strengthening philosophy of science in the interdisciplinary advancement of graduate studies.

Study Group

The study group is among the most successful, popular, and steady endeavours of the ZfW. This group presents a great opportunity to all interested scholars – from advanced students to postdocs and professors – for reading and discussing central texts in philosophy of science or presenting their own research projects. Those interested in participating in the study group are welcome to write us an email.



Main Focuses

Philosophy of science systematically

theory-ladenness of observation, confirmation of hypotheses, laws in natural and social sciences, questions concerning causality

Philosophy of science historically

classical texts of philosophy of science since antiquity, Aristotle, Francis Bacon, Charles Darwin, the Vienna Circle, Ludwik Fleck, Thomas S. Kuhn, Michael Polanyi

Special Topics in philosophy of science

expertise, justification and acceptance of scientific knowledge, definitions of illness, philosophy of particular sciences, visualization of research outcome

