



Fachbereich Philosophie

Fachbereichskolloquium

Sommersemester 2021
18:15 bis 19:45

Im Rahmen des Philosophischen Kolloquiums findet am **Donnerstag, 6. Mai**, folgender Vortrag statt:

Daniel Kuby
Universität Konstanz

Situating programming languages: preliminaries on the notion of restricted language

What are programming languages? First, I will argue that this question, as an issue in philosophy of technology, should be approached with the help of philosophy of language; and second, I will argue that a comprehensive answer requires an ecumenical approach in philosophy of language, drawing from both a natural language as well as a formal language perspective.

The main question I will address in this talk is this: Are programming "languages" really languages? After reviewing reasons for the standard negative answer, I will propose an affirmative answer to this question and investigate where programming languages are situated in the linguistic landscape. I will start by using Frege's metaphor of formal language as a "microscope" and Wittgenstein's notion of "primitive language" to motivate the concept of restricted language. I will then sketch a rough natural language account of programming languages qua restricted languages. Finally, I will review the latest empirical evidence from computational linguistics and psycho-/neurolinguistics regarding, respectively, the naturalness of source code corpora and linguistic abilities involved in programming language acquisition/comprehension/production.

Alle Interessierten, insbesondere auch Studierende, sind herzlich eingeladen.

nächster Vortrag: 27. Mai
Basaglia, Federica (Universität Konstanz)
Kants Realismus in der Kritik der praktischen Vernunft

