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**Summer Institute on *Practical Normativity*
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, 18 – 29 August 2025
Call for Applications**

OVERVIEW

Practical Normativity is the fifth Summer Institute taking place at Princeton (2018, 2024), at ANU (2019), and at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (2022, 2025), funded by grants from the Princeton-Humboldt Strategic Partnership and the Australian National University.

These Summer Institutes aim at bringing together faculty and students from all three participating institutions. They cover problems in the general area of practical normativity, focusing on general problems in normative and metanormative theory, including, but not limited to, the more traditional questions of metaethics, and issues in the theories of reasons, values, rationality, reasoning, and responsibility. *Practical Normativity* will take place at Humboldt-Universität, Berlin, 18 – 29 August 2025. Participation will be by application.

PARTICIPANTS AND FUNDING

There are places for up to eight students from Humboldt, eight from Princeton, and up to four students from ANU. 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 HU students, participation will count as attending a ‘Hauptseminar’. For students from Princeton, participation will count as taking a PHI 500 level course. For ANU students, participation in the Summer Institute will count towards PHIL8011 *Foundations*.

ANU and Princeton participants 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 Sarah McGrath (Princeton), Thomas Schmidt (Humboldt), and possibly 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 that is related to their research; 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 17 August, there will be two full five-day academic programs (Monday 18 August – Friday 22 August, and Monday 25 August – Friday 29 August) with a free weekend in between. The schedule will be as follows:

Sunday	17 August 2025	WELCOME EVENT IN THE EVENING
Monday	18 August 2025	DAY #1
Tuesday	19 August 2025	DAY #2
Wednesday	20 August 2025	DAY #3 INDIVIDUAL STUDENT-FACULTY MEETINGS
Thursday	21 August 2025	DAY #4
Friday	22 August 2025	DAY #5
Weekend	23-24 August 2025	WEEKEND BREAK
Monday	25 August 2025	DAY #6
Tuesday	26 August 2025	DAY #7
Wednesday	27 August 2025	DAY #8 INDIVIDUAL STUDENT-FACULTY MEETINGS
Thursday	28 August 2025	DAY #9
Friday	29 August 2025	DAY #10
Saturday	30 August 2025	STUDENTS FREE TO DEPART

APPLICATIONS

Applicants must submit: (a) a proposal – half a page single spaced maximum – for a talk in one of the areas mentioned above that they would be willing to present if selected; (b) the titles and publication details of 3-4 important papers from the current literature that are central to the student's own research and 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 field and explaining how they would expect to profit, with regard to their own interests, from participating in the Summer Institute.

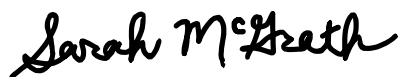
These materials must be submitted by email to all three convenors: Sarah McGrath, Thomas Schmidt, and Nic Southwood. Their email addresses can be found in the letterhead.

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 assembled. Each student will be assigned one session in which they either introduce one of the papers from the literature that they had suggested, or else give a talk. In this

way, the program will be designed to reflect the specific research interests of participating students.

Applications must be received by Monday 20 January 2025. Successful applicants will be notified on or shortly after Monday 27 January 2025.

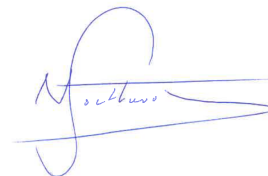
Please do not hesitate to contact one of us if you have any questions.



Sarah McGrath
12 December 2024



Thomas Schmidt
12 December 2024



Nic Southwood
12 December 2024