

# Department of Philosophy Colloquium Series

Thursday  
December 2,  
2021  
4- 6 p.m.

*in-person:*  
Kingston Hall  
Room 201

*or on Zoom*  
(details below)

**Everyone  
Welcome!**



## Being Wrong – Subjectivity and Fallibility



### Markus Gabriel (U of Bonn & The New School)

In my lecture I will investigate the nature and scope of human fallibility on the basis of an assumption about subjectivity. This subjectivity assumption maintains that to be a fallible thinker means that we are subject to a constitutive and often wide-ranging ignorance as to which of our beliefs are actually true and which false. To be a subject is to be wrong about some things without ever being in a position to settle once and for all which of our beliefs are non-accidentally true (and thereby constitute knowledge). If we had only true beliefs, we would merge with reality. Being and thought would form an indissoluble whole. Thus, being someone puts us at a partial distance from what there is, a distance which itself belongs to what there is. In light of these considerations, I will propose an epistemic account of reality according to which the category reality is essentially tied to our self-portrait as fallible thinkers. This will shed new light on some core issues of realism at the interface of epistemology and ontology.

Please note that all in-person attendees must conform to the Queen's vaccine policy:

<https://www.queensu.ca/safereturn/update-queens-mandatory-covid-19-vaccination-requirements>

For those who cannot join us in person, Zoom details will be distributed Thursday morning.  
If you are not on our colloquium mailing list, please contact us at [philug@queensu.ca](mailto:philug@queensu.ca) to receive updates.