

## What is science?

The question ‘What is science?’ cannot be given a definitive answer. Science has a long history which cannot be captured by an abstract ideal. There is a great variety of practices which have been considered scientific and a multiplicity of ways scientific knowledge has been pursued. Philosophy of science has tried to describe and perhaps prescribe scientific methodology. Emphasis will be given in the lecture to the so-called historical philosophy of science of the 1960s, as advocated mainly by the philosophers Thomas S. Kuhn and Paul Feyerabend, who have challenged an idealized conception of science and offered an alternative account.

## Bibliography

Feyerabend, Paul. (1978), *Against Method*, London: Verso.

Kuhn, T.S. (1962), *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*, Chicago: The University of Chicago Press; 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (1970) Enlarged.