

What makes a practice scientific?

This workshop investigates what makes a practice scientific. The workshop is discussion-based. Participants will be encouraged to reflect on their own disciplinary backgrounds and discuss these in comparison to others' expertise. Through dialogue and debate we will urge participants to identify factors that may contribute to characterizing an epistemic practice as scientific. We will ask whether societal, political and ethical dimensions of science and technology are different from other knowledge-producing practices and why and whether they should be. Finally we will reflect on scientific approaches to addressing "grand challenges" of our time, like poverty, climate change, human and animal rights. No prior knowledge of these subjects is required.