

What is science?

Philosophers of science have tried to demarcate between science and pseudo- or non-science in order to distinguish between reliable knowledge and mere opinion and explain science's success. The attempts to study science philosophically have highlighted several aspects of what is distinctive about science but have failed to provide a definition which would cover all cases of what can be labeled scientific in history and contemporary practice. The lecture will present different interpretations of what science is, historically and philosophically, and will propose a more variegated understanding of scientific practice.