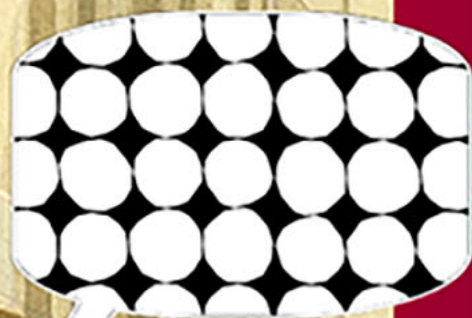


THE CLEMSON - UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
2022 COLLABORATIVE PHILOSOPHY MAJOR LECTURE

What Is Free Conversation?

Agnes Callard

University of Chicago



Friday, April 22nd - 3:30pm
Close-Hipp Bldg, Room 008
University of South Carolina

The right to free speech, if understood as a negative right against governmental interference, is predicated on some positive understanding of the value of that which is not to be interfered with. If the government shouldn't place restrictions on what kinds of conversations can take place, and on what kinds of information can flow into them, this must be because we positively value the free operation of those conversations. The right to free speech presupposes the value of free conversation. But what is free conversation? Professor Callard will consider a few standard proposals (debate, the marketplace of ideas, persuasion) before offering a Socratic alternative: free conversation is refutation.