



PHILOSOPHY
department

SHAMIK DASGUPTA

UC BERKELEY

“Realism and the Absence of Value”

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2017

4:00 – 6:00 PM

HSS ROOM 7077

REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW

Abstract:

Much recent metaphysics is built around notions such as naturalness, fundamentality, grounding, dependence, essence, and others besides. In this paper I raise a problem for this kind of metaphysics, the “problem of missing value”. I survey a number of possible solutions to the problem and find them all wanting. This suggests a return to a kind of Goodmanian view that the world is a structureless mess onto which we project our own categorizations, not something that comes with categories already built in.

UC San Diego
Division of Arts & Humanities



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