

# Philosophical psychology

Berlin School of Mind and Brain  
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Do all psychological problems come to what can be understood by the experimental method? If the existence of the experimental method gives us sufficient reason to think that we have the means to solve all psychological problems, then a call to improve experimental methods should suffice. In this seminar we will understand, through Wittgenstein's philosophical psychology, why the reason psychological does not reduce to the experimental method is not by Psychology being a 'young science'. According to Wittgenstein, "confusion and barrenness of psychology is not to be explained by its being a 'young science'; its state is not comparable with that of physics, for instance, in its beginnings" (p. 232). Through a close reading of Wittgenstein's *Philosophical Investigations* and *On Certainty*, we will take a "meta" position about psychology, scrutinizing this claim in the 21<sup>st</sup> century psychology textbooks. By the end of the seminar students should be able to use philosophical method to work through and become more critically reflective about prominent theories, methods, therapies and practices in their respective, multiple fields and thereby create a resource for future theoretical, empirical and applied psychology.

## Lecturer

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