Visiting Speaker Series

BEYOND MISINFORMATION:
HOW PLATFORMS SHAPE HOW WE REASON
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Online environments are often blamed for contemporary epistemic pathology by spreading misinformation. I argue that the internet makes a different, underappreciated contribution to epistemic pathology: it reshapes how we interact with evidence, not just what evidence we have. Specifically, I argue that the algorithmic internet inculcates and habituates agents to new, and often epistemically detrimental, epistemic styles. I discuss key design features of major online platforms that contribute to this, consider examples, and argue that we should worry about this for both epistemic and political reasons.

Caro Flores is assistant professor of philosophy at UC Santa Cruz. She writes about evidence-resistance, the dynamics of belief revision, and social identities, especially in social and political contexts.

Friday, November 1, 2024
12-1:30 PM | CL 111
Zoom Link: https://tinyurl.com/yc4xsmxw

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