

Stephan Guttinger

Teaching fellow in the Department of Philosophy at Durham University and a Research Associate and Guest Teacher at the Centre for Philosophy of Natural and Social Science (CPNSS) at the London School of Economics.

Mini-Bio: Stephan Guttinger is a philosopher of biology with a background in biochemistry. His research focuses on the ontological, methodological and ethical issues raised by the contemporary biomedical sciences. Of particular interest to him are questions about the nature of macromolecular complexes, such as genomes or viruses (Guttinger argues the latter are processes rather than substances). He is also interested in how researchers in the biomedical sciences create trustworthy output, a question that has become particularly relevant in the context of the debate about a ‘replication crisis’ in the experimental sciences. Guttinger has argued that the issue might be less problematic than some commentators think, at least in the life sciences. Last, but not least, he is also interested in the ethical implications of recent developments in the biomedical sciences. He has looked, for instance, at how the changing understanding of entities such as viruses is affecting debates about childhood vaccination. Guttinger is also interested in how our picture of the human genome shapes (or should shape) debates about the safety of heritable genome editing in humans. Guttinger was awarded the Medal of the ETH Zürich for outstanding PhD theses. The title of his thesis was “Investigations into RNA export and the NPC biogenesis.”

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS: (Link to [publications](#))

- Guttinger S. (2020). The limits of replicability. *European Journal for Philosophy of Science*, 10(10). DOI: [10.1007/s13194-019-0269-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/s13194-019-0269-1), [Open Access: full text](#)
- Guttinger S. and Love, A.C. (2019). Characterizing scientific failure. *EMBO Reports*, 20: e48765 DOI: [10.15252/embr.201948765](https://doi.org/10.15252/embr.201948765)
- Guttinger S. (2019). A new account of replication in the experimental life sciences. *Philosophy of Science*, 86 (3): 453-471. DOI: [10.1086/703555](https://doi.org/10.1086/703555), [PDF](#)
- Guttinger S. (2018). Replications everywhere. *BioEssays*, 40: 1800055. DOI: [10.1002/bies.201800055](https://doi.org/10.1002/bies.201800055), [PDF](#)